

# Franklin Gazette

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"He that drinks his cider alone, let him catch his horse alone." Poor Richard, January, 1744

## President's Message

by Ralph Gregory Elliot

## New Year's Message

As these lines are written, the long-heralded *Benjamin Franklin* programs on PBS have just been aired; and I am sure those of you who saw them will agree that their quality and fidelity to the facts were well worth the wait. It was also good to see so many Friends on the shows, not the least of whom were the Papers' former editors, Barbara Oberg and Claude Lopez; one of its current editors, Jonathan Dull; and Friends Director Philip Krider.

As the tercentenary of Franklin approaches, we can surely expect many more media and published works on the great man, from a variety of sources, and ranging over a broad spectrum of quality, historical accuracy, and interest. Recent years have seen a spate of books by such eminent worthies as H.W. Brands, Jim Srodes and Edmund Morgan. We await a work by Gordon Woods, now in progress. Stacy Schiff and Walter Isaacson are hard at work on their own works; and I feel certain that many more are either in the pipeline or on the drawing boards.

All of these books and other productions, as varied as may be their themes and particular focus, inevitably have one thing in common: their freely and generously acknowledged debt of gratitude to the dedicated schol-

ars toiling in self-abnegating anonymity in the Franklin Factory at Yale's Sterling Memorial Library. All of them have inevitably consulted the 36 published volumes of the Papers of Benjamin Franklin issued since 1959 by the Yale University Press. Many have pored over papers yet unpublished in the treasure house where the Papers are prepared. They have benefited from the readily-shared insights and insightful suggestions of those who, like current Editor Ellen Cohn and her colleagues, have developed so close, indeed intimate, a knowledge of Franklin, his family and his world — a knowledge born of vicariously living with his vibrant self for, collectively, almost 50 years. Their generosity of time and their responsiveness to the importunings of all inquirers is yet another aspect of that dedicated scholarship and felt need to make universally accessible the multi-faceted personality of this remarkable man that inspired one major funder of the Papers to refer to the volumes as having set the "gold standard" for all such endeavors.

Sometimes it seems we take the Papers and their self-effacing editors for granted. We shouldn't; and Franklin's birthday in 2003 gives us an opportunity to remedy that neglect. On Saturday, January 18, 2003, the Friends of Franklin,

in cooperation with the Yale University Press, will host a Franklin Birthday luncheon at the New Haven Lawn Club in New Haven, Connecticut — home of the Franklin Papers — to honor and celebrate the Papers and its staff. A special feature of the luncheon will be a talk on Franklin by Yale's Sterling Professor of History Emeritus, Edmund Morgan, author of the widely-

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PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE. The New-Year 537  
Verses of the Printer's Lad, 1752. [1751]

## The NEW-YEAR VERSES

Of the Printers Lad, who carries the *Pennsylvania Gazette* —  
to the CUSTOMERS. MDCCCLII.

On W I N T E R.

CAN Nature, in her brumal Hue,  
Afford us a delightful View?  
Does she attractive Charms possess,  
Disrob'd of all her vernal Dress?  
Let Fancy, in a just Survey,  
Resolve us, and the Scene display.

Obdur'd with muddy low'ring Gloom,  
And humid suffocating Fume,  
Thro' dusky Clouds, the dawning Ray  
Proclaims the slow Approach of Day;  
Phœbus arises, veil'd from Sight,  
Nor half transmits his wonted Light;  
To us of Warmth productive fails,  
Chill'd by the Force of Northern Gales.

How bleak appears the Face of Things!  
Nor Robin sweet, nor Mockbird sings;  
Nor thrushy Oaks, and Poplars fair,  
See what a cater'd Gash they wear;  
Each Branch, of pleasing Green despoil'd,  
Seems dead, unnatural and wild.

Let Fancy now her View extend  
O'er distant Grounds, where Orchards bend,  
Nor with rich Fruits of various Kind,  
Whose liquid Produce cheers the Mind,  
But rude, imperious, sweepy Wind.

Hence thro' the sloping Lawns we pass,  
The Breezy Care of mighty Fags,

Farms, Seats, and Villages survey,  
All wrapt in Winter's stiff Array.

If we the lowly Vales traverse,  
Or cross the Plains direct our Course;  
By lonely murr'ring Fountains stray,  
Or o'er the Hills pursue our Way;  
No grateful Prospect we derive,  
Nor beautiful Object charms the Eye,  
'Tis all a melancholly Scene,  
Flat, dull, indignant and mean.

In Towns how dull all Business goes!  
The River Ice, the Streets with Snows  
Are clogg'd: Ev'n a Conversation's froze.

While then no Pleasure crowns the Field,  
Nor aught that can Diversion yield,  
While you a warm Retirement chuse,  
Your Measure lies to bring you News,  
Something that may the tedious Hours amuse,  
To you he witheth Joy and Health,  
With each New-Year's Excess of Wealth,  
And hopes that each returning Spring  
Will Plenty fill and Pleasure bring.

His Duty faithful he performs,  
Thro' pinching Cold, and snowy Storms,  
Whatever is new and useful to impart;  
Fill then his little Purse, and glad his Heart,



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## President's Message

*cont. from p. 1*

acclaimed most recent book on Franklin (entitled *Benjamin Franklin*) which, like the Papers, is published by the Yale University Press. Professor Morgan also chairs the Papers' Advisory Board.

You will all be receiving invitations to the event sometime in December; and I hope as many of you as can will make the pilgrimage to New Haven. Indeed, it may very well be that the editors will open the Factory for a visit by the Friends after the luncheon. I shall have attended the Philadelphia celebration January 17, followed by the Friends' Board meeting that afternoon. If anyone can ever be Franklined-out, it will be I.

As you will doubtless have read elsewhere, we have persuaded a stellar cast of speakers (present company excluded) to address us on our February visit to California; and I look forward to seeing you there as well. In the meantime, all my good wishes for the holiday season and the new year close this column.



### In His Own Words: On Solitude

This excerpt was taken from a journal kept by Franklin of a trip he took in 1726. It is headed "Journal of occurrences in my voyage to Philadelphia on board the Berkshire, Henry Clark Master, from London."<sup>1</sup>

"Thursday, August 25

Our excommunicated ship-mate thinking proper to comply with the sentence the court passed upon him, and expressing himself willing to pay the fine, we have this morn-

ing received him into unity again. Man is a sociable being, and it is for aught I know one of the worst of punishments to be excluded from society. I have read abundance of fine things on the subject of solitude, and I know 'tis a common boast in the mouths of those that affect to be thought wise, *that they are never less alone than when alone*. I acknowledge solitude an agreeable refreshment to a busy mind; but were these thinking people obliged to be always alone, I am apt to think they would quickly find their very being insupportable to them. I have heard of a gentleman who underwent seven years close confinement, in the Bastille at Paris. He was a man of sense, he was a thinking man; but being deprived of all conversation, to what purpose should he think? For he was denied even the instruments of expressing his thoughts in writing. There is no burden so grievous to man as time that he knows not how to dispose of. He was forced at last to have recourse to this invention: he daily scattered pieces of paper about the floor of his little room, and then employed himself in picking them up and sticking them in rows and figures on the arm of his elbow-chair; and he used to tell his friends, after his release, that he verily believed if he had not taken this method he should have lost his senses. One of the philosophers, I think it was Plato, used to say, that he had rather be the veriest stupid block in nature, than the possessor of all knowledge without some intelligent being to communicate it to."

<sup>1</sup>For anyone who would like to read the rest of the journal, it is published in volume 1, pp. 72-99, of the Yale edition of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Leonard Labaree et al., eds., (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1959).





## Philadelphia Celebrates Franklin's Birthday

Members of Franklin founded or affiliated institutions will come together on January 17, 2003 to celebrate Franklin's life and ideals. Each year a different facet of Franklin's life is celebrated. This year marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Franklin's appointment as Deputy Postmaster General of North America and the theme of the celebration is the Dissemination of Information. A full day of events begins with a seminar Friday morning at the American Philosophical Society's Franklin Hall. Franklin biographer James Srodes will discuss, "Franklin and his Internet: The Postal System and the Printing Press. Gordon C. Morison, Executive Director of the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition will speak on "Stamp Collecting—There's More Than Glue Behind the Stamp." Following the seminar guests are invited to take part in the procession from the American Philosophical Society Library to Franklin's grave at Christ Church Cemetery at Fifth and Arch Streets where traditionally the mayor lays a wreath on Franklin's grave.

Luncheon at the Down Town Club will follow where, John E. Potter, the 72<sup>nd</sup> Postmaster General of the United States Postal Service is being awarded this year's Franklin Founder bowl. Mr. Potter will deliver the keynote address "The Transformation of a Legacy."

The seminar and procession are free and open to all. Reservations, however, are required. Tickets for the luncheon are \$40 per person. For more information or reservations contact Art Saxon at 1.800.220.3165, ext. 2665.

## New Haven Celebration of Franklin's Birthday

Celebrate Benjamin Franklin's birthday in New Haven, Connecticut this year with a talk by one of the most distinguished historians in the United States, Edmund S. Morgan, and a guided tour of the world-class Franklin Collection of Yale University. On Saturday, January 18, 2003, Morgan will speak about *Benjamin Franklin*, his new biography, recently published by Yale University Press. According to William D. Liddle, Professor Morgan's previous works on the Revolutionary War are "integral to an understanding of the early United States," and Pauline Maier in the *New York Times Book Review* has written about his "rare gift for telling the story of the past simply and elegantly without sacrificing its abundant complexity." She also praised his language as "distinguished by simplicity, precision, grace, and wry humor." In a word, Morgan, who shares Franklin's birthday, also has a Franklinesque gift for writing. His newest work began as an introductory essay to the Yale University/Packard Humanities Institute's CD-ROM of Franklin's writings. Modestly described by Morgan as "a character sketch that got out of hand," *Benjamin Franklin* has been hailed

by Gordon S. Wood as "the best short biography of Franklin ever written," and Louis P. Masur called it "a luminous biography,... the essence of a remarkable life." Awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2000, Morgan is the author of more than a dozen highly influential books, and taught at Yale from 1965 until his retirement in 1986. He is currently Chairman of the Administrative Board of The Papers of Benjamin Franklin and professor emeritus at Yale University.

Morgan's lecture is co-sponsored by the Friends of Franklin and Yale University Press, and will follow the annual Franklin Birthday luncheon. He will also be available to sign books. This is his only public appearance in New England. Lunch will begin at noon at the New Haven Lawn Club, 193 Whitney Avenue. Tours will be conducted between 3 PM and 5 PM of the Franklin Collection, Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University, home to the Yale edition of The Papers of Benjamin Franklin. Tickets for the event, which includes lunch, are \$25 per person. For reservations contact the editorial offices of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin* (tel. 203-432-1814 or email [kate.ohno@yale.edu](mailto:kate.ohno@yale.edu)) by January 10, 2003. Seating is limited.

## Franklin Tercentenary Consortium to Unveil Website

On January 17, 2003, on Franklin's 297<sup>th</sup> birthday, the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Consortium will unveil its new website: [www.benfranklin300.com](http://www.benfranklin300.com). The website will provide a centralized listing for all Franklin related events. Ultimately the site will offer short articles and pamphlets on Franklin and programs for children as well as a special page devoted to those institutions founded or co-founded by Franklin.



# The First Lightning Rods, continued

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*Editor's Note: Part I of The First Lightning Rods appeared in the Fall 2002 issue of The Franklin Gazette and ended with Franklin's announcement in Poor Richard's Almanack. It has been reproduced here again to introduce the subject. Also, footnotes have once more been printed in their entirety.*

## First Lightning Protection System

In the late fall of 1752, Franklin published the following paragraph in *Poor Richard's Almanack* for 1753:

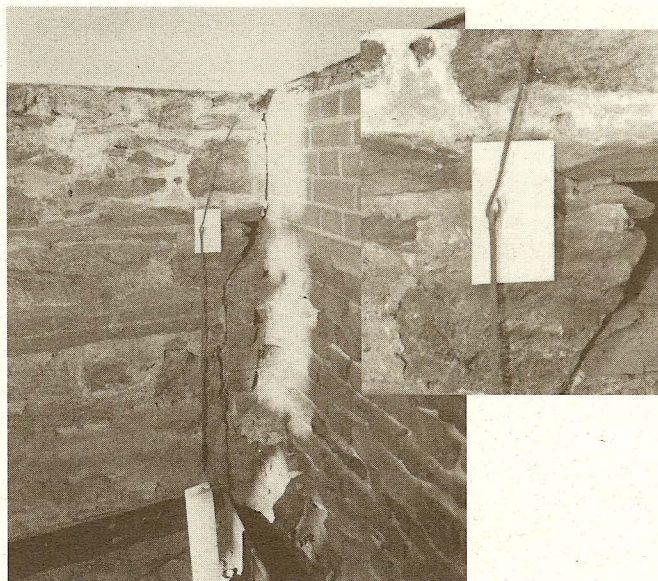
"How to secure houses, etc. from Lightning

It has pleased God in his goodness to mankind, at length to discover to them the means of securing their habitations and other buildings from mischief by thunder and lightning. The method is this: Provide a small iron rod (it may be made of the rod-iron used by the nailers) but of such a length, that one end being three or four feet in the moist ground, the other may be six or eight feet above the highest part of the building. To the upper end of the rod fasten about a foot of brass wire, the size of a common knitting-needle, sharpened to a fine point; the rod may be secured to the house by a few small staples. If the house or barn be long, there may be a rod and point at each end, and a middling wire along the ridge from one to the other. A house thus furnished will not be damaged by lightning, it being attracted by the points, and passing thro the metal into the ground without hurting any thing. Vessels also, having a sharp pointed rod fix'd on the top of their masts, with a wire from the foot of the rod reaching down, round one of the shrouds, to the water, will not be hurt by lightning."<sup>24</sup>

His opening phrase anticipated a religious objection to protective rods that would later appear among the populace. In the late summer or fall of 1752, protective rods were installed on the spires of the Academy of Philadelphia (later the University of Pennsylvania) and

the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall).

The modern terminology<sup>25</sup> for the three key elements in Franklin's design of a protective rod are: (1) one or more *air terminals* that are mounted on the roof. (2) Horizontal *roof conductors* and vertical *down conductors* connect the air terminals to (3) a *grounding system* that provides an electrical connection to earth. Because Franklin thought that point discharges might aid in providing protection, the first air terminals were thin, sharp needles mounted on an iron rod. The first down conductors were chains of nail rods, each several feet long, mechanically linked or hooked together as shown in Figure 3. (Figure 3 also shows that the first down conductors could be attached to the inside walls of a tall tower.) The first grounding system was simply a nail rod driven 3 to 4 feet into moist earth.



**Figure 3.** Fragments of a down conductor, found under paneling and plaster on the inside wall of the northwest corner of the tower stairwell, on



Independence Hall, Philadelphia. The inset on the right shows the hook connection in greater detail [Independence National Historical Park Collection].

In June of 1753, Franklin published a "Request for Information on Lightning" in *The Pennsylvania Gazette* and newspapers in New York and Boston:

"Those of our readers in this and the neighboring provinces, who may have an opportunity of observing, during the present summer, any of the effects of lightning on houses, ships, trees, etc. are requested to take particular notice of its course, and deviation from a strait line, in the walls or other matter effected by it, its different operations or effects on wood, stone, bricks, glass, metals, animal bodies, etc. and every other circumstance that may tend to discover the nature, and compleat the history of that terrible meteor. Such observations being put in writing, and communicated to Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia, will be very thankfully accepted and gratefully acknowledged."<sup>26</sup>

In 1753, Dr. John Lining repeated Franklin's kite experiment in South Carolina, but when he tried to install a rod on his house, the local populace objected. They thought that the rod was presumptuous, i.e., that it would interfere with the will of God, and that it would attract lightning,<sup>27</sup> and similar fears would be repeated in most countries of Europe.<sup>28</sup> In April of that year, Franklin commented on presumption in a letter about the Abbé Nollet, the leading electrical experimenter in France and a strong opponent of protective rods:

"... He speaks as if he thought it presumption in man to propose guarding himself against *Thunders of Heaven!* Surely the thunder of heaven is no more supernatural than the rain, hail, or sunshine of heaven, against the inconvenience of which we guard by roofs and shades without scruple.

But I can now ease the gentleman of this apprehension; for by some late experiments I find, that it is not lightning from the clouds

that strikes the earth, but lightning from the earth that strikes the clouds."<sup>29</sup>

## Improvements

In the next years, Franklin continued to gather information and study reports about lightning and lightning damage, and in 1757 he went to London as an agent of the Pennsylvania Assembly. In March of 1761, Kinnersley sent Franklin a detailed description of a lightning flash that struck the house of William West in Philadelphia.<sup>30</sup> The West house had been equipped with a protective rod that was very similar to the installation described in *Poor Richard's Almanack*. At the time of the strike, an observer reported that "the lightning diffused over the pavement, which was then very wet with rain, the distance of two or three yards from the foot of the conductor." An investigation showed that the top of the brass needle had been melted, as shown in Figure 4, but otherwise, there was no damage to the house. Kinnersley concluded that "surely now it will be thought expedient to provide conductors for the lightning as for the rain."

**Figure 4.** Kinnersley's sketch of how lightning melted the top of a sharp, brass wire that terminated an early air terminal. Initially, the length of the wire was 10 inches; after the lightning, it was about 7.5 inches. (From [1], Plate II, p. 353)

Prior to receiving Kinnersley's letter, Franklin had received descriptions of similar strikes to two houses that had been protected in South Carolina.<sup>31</sup> In one case, the lightning had evaporated the points and part of the brass down conductor, and in the other, three brass points mounted on top of the rod, each about seven inches long, had evaporated, and the iron down conductor, about half an inch in diameter and in several sections with links hooked together, had its links and joints unhooked by the discharge. Almost all the staples that held this conductor to the outside of the house had also been loosened or





started. "Considerable cavities" been made in the earth near the ground rod (sunk about three feet into the earth), and the lightning had also produced several furrows in the ground "some yards in length." Franklin was pleased by these reports because, even though the conductor "when too small, may be destroyed in executing its office," the grounded rods had indeed saved the houses from substantial damage. In his reply to Kinnersley,<sup>32</sup> Franklin transcribed the reports from South Carolina in detail and then recommended larger, more substantial conductors and a deeper, more extensive grounding system to reduce the surface discharges and to keep any explosions in the soil away from the foundation of the house. Franklin read Kinnersley's letter to the Royal Society and it was subsequently published in the *Philosophical Transactions*<sup>33</sup> and later editions of his book.

Since all reports from North America showed that grounded rods did indeed protect houses and their occupants from lightning-caused damage, Franklin sent some improved specifications for "the shortest and simplest method of securing buildings, etc. from the mischiefs of lightning"<sup>34</sup> to the Scottish philosopher, David Hume, in January of 1762, together with excerpts from Kinnersley's letter and the reports from South Carolina. This letter was subsequently read to the Philosophical Society in Edinburgh and published by that society (in 1771)<sup>35</sup> together with a comment by Prof. James Russell.

In the letter to Hume, Franklin recommended much more substantial, steel air terminals, 5 to 6 feet long and tapered to a sharp point. If the building has any dimension greater than about 100 feet, Franklin stated that a pointed rod should be mounted at each end and that there should be a conductor between them. All roof and down conductors should be at least half an inch in diameter, continuous, and stapled to the outside of the building. He also said that if any links or joints must be made in these conductors, these links should be filled with lead solder. The ground connection should be a one-inch diameter iron rod driven 10 to 12 feet into the earth, and if possible, this rod should be at least 10 feet from the foundation. Franklin also recommended that the ground rod be painted, in order to minimize rust, and stated that a connection to the water

of a well is best, if a well is nearby. An illustration of the upper portion of a 1762 protective rod is shown on the right side of the background in Figure 2.

Franklin published his reply to Kinnersley and the reports from South Carolina in the 1769 edition of *Experiments and Observations* together with some "Remarks"<sup>36</sup> on the construction and use of protective rods. He began these remarks with an acknowledgment that "Like other new instruments, this appears to have been at first in some respects imperfect; and we find that we are, in this as in others, to expect improvement from experience chiefly..." He then repeated his recommendations to mount pointed air terminals 5 or 6 feet above the highest part of the building, that "a rod in one continued piece is preferable to one composed of links or parts hooked together," and that ground rods should be deep and kept away from the foundation of the building.

## Conclusion

Today most authorities agree that the main functions of lightning rods and the associated conductors are to define and control the points where lightning will attach to a structure and then to provide safe paths for the current to flow to ground.<sup>25</sup> In his reply to Kinnersley in 1762, Franklin noted that "Indeed, in the construction of an instrument so new, and of which we could have so little experience, it is rather lucky that we should at first be so near the truth as we seem to be, and commit so few errors."<sup>37</sup> Lucky indeed - today virtually every lightning protection code in the world still recommends Franklin rods for protecting ordinary structures, and the basic elements of their design and installation are, in essence, the same as Franklin's specifications of 1762.<sup>38-42</sup>

## Acknowledgement

The author is grateful to Penelope H. Batchelor of the Independence National Historical Park for calling his attention to Figure 3.



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- [9] Heilbron, J., Franklin, Haller, and Franklinist History, *Isis*, 68, 1977, 539-549.
- [10] Franklin documents have been taken from *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Ed. By L. W. Labaree, W. B. Willcox, C. A. Lopez, B. B. Oberg, E. R. Cohn *et al.*, Yale University Press, New Haven, CT, Vol. I, 1959 to Vol. 35, 1999 with some capital letters suppressed to conform with modern usage. In the following notes, these volumes will be referred to as *BF Papers*; the volume number will be in italics, and the page numbers will be inclusive. The text of the first letter is in *BF Papers*, 3, 126-135.
- [11] *Ibid.*, 3, 156-164.
- [12] *Ibid.*, 3, 352-365.
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- [14] *Ibid.*, 4, 9-34
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- [16] *Ibid.*, 4, 19-20.
- [17] *Ibid.*, 4, 303.
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- [21] Cohen, 1992, op cit., Chapter 6.
- [22] *BF Papers*, 5, 71.
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# FRANKLIN TIDBITS

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## Franklin Papers Website

The Franklin papers at Yale now has its own website: <http://www.yale.edu/franklinpapers/index.html>. The site includes information on the project, and links to key sites as well as offering viewers the option of ordering publications. Of particular interest to Franklinophiles are the indexes of the various volumes of the Franklin Papers which are also available from this site. It is accessible from the homepage, and is divided into two segments, vols. 1-22, and 23-36 (his years in France). Both segments can be searched by using a web browser, and there are directions for doing so on the page.



## Franklin Goes 21st Century — An Online Franklin Course!

Life Friends of Franklin member Pamela Hartsock, Ph.D. will be teaching the Barnes and Noble online course, "Benjamin Franklin: The First American," starting in December. The course will be based on the latest Franklin biography by H.W. Brands (2000) as well as Dr. Hartsock's favorite, the *Autobiography*. The cost for this non-accredited (i.e., just for fun!) course is \$14.95 (\$14.20 with a B&N readers'/discount card) and runs 4 weeks. With high enrollment (and a little help from a strong turnout of fellow Friends members?), the course may be rerun

monthly, so check back in January, February, and beyond! Check out [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com) and click on online courses, Liberal Arts campus premiere courses, the Franklin course, and the sessions tab to see Dr. Hartsock's biography. For even more information, email Dr. Hartsock personally at [pnysvd\\_pnyernd@yahoo.com](mailto:pnysvd_pnyernd@yahoo.com). Hope to "see" you there for a technology-charged way of sharing and learning about Franklin's life with a host of mutually interested parties from around the world, Internet-style!



## Special Franklin Tours Scheduled for Philadelphia Open House

Philadelphia Open House, the tour program sponsored by the Friends of Independence National Historical Park will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2003. This year four separate tours will focus upon, "Benjamin Franklin, Philadelphia's Treasure," featuring visits to institutions affiliated with Franklin. On April 21, "Benjamin Franklin — the Founder, Part I" will feature visits to the American Philosophical Society and The Philadelphia Contributionship. On April 29, guests will tour the University of Pennsylvania. On May 12 visits are slated for the Library Company and Pennsylvania Hospital. On May 12, "A Conversation with Ben Franklin" will include a visit with Ben Franklin and a walking tour.

The time for all tours is 1:00 — 3:30 PM. Refreshments will be included. Tours can be attended separately or as a series. The cost of each tour is \$25. For more information contact Lindsey Heller at the Friends' office at 215-928-1188.



## Franklin for Kids *Liberty Kids*

Parents and children alike are delighting in the new animated PBS production, *Liberty Kids*, which depicts life in the American colonies in the years surrounding the American Revolution. History comes to life as four fictional teens are interwoven into events such as the Boston Tea Party or the conflict at Bunker Hill. The children meet historic figures narrated by some of the finest talent in the American entertainment industry. Benjamin Franklin is portrayed by Walter Cronkite; Billy Crystal speaks for John Adams, and Michael Douglas for Patrick Henry. Whoopi Goldberg is the voice of Deborah Sampson, Dustin Hoffman depicts Benedict Arnold. Others include: Liam Neeson, Sylvester Stallone, Ben Stiller and Arnold Schwarzenegger. The segments are fast paced and include a daily quiz and a comparison of life, "Now and Then." The show is geared to children ages 7 to 14 and is shown daily, Monday through Friday.

A recently released computer software program by the Learning Company, *Liberty Kids*, comple-



## FRANKLIN TIDBITS

*continued*

dren ages 7 to 12, it offers them the opportunity to examine seven historical events including the crossing of the Delaware and the writing of the Declaration of Independence from different perspectives. They can also watch mini movies from the PBS series, learn about Franklin's inventions, and create their own newspaper.



### Good Reads

Two new books on Franklin for children (ages 10-13) have been recently released.

David A. Adler's, *B. Franklin, Printer* is a rich biography tracing Franklin's life from birth through death. Complete with engravings of his era, source notes and an index it is a good introduction for children to the art of historical research.

In Dan Gutman's *Qwerty Stevens Stuck in Time with Benjamin Franklin*, Franklin materializes from Qwerty's "Anytime Anywhere Machine" and accompanies Qwerty and his friend Joey to the Thomas Edison Middle School for a view of contemporary life. Before long, however, Qwerty and Joey are themselves victims of the "Anytime Anywhere Machine" and are witnessing life and events in eighteenth century Philadelphia. Entertaining, it also includes a brief chronology and listing of Franklin's achievements.

## Benjamin Franklin Bust

Have you placed your order for a Franklin bust yet?

The Friends of Franklin are now offering members an opportunity to purchase a nine-inch bust of Benjamin Franklin that is made of high-fired bisque and signed and dated by the artist at a discounted price. This sculpture was originally created for the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia and has been a Media of Print award given by the Columbus International Film and Video Festival of Columbus, Ohio.

The cost of this sculpture is \$75 for members/\$85 for non-members plus a \$7 shipping charge. A 9" foundry cast bronze bust is also available at a cost of \$1,750 plus shipping. The delivery time for the bronze bust is 90 days. Orders will not be processed without payment.

These inspiring sculptures are perfect for home and office. Call Kathy DeLuca at 856-979-1613 or go to the Friends website at [www.benfranklin2006.org](http://www.benfranklin2006.org) and download the order form.



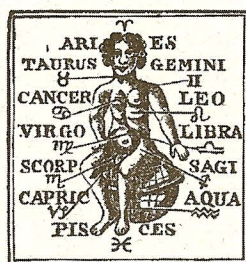
## Benjamin Franklin Tour to California

On February 18, 2003, the Friends of Franklin will travel to Pasadena, California for our first West Coast Franklin event. Highlights of this tour include a behind-the-scenes day-long visit to Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, a tour of the historical portion of Knotts Berry Farm, and hands-on demonstrations of the world of printing at the International Printing Museum. Outstanding speakers including Mark Barbour, Ron Coleman, Gene Collins, Ralph Gregory Elliot, Roy Goodman, Stuart Green, Pamela Hartsock, Nian Sheng Huang, and Robert Middlekauff. The tour ends on February 22, 2003.

You will not want to miss this combination tour and lecture series. Early registration is due on January 13, 2003. To request a brochure with full details, please contact Kathy DeLuca at 856-979-1613.







## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **January 15, 2003**

Lecture by Gordon S. Wood, Professor of History, Brown University, "The Americanization of Benjamin Franklin" sponsored by the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Consortium. The lecture will take place at the American Philosophical Society, with a reception at 5:30 in Library Hall, followed by the lecture at 6:30 in Benjamin Franklin Hall. Call 215.546.3181 for more information or reservations.

### **January 17, 2003**

Inauguration of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary website: [www.benfranklin300.com](http://www.benfranklin300.com).

### **January 17, 2003**

Benjamin Franklin, Founder Celebration! Philadelphia. 2003 marks the 250th anniversary of Franklin's appointment as Deputy Postmaster General of North America. This year's event will focus on the interchange of information in the colonies and today. Friend James Srodes will be a guest speaker at the morning seminar as well as Gordon Morison, Executive Director of the 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition in Washington, D.C. A procession to Franklin's grave and luncheon will follow. Contact Kathy DeLuca for more information: 856.979.1613.

### **January 18, 2003**

Franklin Birthday luncheon, New Haven Lawn Club followed by a lecture by Edmund S. Morgan and tours of the Franklin Collection. Contact the editorial offices of The Papers of Benjamin Franklin for more information or reservations: 203.432.1814. Deadline for all reservations is January 10.

### **February 18-22, 2003**

Friends of Franklin Excursion to California. Includes visits to the Huntington Library, Knotts Berry Farm and the International Printing Museum. See "Benjamin Franklin Tour to California" article for more details or call Kathy DeLuca at 856.979.1613.

### **April – May 2003**

Franklin tours scheduled as part of Philadelphia Open House. Special visits to the American Philosophical Society, The Philadelphia Contributionship, The Library Company, Pennsylvania Hospital, and the University of Pennsylvania are being offered. Contact Kathy De Luca for more information: 856.979.1613.

### **October 6, 2005**

Benjamin Franklin Consortium Exhibit opens in Philadelphia at the Franklin Institute.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's time to renew your Friends of Franklin membership for 2003! Memberships for 2003 expire on December 31st. By now, renewal notices should have reached your door. Please take a moment to review your information and make any necessary corrections and/or deletions so your record can be updated. Please note, if you joined the Friends after June 1, you will receive a prorated renewal notice in June. As always, the Friends appreciate your continued support.



## Special Thanks to Our Life Members!

William D. Anderson, Jr.  
Wichita, KS

Genya Asama  
Suwa-Gun Nagano-Ken, Japan

Jackson C. Boswell  
Arlington, VA

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George Franklin Waters  
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Batavia, IL

Ehsan Zayan  
London, UK

## Welcome and Thanks to New Members!

### Sustaining Friend:

Noah Katz  
New York, NY

### Friends:

Gene Barretta  
Narberth, PA

Susan Branson  
Dallas, TX

Randall Miller  
Havertown, PA

Bernard W. Shuster  
Wayland, MA



The Friends of Franklin  
Organization is seeking  
speakers on Franklin and  
various aspects of his life.  
If you are interested in  
sharing your research with  
other members of the  
Friends please contact  
Kathy DeLuca at  
856.979.1613

Visit the  
Friends of Franklin website:  
[www.benfranklin2006.org](http://www.benfranklin2006.org)



## Join Friends of Franklin!

Would you like to become an official member of the Friends of Franklin organization? Do you have a friend or relative who might wish to join, or who would appreciate a gift membership? All individuals, scholars, students, collectors, and Franklinophiles, as well as institutions, are invited to become members of the Friends of Franklin at the following membership rates:

Life Members	\$1,000	Sustaining Friend	\$100
Institutional Members	\$1,000	Franklin Friend	\$50
Supporting Friend	\$ 250	Student Members (full time only; photocopy id)	\$20

## YES, I'd like to join the Friends of Franklin!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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Method of payment: Personal check \_\_\_\_\_ or Money order \_\_\_\_\_ (Made payable to Friends of Franklin, Inc.)

Credit Card: MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: Friends of Franklin, Inc., PO Box 40048, Philadelphia, PA 19106

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