

Franklin Gazette

Volume 16, Number 2, Summer 2006

Friends of Franklin, Inc. P.O. Box 40048, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Visit: www.benfranklin2006.org

"A Father's a Treasure; a Brother's a Comfort; a Friend is both." *Poor Richard*, July, 1747.

Message From the President

By Roy E. Goodman

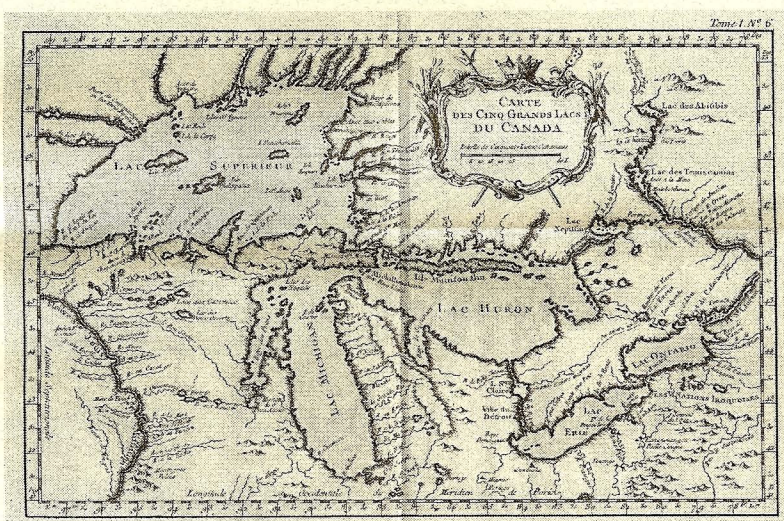
Now that "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World," has left Philadelphia for the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis, through September 4, 2006, it seems appropriate to consider Franklin's links, past and present with the Midwest. So many of our Friends of Franklin live in America's heartland. This may come as a surprise to some of our members, but several of the founding members of the Friends hail from the Midwest. Two past presidents of the Friends were from Illinois, and facilitated a wonderful October, 1993 Friends tour in Chicago. The Field Museum of Natural History and the Newberry Library were among the places visited by the Friends. The American frontier and Franklin and Native Americans, were the themes during the tour.

Fortunately, now the digital *Papers of Benjamin Franklin* (www.franklinpapers.org) allows us to mine the rich resources of Franklin's correspondence, and easily gather references on the Ohio, Illinois country, the great lakes, and the Mississippi River, just to cite some examples I have recently found. Of course, the footnotes only found in the printed volumes of the Franklin *Papers* put the documents in a clear context for the scholar and general reader alike. Franklin's era comes alive to thanks to the *Papers*, regardless of the format one consults.

Recently, a reporter from a St. Louis area newspaper contacted me regarding the tercentenary exhibition about to

open nearby. She was eager to include in her article Franklin's thoughts and observations on her part of the country. Franklin's interest and geographical awareness of the then

remote interior of North America, were somewhat surprising to the reporter. Yet, Franklin, that "citizen of the world" was every bit the global savant, as evidenced by the books in his own library and in the institutions he founded. The map shown here is from Bellin's, *Le Petit Atlas Maritime*...Paris, 1764, an impressive collection of world maps, in 5 volumes, from Franklin's library, now among the holdings of the American Philosophical Society.



Jacques Nicholas Bellin, *Le petit atlas maritime; recueil de cartes et plans des quatre parties du monde*... 5 vol. Paris, 1764. The map appears in v.1. Courtesy of the American Philosophical Society.

On August 2nd and 3rd a few of the Friends will venture to the northwest angle of Minnesota, near the Lake of the Woods, led by George Franklin Waters, of Rochester, MN, current Board member and longtime Friend of Franklin. See the attached article describing the event.

Franklin's involvement with western lands, the Grand Ohio Company, formed in 1769, and his 1756 piece, A Plan for settling Two Western Colonies in North America, are part of the Midwest connections with Ben.

Yes, the Friends are on the move- new places, new adventures, and never a dull moment when Friends explore Franklin!! Go to St. Louis and see the Franklin exhibit if you've missed it in Philadelphia. Then again, Houston, Denver, Atlanta, or Paris may be more convenient future exhibit venues, through 2008.

Franklin Gazette

published quarterly by:

The Friends of Franklin, Inc.

P.O. Box 40048
Philadelphia, PA 19106

856.833.1771

Fax: 856.854.0773

email: fof@benfranklin2006.org

Website:

www.benfranklin2006.org

Officers:

Roy E. Goodman, President
Ralph Archbold, Vice President
Lee Knepp, Treasurer
Anna Coxé Toogood, Secretary

Directors:

Stuart Green, MD
Pamela Hartsock, PhD
Noah Katz
E. Philip Krider, PhD
Blaine McCormick, PhD
Michael Newcomb, MD
Karl T. Molin
George Waters

Ex-Officio:

Ellen Cohn
Stuart Karu

Executive Director:

Kathy DeLuca
856.833.1771
Fax: 856.854.0773
Email: fof@benfranklin2006.org

Editor:

Carol Wojtowicz Smith
cwsmith@verizon.net
856.429.8331

Co-Editor: Claude-Anne Lopez

Publication schedule:

March, June, September and December. Newsletter submissions are encouraged. Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding publication. Submissions by e-mail or computer disks (text-only format) are preferred.

Tercentenary News

The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary exhibition

The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary exhibition, "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World," opened at its second venue, the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis (<http://www.mohistory.org/>), on June 8, 2006, and will remain there through September 4. Full details of the exhibition's travel schedule can be found online at www.benfranklin300.org. "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World" enjoyed a very successful run at its first venue, Philadelphia's National Constitution Center; it received enthusiastic reviews in the *New York Times* and *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and was visited by approximately 200,000 people over its four month run.

Members of the Friends of Franklin were given a preview of the Frankliniana Database early in 2005 that said it would be "a virtual home for things that were Franklin's, where they can be seen together for the first time in centuries." The Database is online now, and can be visited at the Tercentenary's website, www.benfranklin300.org. Its more than three hundred entries range from cartoons to portraits, spoons to high chests. New object entries are being made, and information about existing entries is being updated continually as Franklin's three-hundredth year brings forward objects that have survived to the present.

Annual Fundraising Drive

An annual infusion of contributions from a fund drive is essential to our continued success. To those of you who have given, our deepest thanks. To those of you who have delayed giving, please consider supporting the Friends and mail us your donation. No matter what the amount, your contribution is greatly appreciated. Know that the funds you contribute are fully tax deductible and defray the costs of the *Gazette* publication, programs, and operational expenses. As always the Friends of Franklin appreciate your continued support.

An Eighteenth-Century Version of the Convenience Store

Claude-Anne Lopez

While Benjamin Franklin was making a fortune with *Poor Richard*, his wife Deborah was keeping the Franklin family store. In case you are wondering about what was available for sale there, her Shop Book is in the collection of the American Philosophical Society. Here's a summary, based on the detailed accounts she kept of every item that was sold on credit between 1735 and 1739. There were all kinds of stationary supplies and printed forms; bills of lading, servants' indentures, powers of attorney, bills of sale, paper by the ream or quire, blank books, ink, pencils, quills, slates, lampblack, sealing-wax, parchment, and wafers. Books were also sold; primers, Bibles, psalters, dictionaries and grammars, books printed by Franklin, and more than 3,000 copies of the 1738 edition of *Poor Richard* (termed by Deborah "Poor Dicks"). Cloth, clothing, and spectacles were also on sale, and the Franklins sold much chocolate, side by side with the ointment prepared by Deborah's mother from her secret recipe, and the Franklins' famous crown soap.

In His Own Words What Constitutes a Civil Society?


Franklin wrote this letter from London on Jan. 13, 1772 to his old friend Joshua Babcock of Westerly, Rhode Island. Babcock (1707-1783) was known for his "princely hospitality". Educated at Yale, and trained as a physician in Boston and in London, he eventually turned to mercantile activities, and kept a large store. His devoted and beloved wife, Hannah Stanton Babcock, whom Franklin mentions below, was, according to Ezra Stiles, "a most excellent Woman, the Law of Kindness was upon her Tongue, her prudence and amiableness of manner as well as her virtues and love of all the religions rendered her the ornament of her sex." Franklin's travels in Scotland and Ireland in the late summer and autumn of 1771 prompted this meditation on the true nature of civil society.

Dear Sir,

It was with great Pleasure I learnt by Mr. [Henry] Marchant, that you and Mrs. Babcock and all your good Family continue well and happy. I hope I shall find you all in the same State when I next come your Way, and take Shelter as often heretofore under your hospitable Roof. The Colonel [Henry Babcock, Joshua's son], I am told, continues an active and able Farmer, the most honourable of all Employments, in my Opinion as being the most useful in itself, and rendring the man most independent. My Namesake, his Son [Benjamin Franklin Babcock, age 7 at the time this letter was written], will soon I hope be able to drive the Plough for him.

I have lately made a Tour thro' Ireland and Scotland. In these Countries a small Part of the Society are Landlords, great Noblemen and Gentlemen, extreamly opulent, living in the highest Affluence and Magnificence: The Bulk of the People Tenants, extreamly poor, living in the most sordid Wretchedness in dirty Hovels of Mud and Straw, and clothed only in Rags. I thought often of the Happiness of New England, where every Man is a

Freeholder, has a Vote in publick Affairs, lives in a tidy warm House, has plenty of good Food and Fewel [fuel], with whole Cloaths [clothes] from Head to Foot, the Manufactory perhaps of his own Family. Long may they continue in this Situation! But if they should ever envy the Trade of these Countries, I can put them in a Way to obtain a Share of it. Let them with three fourths of the People of Ireland, live the Year round on Potatoes and Butter milk, without Shirts, then may their Merchants export Beef, Butter and Linnen. Let them with the Generality of the Common People of Scotland go Barefoot, then may they make large Exports in Shoes and Stockings: And if they will be content to wear Rags like the Spinners and Weavers of England, they may make Cloths and Stuffs for all Parts of the World. Farther, if my Countrymen should ever wish for the Honour of having among them a Gentry enormously wealthy, let them sell their Farms and pay rack'd Rents [rents raised beyond what tenants can reasonably pay]; the Scale of the Landlords will rise as that of the Tenants is depress'd who will soon become poor, tattered, dirty, and abject in Spirit. Had I never been in the American Colonies, but was to form my Judgment of Civil Society by what I have lately seen, I should never advise a Nation of Savages to admit of Civilisation: For I assure you, that in the Possession and Enjoyment of the various Comforts of Life, compar'd to these People every Indian is a Gentleman: And the Effect of this kind of Civil Society seems only to be, the depressing Multitudes below the Savage State that a few may be rais'd above it. My best Wishes attend you and yours, being with great Esteem, Dear Sir, Your most obedient and most humble Servant BF.



A New Look at the Franklin Court Mastodon Tooth

Patrice L. Jeppson

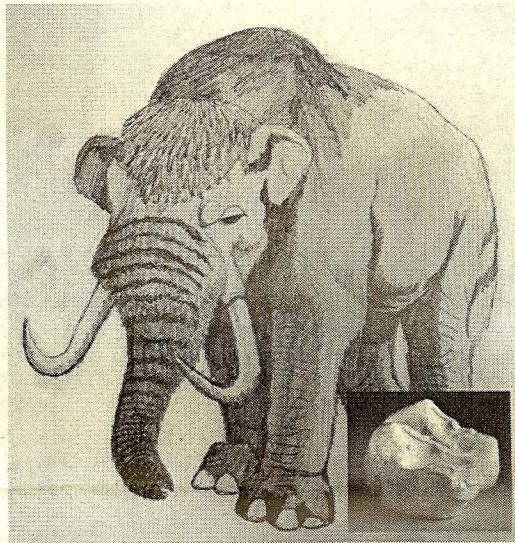
Historical Archaeology Consultant to the Benjamin Franklin
Tercentenary Consortium



Visitors to the Fragments of Franklin museum in Independence National Historical Park have long been intrigued by a natural curiosity on display in a glass exhibit case (INHP Museum Accession #315). This item recently received attention when an assessment of Franklin-related archaeological evidence was commissioned by the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Consortium. This study found that this specimen's 30-year old, natural resource annotation -- "fossil Mastodon Tooth, possibly from the Paris Basin" -- under-identifies the object by describing it merely in terms of its natural composition (stone, or *fossilized bone*). A new proposed interpretation for the specimen considers the historical and cultural context of mastodon fossils in the 18th century. This perspective contributes insight into the tooth's function and role as a *cultural artifact* related to Benjamin Franklin and his times.

Updating the Geographical Provenience of the Tooth

The mastodon tooth was recovered 47 years ago by an electrician working in the basement of #316 Market Street, Philadelphia, a property that had then been recently purchased by the National Park Service for the construction of Independence National Historical Park. While laying down wires in the basement's dirt floor, the electrician encountered a grey and white rock about the size of a large grapefruit. The electrician took the object to the Park headquarters and Park staff sent the item to be examined by an Academy of Natural Sciences (Philadelphia) paleontologist, Horace G. Richards. Richards identified the item as a *mastodon tooth* and suggested a provisional geological (fossil bed) provenience of



Sketch of extinct mastodon, with inset photograph of mastodon tooth found on Benjamin Franklin's property. Drawing by Sarah Jeppson (2005), photograph by Peter Harholdt (2004), courtesy of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Consortium and Independence National Historical Park.

"possibly from the Paris Basin".

This fossil tooth was subsequently selected for display in the Fragments of Franklin architectural and archaeology museum which opened in 1976 as part of the Franklin commemorative garden and museum education complex at Franklin Court in Independence Park. The tooth has remained on display since, and it was there that this researcher encountered it in 2003, while conducting research on Franklin-related archaeology evidence for the Tercentenary's programs (Jeppson 2005).

In 2004, drawing on recent History of Science scholarship, this researcher questioned the Paris Basin provenience. Current research on colonial-era understandings about fossil bones indicates that the mastodon -- then called the *Incognitum* -- was considered to be a North American creature (Semonin

2000). While paleo-mastodons are now known to have roamed Europe (long before the Pleistocene American species) fossils of these creatures, if available, remained unrecognized to colonial-era natural philosophers.

In response to this information, Park curatorial staff undertook another paleontological examination. Ted Daeschler of the Academy of Natural Sciences provisionally reconfirmed the original French provenience on the basis of who it was that made the first identification (the renowned Paleontologist, Richards) and the physical attribute presumed to be the basis for Richard's provisional provenience: The *color* of the particular fossil specimen in question -- which is white -- is not in keeping with the black-colored fossils regularly recovered in North American fossil beds. However, subsequent

follow-up by Daeschler with both a French and an American paleontologist (Pascal Tassy and J. J. Saunders -- the latter having specialized experience with *Mamut americanum*) found that the Paris Basin attribution is not certain by any means. White-colored mastodon fossils are found in the North American fossil collections in Paris repositories (transported during the colonial period), while white fossils are not recovered from the Paris Basin fossil bed (Semonin 2000, Tassy correspondence to Daeschler [forwarded to Jeppson], 2004). White-colored mastodon fossils have been, and continue to be, recovered in North America fossil sites (Jeppson 2005). White fossil mastodon bones are also noted in the documentary record for fossil finds from New York and the Ohio Territories (present day Kentucky) where they are reported to appear 'bleached by the sun' and to

look 'like ivory' (Semonin 2000:87, 94, 109; Croghan [1767,1768] in *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, edited by Leonard W. Labaree et al., xiv, 28, 222; xv, 42).

While we may never know for certain which fossil bed is the source for this particular mastodon tooth, the color of its physical appearance can no longer be considered the determining factor for a French attribution and there is thus no reason to exclude the possibility that this fossil is North American in origin. In light of recent disciplinary scholarship and an examination of the specimen against both comparative fossil collections and colonial historical documentary evidence, the Tercentenary assessment finds that this fossil appears more likely North American in origin and less likely of European origin. In any case, whether the tooth in question has a North American origin or not has little definitive bearing on such a fossil's appearance at a Franklin residence. It is now known that mastodon bones and teeth were passed around by the scientists of Franklin's day on both sides of, and across, the Atlantic (*The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, *ibid.*).

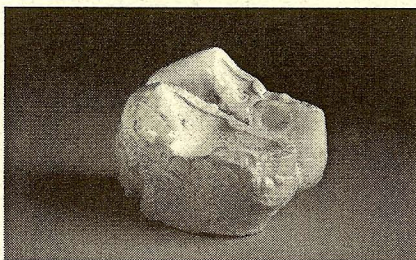
The Mastodon Tooth as a Cultural Artifact

To date, the Franklin Court mastodon tooth's association with Franklin is conveyed via its display setting -- within the #318 Market Street Fragments of Franklin museum. Park Interpreter staff report that the specimen is a popular artifact among the viewing public who learn that the item is a natural history curio that likely reflects Franklin's scientific interests. The Tercentenary archaeological analysis contributes a new interpretation for the tooth that is related to the scientific, political, and cultural understanding of fossil mastodon bones in Franklin's life and Franklin's world.

We can read in Franklin's papers about his interest in mastodons. As a natural philosopher, he undertook comparative analysis of mastodon teeth with teeth from elephants and he was then (and is now) considered the foremost American authority on the mastodon in the third quarter of the 18th-century (Semonin 2000:137). Significantly, Franklin considered whether these animals were possibly carnivorous and he eliminated their features from those of other known living animals at the time. With this type

of information from Franklin and others, like-minded scientists of the day proposed the animal as *extinct*.

Recent History of Science scholarship reveals the significance of this determination (Semonin 2000). At the time, fossils of such extinct animals were part of the rationalist thought then undermining the classical and



Mastodon tooth from Franklin Court (INHP Museum Accession #315.) Photograph taken for the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Frankliniana Database. Photograph by Peter Harholdt, 2004. (INHP a122.mastodon tooth image courtesy Karie Deithorn and Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary.)

medieval conception of the order of the universe known as the *Great Chain of Being*. In short, this tooth is tangible, material culture residue of a time when society's basic values and beliefs were being restructured by Enlightenment ideas and it is evidence of Franklin's role in helping transform this worldview.

Beyond demonstrating Franklin's scientific curiosity, the mastodon tooth also provides a window into the social and political consequences being brought about by this evolving natural history understanding. Recent scholarship also explains how the mastodon became an important symbol of the new nation's spirit when patriotism and North American prehistoric nature became intertwined (Semonin 2000). The presumed ferocity of the beast -- in particular, its great size (greater than any known terrestrial animal) became an important symbol of national identity (See Semonin 2000; APS also addressed the mastodon's place in colonial-era worldview in their recent exhibit "Stuffing Birds, Pressing Plants, Shaping Knowledge: Natural History 1730-1860" and in their "Treasures of the APS -- An American Behemoth: Peale's Mastodon" at www.amphilsoc.org/library/exhibits/treasures/mastodon.htm). This creature supported the idea of a grand history for the new continent that was equal to that of the Old World. The animal's extinction was, in turn, the harbinger of the conquest of American destiny

over untamed wilderness (Semonin 2000).

In attributing a cultural history provenience to the Franklin Court mastodon tooth, the Tercentenary archaeological assessment identifies the specimen as an artifact of culture as well as a fossil. The specimen is revealed to be material residue of a revolution in Western scientific thought and the gestation of a symbolic ideology central to the nation's birth.

The Mastodon Tooth and the Tercentenary Celebrations

The Tercentenary archaeological assessment recommended that the mastodon tooth be considered for various Tercentenary commemorations. The specimen has been included in the Tercentenary's catalogue of all things Franklin, the Frankliniana Database. The tooth is now traveling domestically as part of the Tercentenary's international loan exhibit, "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World" but will return to Independence National Park in 2008. Except in the case of a few objects -- such as this mastodon tooth -- this Tercentenary archaeological study involved assessment as opposed to re-analysis. Perhaps, most importantly, this new mastodon tooth interpretation makes clear that a formal, *full*, re-analysis of all the various Franklin-related archaeology collections -- now 30-50 years old -- is warranted. It is very possible that new information about Franklin and his life could be forthcoming through a re-analysis and or renewed interpretive use of the Franklin-related archaeological evidence stored in Federal and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania repositories.

Bibliography:

Jeppson, Patrice L.
2005 *Historical Fact, Historical Memory, the archaeological evidence related to Benjamin Franklin and his life: Historical Archaeology Research done for the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Consortium*.

Semonin, Paul
2000 *American Monster: How The Nation's First Prehistoric Creature Became a Symbol of National Identity*. New York University Press.

FRANKLIN ABROAD

Balzac Recalls Franklin

By Eleanor Gesensway

Our friend Franklin is remembered a half century after his stay in France in one of literature's "classics."

Cousin Bette by Honoré de Balzac is the story of the decline of a family and contains powerful insights into character, place and plot. Through the actions of many finely drawn persons exemplifying either or both vice and virtue, Balzac offers a chilling morality tale.

Considered a founder of the 19th century modern French novel, his life's work taken in its entirety describes "The Human

Comedy." *Cousin Bette* is the penultimate novel in this vast work and was written between 1846 and 1847.

Balzac frequently digresses from character and plot to describe the customs and conditions of 19th-century Parisian life following the fall of the aristocracy and then in the Napoleon era, followed by the rise of the bourgeoisie during the reign of Louis- Philippe.

Not too far into the story, we find a description of a rooming house on the third floor of which the "old maid" {Lisbeth Fischer,

aka Cousin Bette} lives. We learn, "She never received either letters or visitors, and was not on neighborly terms with her fellow tenants. Here was one of those anonymous insect-like existences to be found in certain houses, in which one may discover at the end of four years that there is an old gentleman living on the fourth floor who once knew Voltaire, Pilatre de Rozier, Beaujon, Marcel, Mole, Sophie Arnould, Franklin, and Robespierre."

Benjamin Franklin House Open For Franklin's 300th Birthday

The only surviving home of Benjamin Franklin, one of America's most iconic figures, is not in Boston where he was born; not in Philadelphia, his adopted city, where he created civic institutions that have shaped American life and where he made lasting contributions to science; and not in Paris where he served as the first official representative of a fledgling American government, garnering support which helped decide the course of the American Revolution. It is, in fact, in the heart of London, just steps from Trafalgar Square. Benjamin Franklin called Craven Street home for nearly sixteen years between 1757 and 1775.

Benjamin Franklin House opened to the public for the first time on January 17, 2006 – Franklin's 300th birthday. This 1730s Grade I Georgian terrace building uncovers the rich story of Franklin in London, showcasing Franklin's many contributions during his London years and

highlighting the timeless relevance of tenacity, inquisitiveness and the seeds of Anglo-American cooperation. Benjamin Franklin House offers three different points of departure for the study of Franklin: The Historical Experience uses live interpretation and leading edge sound, lighting and visual projection to reveal Franklin's London years in his own words. The historic spaces serve as stage for this unique 'museum as theatre' which removes the traditional distance between visitor and the past. The main character is Polly Hewson, daughter of Franklin's landlady who became a 'second daughter' to Franklin. Accompanied by Hewson, who assumes visitors are there to see Franklin on his last night in London when he had to leave or risk arrest, the visitor gains a sense of the complexity of the man and the times in which he lived: food, health, botany, and daily living in the basement kitchen; social and personal relation-

ships, musical inventions and political tension on the ground floor; scientific work, political triumphs and woes, and a hurried return to America in the face of the looming War of Independence on the first floor. The Student Science Centre features hands-on experimentation with Franklin's London science, juxtaposing past and present knowledge, and inspiring young people, particularly those from the inner city, to think and test in the mode of Franklin. The Robert H. Smith Scholarship Centre is the intellectual hub at the top of the building. It includes a full set of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, the modern comprehensive edition of Franklin's correspondence and writings, edited at Yale University, and purchased with support from the US Embassy, London. For information on hours, tickets, and special events tap into www.benjaminfranklinhouse.org, or e-mail info@benjaminfranklinhouse.org.

Franklin's Role in 1783 Negotiations Recognized in Minnesota

On August 3, 2006 the Northwest Angle & Islands/Franklin Tercentenary Dedication will be held at Angle Inlet, Minnesota, the northernmost point in the 48 states. This Inlet is part of a key disputed tract acknowledged as part of the United States by the 1783 Treaty of Paris. Benjamin Franklin was a member of the American Commission that negotiated that agreement.

The Friends of Franklin, Inc., will sponsor this major Tercentenary event. In contrast with other Tercentenary celebrations it will have a unique Midwest connotation, among all the other exhibits and tributes which describe Franklin's achievements in America and abroad.

Minnesotans are proud to have a part in recognizing this aspect of Franklin's legacy.

George Waters, a long time Life member and Director of the Friends, chairs the committee in charge of the event. He characterizes the committee's mission in this way: "To honor Benjamin Franklin for the leading role he played in establishing the controversial 'Arrowhead Region' as part of the United States in the Treaty of Paris of 1783, thereby reserving access to the riches of the great Mesabi and Vermillion iron ranges. Said treaty also preserved the right of navigation of the Mississippi River which opened up this vital trade and transport artery for the American nation."

The Northwest Angle makes a distinctive 'bump' on Minnesota's northern border, and that 'bump' is a result of this treaty. It is that beautiful northernmost region, now a sportsman's paradise, that will be the site for the dedication.

In his best seller, *Inside USA*, John J. Gunther gives an interesting insight into the boundary negotiations when he writes, "The Mesabi range presents a nice demonstration of how capricious history may be. But for a famous accident most of this region would belong to Canada. A British scientist named John Mitchell, mapping the region in 1755, thought that the Lake of the Woods led directly into Lake Superior by way of the Pigeon River. He was, it happened, wrong. When, in 1783, Benjamin Franklin negotiated the Treaty of Paris, which first delimited the American - Canadian frontier, he and the other commissioners accepted this map as accurate, although it would have been more logical to fol-

low the line of the St. Louis River further south. One story is that Franklin, somewhat of a sharp dealer, knew well that the original map was wrong, but saw to it that it was accepted anyway. So the Minnesota "Arrowhead" went to the United States. The Minnesota ranges have . . . since their discovery produced over a billion and a half tons of 'merchantable' iron ore."

Yes, the Boundary Waters and Lake of the Woods do flow north into Hudson Bay. The St. Louis River, far to the south, flowing through Duluth, is the true "headwaters of Lake Superior", the boundary determinant which the British were seeking. There is evidence that

Lake Superior's North Shore.

The committee's members also include Roy Goodman, James Rasmussen, and Debra Kellerman (who hails from an island near Angle Inlet). They have spent many months preparing for this moment. The commemorative marker has been ordered and is being delivered. A small jet has been chartered to fly the dignitaries and press to nearby Warroad, Minn. where Marvin Windows, a large and successful manufacturer, is located. The Marvin family has been of great help in making this event possible.

There will be a banquet in Warroad the

night of August 2nd, and the next day the group will be bussed to the marker site in front of a local school for the noontime ceremonies. The festivities will coincide with the local Blueberry Festival, which is the highlight of every year at the Angle. In addition to visiting dignitaries and the press, a large group of local citizens is expected to attend, along with visitors from the neighborhood's many sportsman's lodges. Enthusiasm is already running high. The vast expanse of Lake of the Woods, once a center for the fur trade is today a magnet for tourists, as well as a fishing and hunting attraction.

Embossed on

both sides of the 40" by 34" inch metal marker in gold letters on a brown background with a profile of Franklin atop, will be the following words:

NW ANGLE & ISLANDS

The Northwest Angle, the northernmost land of the 48 states, owes its existence to Benjamin Franklin, U.S. Minister Plenipotentiary. His negotiations at the Treaty of Paris of 1783 won British acceptance of the border extending from the "most northwestern most point" of Lake of the Woods to the Boundary Waters. Despite British opposition later, this original Minnesota northern border stood inviolate. In 1818 a due south line connected to the new 49th latitude western border, thus the Northwest Angle & Islands were created. Said border also established the "Arrowhead Region" for the U.S. including two of the world's great iron ranges, the Mesabi and the Vermillion.

Dedicated August 3, 2006
By The Friends of Franklin, Inc.
In honor of Franklin's Tercentenary Year



By the arrows appearing in the circle on the above Carver map, Carver clearly indicates a divide in the watershed and the Boundary waters flow to the west.

Franklin was aware of the correct water flow having in 1769 met the early western explorer, Jonathan Carver, who had firsthand knowledge of the area in question. Carver published an account of his travels in London in 1778. A friend sent a copy of the work to Franklin while he was in France, so the American minister would have had access to Carver's conclusions during the negotiations on the boundary issues. George Waters has an original French version of the Carver map clearly indicating the correct flowage with regard to the Lake of the Woods, a portion of which is shown here.

The British discovered their error shortly after 1783 and tried very hard to convince the Americans to cede them the disputed territory in the Treaty of Ghent following the War of 1812. But the original Lake of the Woods line stood inviolate because of Franklin's prestige and legacy. Had those rich iron ranges been in Canada, US Steel might well have been Canada Steel. Also, the Arrowhead region contains other valuable resources; pine forests as well as spectacular waterfront property along

The Friends of Franklin Tercentennial Tour, Oct. 26-Nov. 5: Follow Franklin's Footsteps in "His London and Paris Years"

Experience a 300th Birthday celebration with The Friends of Franklin as we combine two of our most memorable international tours for a Franklin experience not to be missed. Taking some of the highlights of our two previous tours with the addition of new places and Franklin topics not previously explored, we have created a journey that weaves together several facets of Franklin's London and Paris years. We will learn more about his relationships with those he befriended during the time he spent in these two capitals. As always, we will include many special touches that have become the signature of all our annual travels.

In order to make our visit extra special, we have been feverishly working with some old Friends and new Friends, all of whom are eager to welcome us to Franklin's world. We are still confirming and arranging but we wanted to share some of the highlights planned so far.

Our time in London will begin with a reception at the Commonwealth Club near Craven Street. Our Friends from Benjamin Franklin House will join us at a reception and we will then visit Craven Street for a special tour. As you may recall, during our last visit to London, Craven Street was in disrepair and we were only able to stand

outside the building. However, on this visit we will tour the renovated and reinterpreted house, hear about Franklin's time at Craven Street, the project to open his London home to the public, and its present day uses. Following days will include visits to the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew-the-Great, the Freemasons' Hall, the Library and Museum and the Grand Temple of Freemasonry, Ecton (the Franklin ancestral home), Twyford House and Gardens (where Benjamin Franklin wrote the first part of his *Autobiography*), and Lincoln's Inn (where William Franklin attended law school). We will savor the tastes of traditional English food at our Welcome Dinner at the famous Simpsons-on-the-Strand, and much more.

Our journey then takes us through the Channel Tunnel to Paris. While in France, Alice Jouve, wife of Life member Daniel Jouve, will be on hand to personalize our Franklin visits. A licensed guide in Paris, she will show us sites that Franklin visited as well as introduce us to Franklin's fellow commissioners John Adams and Thomas Jefferson on her famous "Founding Fathers" tour. We will visit the Monnaie de Paris, the French Mint, and have a chance to examine the commemorative coins that were produced to

mark the tercentenary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. In addition, we will visit Passy, now a posh suburb of Paris, where Franklin resided. We will also view the Franklin statue at Trocadéro, visit Versailles and the Foreign Ministry where Franklin met with Vergennes, and stroll in the beautiful gardens of Versailles prior to lunch at La Flotille. We have received a special invitation from the Comte d'Andlau to visit his chateau, Vore, the home of Mme Helvetius, a dear friend of Ben Franklin, and there we will learn more about this special relationship in Franklin's life. These are only a few of the private visits we have planned.

Our program will include lectures and presentations from historians and knowledgeable Franklin specialists; docents, librarians, tour guides, and curators. The final itinerary will include a program that will identify the speakers as well as provide short biographies wherever possible.

Some free time will be provided in both London and Paris to allow for pursuit of personal interests.

For more information, contact the Friends of Franklin office: (856) 833-1771.



Benjamin Franklin: Different Aspects of the Man

By Seymour S. Block, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Editor's Note: Friend Seymour Block's book was recently published, and here he presents a sample of the some of the topics covered in it.

Benjamin Franklin made his money the old fashioned way. He printed it. But Ben did it honestly; he was paid by Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware to print their money. There was no federal government in those days so each American colony printed its own paper money. But not everyone was as honest as Ben, and some fellows printed money without being authorized to do so. These were the counterfeiters. To defeat them Ben became America's first counterfeit fighter devising many ways to discourage their nefarious practices.



Reproduction of the Fugio cent, 1787, designed by Franklin. Courtesy of the Gallery Mint Museum Eureka Springs, AR.

One thing he did was to print on every bill the warning that the punishment for counterfeiting could be the ultimate penalty, "To Counterfeit is Death." Another thing he did was to invent a method to print a natural leaf, which he printed on bills because the structure of a leaf is very intricate and complex and very difficult for an unscrupulous engraver and counterfeiter to copy. This was long before photography had made it easy to copy and print something like a leaf. Franklin also incorporated a mineral in the paper in order to be able to tell whether a bill was counterfeit. The same methods Franklin devised are employed by the government today to foil counterfeiters. They are used, for example, in \$100 bills, which honor Franklin for his pioneering work.

In 1776, after the Revolution had begun, Franklin designed the first United States money, both bills and coins. On the one-sixth of a dollar bill, the front shows the sun shining on a sundial with the inscription "Mind your Business," meaning "tend to your business." It was typical of Franklin to incorporate a message encouraging industriousness. On the reverse side we see the sun with its rays radiating out to 13 interlocking circles, each circle representing one of the origi-

nal 13 States. On a rim on the outside of the sun are the words "American Congress" and inside the sun are the words "We are One." In 1776, Franklin was also involved in designing the Great Seal of the United States, and its "E Pluribus Unum (Out of many one)" expresses his same "We are One" sentiments.

The words, "We are One," culminate Franklin's efforts that had begun a quarter of a century before, namely to unify the separate colonies into a single government. In fact, no one had made a greater effort to create a United States of America than Franklin. He was working at it even before he took part in the famous Albany Conference in 1754 for that purpose. The first effort to form a union was to protect the colonies from the French, and then, later, in the Revolution to protect them from the English.

You will read in the history books and encyclopedias that "The Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union," America's first Constitution, during and after the Revolution, from 1776 to 1787, were written by John Dickinson in 1776. That was actually the second version of that document. James Madison tells us that the title and first draft were introduced to the Continental Congress by Benjamin Franklin in 1775. That was before the Declaration of Independence and some of the representatives were not yet ready for taking action. After the Declaration of Independence, the Articles were extended by Dickinson, who was a lawyer and was therefore selected to write this legal document. Besides, at that time Congress had Franklin busy working full-time on many committees for the new government and could not spare him. But consider the words Franklin chose for this new constitution of the country, "Perpetual Union." When he placed "we are One" on the face of the sun, he had finally achieved his life's goal. The details of this account are found in the chapter* entitled "Franklin's Greatest Invention." His money printing activities are in a chapter entitled: "Benjamin Franklin, Money Maker."

"We think of nothing here at present but of flying." Who said that? Was it Orville Wright, Charles Lindbergh or Amelia Earhart? No it was our good friend Benjamin Franklin. That was in 1783 when Ben was present at man's first great adventure in space and he loved it. The Montgolfier brothers had just invented the lighter-than-air balloon that carried

men (and women, too) up high in the air. Ben was 77 and ill, so he didn't go up himself, but he encouraged the balloonists and helped finance their activities. Like the scientist and journalist he was, he observed each event and reported on it. He foresaw the future of flying for transportation and for military purposes. This fascinating story is found in the chapter, "Benjamin Franklin at the Dawn of the Space Age."

Franklin has been referred to as our founding grandfather. He was much older than the other Founding Fathers: 26 years older than George Washington, 28 older than John Adams, 37 older than Thomas Jefferson, 45 older than James Madison, and 51 older than Alexander Hamilton. He was the oldest man to sign the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Peace with England, and the Constitution, and incidentally, the only man to sign all three of these major U.S. documents. But Franklin was not only an active and productive senior citizen, he was most observant of the habits and foibles of old folks. Here is a sampling of his observations:

People who live the long life and drink to the bottom of the cup must expect to meet some of the dregs.

Keep up your spirits and that will keep up your bodies; you will no more stoop under the weight of age than if you had swallowed a handspike.

To my remaining old friends, the fewer we become, the more let us love one another.

By my rambling digressions I perceive myself to be grown old.

All would live long, but none would be old.

More of these, along with Franklin's own aging and death and his remarks during their onset are presented in the chapter*, "America's First Senior Citizen."

*This book is Benjamin Franklin, *Genius of Kites, Flights, and Voting Rights* by Seymour S. Block (McFarland & Co., Publishers, Jefferson, NC). It has ten chapters, each giving an in-depth look into one aspect of Franklin's many activities. Other topics treated are Franklin's influence on the French Revolution, his adventures with a hypnotist, and his unusual experiment that led to another American receiving the Nobel Prize 150 years later.

FRANKLIN TIDBITS

Scholarly Conferences on Franklin abound in this tercentennial year.

In Italy, scholars will gather for a 2-day event. *Promoting Sciences: Benjamin Franklin's World, 1706-2006* is sponsored by the University of Milan, the Centro Studi Americani of Rome, and the University of Macerata. On Oct. 23 in Milan there will be discussions on science/technology and journalism, and on the following day in Rome the focus will be on moral sciences/philosophy and the science of diplomacy.

Back in the States, *Inventing America: The Interplay of Technology and Democracy in Shaping American Identity* will commemorate the 300th anniversary of Franklin's birth. It is to

be held at the University of Virginia on Nov. 3-4. It is sponsored by the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation, the U. Va. Dept. of Science, Technology, and Society and the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello.

Several talks on Franklin are also on the agenda at the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies' meeting on Nov. 9-12 at Salem State College in Salem, Mass. Friend Robert B. Craig is chairing the panel.

Franklin in the Blogosphere: University of Michigan Professor Juan Cole's blog has drawn attention to the

fact that classic works of American political thought are not available in Arabic. He points out that Abbas Mahmud al-Aqqad's book on Franklin, the most recent one in Arabic, was published in 1955. There is a movement to subsidize the translation into Arabic and publication of the works of the American Founding Fathers. If the project is successful, the plan is to sell the books at low prices in the Middle East. The readers of Cole's blog have already contributed \$13,000 towards the effort, and several foundations are considering making grants to support the effort. Read Cole's Feb. 11, 2004 blog where he first raised the issue: www.juancole.com/2004/failure-of-us-public-diplomacy-in.html.

continued on pg 9



Good Reads

Benjamin Franklin on The Art of Eating, (American Philosophical Society, 2006) is a special limited edition reprint in honor of the 300th anniversary with an introduction by Roy Goodman. To order see the APS website: www.aps-pub.com/specpub.htm.

Stanley Finger and Franklin Zaromb, "Benjamin Franklin and Shock-Induced Amnesia," *American Psychologist*, lxi (2006), no. 3.

Franklin: The Autobiography and Other Writings on Politics, Economics and Virtue. Edited by Alan Houston. Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. 442 pages. Paper, \$24.99; cloth, \$70.00.

This collection of forty-five documents provides a full and representative selection of Benjamin Franklin's most important political writings. It pairs a new edition of *The Autobiography*, based on the holograph manuscript, with letters, essays, pamphlets and manuscript notes. Topics range from political economy, moral psychology, religious belief and practice, voluntary association, and the public sphere of news and communication to the dynamics of international migration and the design of political institutions. Houston's "lively and accessible introduction" (*History News Network*) places Franklin's political ideas in historical context. Through these texts Franklin emerges as an active participant in eighteenth-century debates over the rise of modern, commercial societies.

Benjamin H. Irvin, "Benjamin Franklin's 'Enriching Virtues'," *Common-Place*, April, 2006. This article provides an interesting look at Franklin as the designer of American currency. Read it on line: <http://www.common-place.org>.

Dan Kalenak, *Benjamin Franklin, America's Gift to the World*, Word Wright International, 2006. This volume which explores some previously unpublished or little known information includes the speeches given in Boston for their statewide celebration observing the 200th anniversary of Franklin's birth in 1906, including one by John Francis Fitzgerald, grandfather of President Kennedy. Another section explains Franklin's saying found in one of his Almanacks, "9 men in 10 are suicides." Franklin also gives a time line when the Nation the men were creating would come to an end. The book is available at Amazon.com.

Jill Lepore, "Goodbye, Columbus: When America won its independence, what became of the slaves who fled for theirs?" *The New Yorker*, May 8, 2006, pp. 74-8. Since Franklin had much to say on the issue of slavery, this excellent summary of several new books on the topic may be of interest.

Eric Ratcliffe, *Benjamin Franklin: A Narrative in Verse on the Life and Works of Benjamin Franklin*, Four Quarters Press, 2006. A private published tribute on the life of Franklin in verse. Available through Eric Ratcliffe (to whom sterling cheque £2 or \$5 bill for members) at 7

The Towers, Stevenage, Herts SG1 1HE. For more information see: <http://fourquarterspress.co.uk/>

Pennsylvania Legacies: In honor of the tercentenary of Benjamin Franklin's birth, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has devoted the spring of issue of its magazine, *Pennsylvania Legacies*, to the topic of Benjamin Franklin's world. Feature articles include: Susan Klepp, "Benjamin Franklin and Apprenticeship in the 18th Century"; Ralph Frasca, "The Emergence of the American Colonial Press"; Paul Zall, "Franklin's Comic Environment"; Nina Reid-Maroney, "To Cultivate the Finer Arts, and Improve the Stock of Knowledge: Benjamin Franklin and Enlightened Science"; Michael Zuckerman, "Food for Thought: America's Accessible Founder". Readers can preview the issue at <http://www.hsp.org/default.aspx?id=862>. Individual copies are for sale for \$7.50 each, plus shipping. Contact: Tamara G. Miller, Director of Publications, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Tel. 215-732-6200 x208.

Summer Reading:

James Morrow, *The Last Witchfinder* (William Morrow, March, 2006). According to Ron Charles of the Washington Post the author of this novel "brings Franklin alive...in all his delightful wit and enthusiasm." Morrow's story reveals the supposed identity of the mysterious woman who was the mother of Franklin's eldest son.

FRANKLIN TIDBITS CONTINUED

Stamped with That Familiar Face:

Franklin is second only to George Washington in popularity as a subject of philatelic art (over 100 hundred different stamps have born his image since 1847). On April 8 the U.S. Postal Service released their new series of stamps depicting Franklin. Richard Sheaff designed stamp collages, using images to capture some of the highlights of the great man's life. The Printer stamp includes a portrayal of Franklin in that capacity, an edition of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, a title page from *Poor Richard's Almanack*, and a 5-pound currency note designed by Franklin in 1770.

The Scientist stamp doesn't neglect the kite experiment, and intellectual endeavor is conveyed by a view of Franklin at his desk. Also woven into the design are the water spouts that keenly interested Franklin and one of the "magic squares" he concocted, as well as an engraving of a 3-wheeled clock of his invention.

Franklin as Statesman is conveyed by Trumbull's painting, "The Signing of the Declaration of Independence", Franklin's "Join or Die" cartoon, the opening words from the manuscript of the Declaration of Independence, a portrait of Franklin by French artist Joseph-Siffre de Duplessis, and the Treaty of Alliance with France.

Of course, Franklin was also a Postmaster, and this role is portrayed by a graphic device from the Boston Post Boy newspaper, a 1775 postal cover postmarked Marlboro, Md., and a copy of the well known "thumb" portrait by Charles Wilson Peale after David Martin. Also incorporated into the design is Franklin's personal franking signature, "B. Free Franklin, Postmaster." A block of the 39-cent stamps can be yours for only \$1.56!

Who Best Embodies Franklin's Qualities Today?

2,500 students answered this question in a short essay. The contest was administered by the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary, and supported by the John Templeton Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Winners chose heroes ranging from such celebrities as Bill Gates, Oprah Winfrey, and Martin Luther King, Jr. to friends and family members. They received a special plaque and free passes for their class to visit "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World" at the National

Constitution Center.

A New Twist on a Franklin Invention:

Like most people, Franklin's vision became poorer with age. He wrote to Charles Lee in 1776, "My Eyes will now hardly serve me to write by Night." A few years later, at the age of 76, he begged William Carmichael to use "Spanish ink of a fine Black" for his letters, "for my Eyes not being very good, when the Ink and Paper are so nearly of a Colour, I find it difficult to read them." Unlike most of the world, he did something about his difficulties, and is credited with inventing bifocal glasses. Guoqiang Li and his colleagues at the University of Arizona have improved on Franklin's invention by sandwiching a thin layer of liquid crystal between two layers of glass, and lacing it with concentric rings of electrodes. When a switch is turned on, the electrodes reconfigure the focus of the lens for either distance or reading in less than a second. Friends of Franklin may soon enjoy these new liquid crystal bifocals.

Franklin Honored at the White House:

At a dinner held on March 23, President Bush welcomed several Friends of Franklin along with other invited guests. Friend Ralph Archbold, in his Franklin persona, entertained the President, Mrs. Bush, and the assembled company. As a souvenir of the occasion Editor-in-Chief of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin* Ellen Cohn received a nifty photograph of herself, her escort, Dr. Barry O'Neill, and the presidential couple, posed in front of the famous pensive Franklin of the "thumb portrait" and two Sèvres vases that Franklin reportedly sent to the U.S. from France. There was no palatial White House in Franklin's day, and Washington, D.C., was yet to be founded. What would Franklin have thought of the commemorative dinner?

Franklin and Chocolate: The Colonial Chocolate Society and the Historic Division of Mars, Inc., announced a new line of chocolates inspired by the role of chocolate in Revolutionary era America, American Heritage Chocolate. The chocolates are described as "rich in cocoa, spicy and slightly sweet". They are available only at Fort Ticonderoga, Colonial Williamsburg, Mount Vernon, Monticello, and The Smithsonian. Researchers at Mars were at first

amazed to discover the important role of chocolate in the lives of Colonial Americans. In the eighteenth century chocolate was a beverage, prepared by grating a small amount into a cup and covering it with boiling water and adding sugar. Franklin sold chocolate in his Philadelphia shop, which was managed by his wife, Deborah. In his *Autobiography* we learn that 6 pounds of chocolate were on the list of provisions carried by each officer on General Braddock's expedition during the French and Indian War, for which Franklin organized the supplies. Jim Gay, a food historian at Colonial Williamsburg, pointed out that people from all walks of life drank chocolate because it was much less expensive in America than in Britain where a high tax was levied on that commodity. After the Boston Tea Party, chocolate attained the reputation of a patriotic drink, and it was a military ration during the Revolutionary War.

Franklin Descendants: The recent reunion of Franklin descendants in Philadelphia proved irresistible to reporters. You can read the *Wall Street Journal's* April 13 take on the present-day representatives of the Franklin clan.

Debunking Franklin? Tom Tucker isn't the only person to question whether Franklin actually conducted the kite experiment. The dynamic duo of myth busting, Adam Savage and Jamie Hyneman (*Mythbusters* on Discovery Channel) devoted an episode to testing whether Franklin could have survived drawing down the lightning in the manner in which he described. The show has already aired, but catch it in reruns, or buy the "Franklin's Kite" DVD: <http://shopping.discovery.com/product-60098.html>

Franklin and the Moravians: The May 2006 issue of the Moravian Archives Monthly Newsletter offers a look at Franklin's interaction with the Moravian community including the discovery of a previously unknown Franklin document: a letter of safe passage for James Fraser, captain of the Amity, written by Franklin. To read the full article go to: www.moravianchurcharchives.org/06%20may%20Franklin.pdf



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 5 – September 23, 2006.

"Benjamin Franklin: A How-to-Guide" explores Franklin's role in The Circulation of Knowledge, Houghton Library, Edison & Newman Room, Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Call 617-495-2442 or see <http://www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/calendar/arts.html> for more information. See also related exhibit, Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments.

June 5 - December 22, 2006. "Benjamin Franklin: A How-To Guide" featuring scientific instruments, rare books, manuscripts and natural history specimens in commemoration of Franklin's 300th birthday. Harvard University, Science Center 251, 1 Oxford St. Summer hours are Tue.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free and open to the public.

September 15-17, 2006.

Friends of Franklin tour of New York. More information can be found in the Franklin in New York article.

September 20, 2006.

"Ben's Extraordinary Experiment" opens. Robert Russell's new play about Benjamin Franklin on stage at the Spotlights Theatre, 817 St. Paul St., Baltimore. <http://www.spotlighters.org/>

October 20, 2006.

Patrick Huguenin's new play (title yet to be announced), based on Claude-Anne Lopez' *Mon Cher Papa: Franklin and the Ladies of Paris*. The venue to be determined. Huguenin is a recent graduate in playwriting from the Yale School of Drama.

October 26- November 5, 2006.

Friends of Franklin trip to London and Paris.

Ongoing:

"Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World," is on view in at the Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, through Sept. 4, 2006. It will open in Houston on Oct. 13, and will later travel to Denver, Atlanta and Paris, closing at the end of March, 2008.

Through July 30, 2006.

"In Pursuit of Genius: Jean-Antoine Houdon and the Sculpted Portraits of Benjamin Franklin" at the Philadelphia Museum of Art: www.philamuseum.org

Through November, 2006:

Exhibit "Ben & Me: Keeping an American Hero's Legacy Alive Today" National Liberty Museum, 321 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 10-5 daily <http://www.libertymuseum.org>

Through December 1, 2006.

"Benjamin Franklin and the Art of the Deal" at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital (Historic Library, 800 Spruce St., Philadelphia). On Franklin's idea for the matching fund drive.

Through December 15, 2006.

"Shaping Franklin" exhibit at Stenton, former home of Franklin's friend James Logan, 4601 N. 18th St., Philadelphia. Have tea, tour Stenton and the exhibit Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 4 PM. Fees: Adults \$5, Students and Seniors \$4. More information: <http://www.stenton.org/>

Through Dec. 16, 2006.

"Franklin and the Book," exhibit at the Library Company of Philadelphia.

Through December 31, 2006.

"The Princess and the Patriot: Ekaterina Dashkova, Benjamin Franklin and the Age of Enlightenment" will be on view in Philosophical Hall, 104 S. Fifth Street. Admission is free.

Through December 31, 2006.

"Images of Benjamin Franklin: As Seen By Himself and Others" at New York University (the Mamdouha Bobst Gallery, Bobst Library, 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY). An exhibit from Friend Stuart Karu's collection of Frankliniana.

Through January 1, 2007.

"Franklin... He's Electric!" and "The Curiosity Show." Both shows are at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia. The latter, shown daily, reenacts some of Franklin's famous experiments. Check for show times.

Through January 17, 2007.

"Ben Franklin at the New York Historical Society." Exhibit that features paintings, sculptures, ceramics, textiles and other artifacts interpreting Franklin's life. For more information: <http://www.nyhistory.org/programs.html>

Don't forget to check the Tercentenary website www.benfranklin300.org for listings of additional events as well as the Boston website www.benfranklinboston.com for more events and information.

Franklin in New York!

Philadelphia is not the only place celebrating Benjamin Franklin during the Tercentenary. The Friends of Franklin have an exclusive ticket in the Big Apple the weekend of September 15-17, 2006. So, mark your calendars in preparation for our first Friends' visit to New York.

Highlights of this exciting weekend include a private look at "Images of Benjamin Franklin," the only major Franklin tercentenary exhibit in New York City. It features over 150 items from the collection of Stuart Karu, our own Friends' Founding Father, who will personally walk you through the exhibit. The exhibit includes the first edition of Franklin's *Autobiography*, several original *Poor Richard Almanacks*, Franklin's copy of *Oedipus*, the first complete edition of his *Experiments and Observations on Electricity*, numerous rare prints and engravings, and much more.

We will enjoy a private, curator-led look at Franklin-related items at the New York Historical Society, near Central Park, a bus trip to the John Jay Homestead for a house tour and a lunchtime talk on John Jay and Benjamin Franklin's friendship. On the way back, we will visit St. John's University's Institute of Asian Studies for an exhibit and presentation by Dave Wang, one of our newer members. This presentation will demonstrate how Franklin used Confucius' moral philosophy to cultivate his own virtues and how he attempted to borrow various Chinese industrial technologies to improve the quality life in North America.

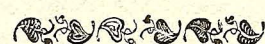
In addition, we will visit the private home of Friend and Board Member, Noah Katz, and view his Franklin collection. Our keynote address will be held following a dinner at the Torch Club, a private facility near NYU. Long time member of the Friends Cecilia Brauer will entertain us with music on the glass armonica.

A detailed schedule of events and costs will be mailed to all Friends of Franklin. In the meantime, mark the dates on your calendar. And, while some may have friends or relatives in the area, we have also secured a block of ten rooms each at two hotels: The Washington Square Hotel, located near NYU and the Torch Club and the Chelsea Savoy Hotel, which is centrally located. Please call the Friends of Franklin office for more information: (856) 833-1771.

Special Thanks to Our Life Members!

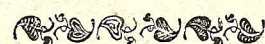
William D. Anderson, Jr. Wichita, KS	John T. Kelly Penn Valley, PA
Genya Asama Suwa-Gun Nagano-Ken, Japan	Stanley Klos Carnegie, PA
David Bishop Rochester, MN	Lee Knepp McClure, PA
Jackson C. Boswell Arlington, VA	E. Philip Krider Tucson, AZ
Anna Coxe-Toogood Wyndmoor, PA	Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Leisenring, Jr. Berwyn, PA
Elly Fitzig Wichita, KS	J.A. Leo Lemay Newark, DE
James M. Gassaway Swarthmore, PA	Claude-Anne Lopez New Haven, CT
Michael L. George Dallas, TX	Martin Mangold Rockville, MD
Patti Goldsmith Holland, PA	Albert Merck Lexington, MA
Stuart Green, M.D. Los Alamitos, CA	Robert Middlekauff Oakland, CA
William H. Greer, Jr. Chevy Chase, MD	Ikuko Nakano Kanagawa-ken, Japan
Doug Hall Cincinnati, OH	Dr. Michael Newcomb Cave Creek, AZ
Yannick Henaff Ozoir La Ferriere, France	Barbara Oberg Princeton, NJ
Pamela Hartsock, Ph.D. Spring Valley, CA	Greg Orwoll Rochester, MN
James Hayase Tokyo, Japan	L. David Roper Blacksburg, VA
Dudley Herschbach Lincoln, MA	Kathryn Theil Trenton, MI
E. Cutter Hughes, Jr. Huntsville, AL	Noriyuki Uenami Tokyo, Japan
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Jones Louisville, KY	William Walker, III Orono, ME
Frank B. Jones Bloomington, IN	George Franklin Waters Rochester, MN
Daniel Jouve Paris, France	Douglas L. Whitley Batavia, IL
Benjamin Franklin Kahn Chevy Chase, MD	Ehsan Zayan London, UK
Stuart E. Karu Jupiter, FL	

Welcome New Members!



Life

David Bishop
Rochester, MN



Diplomat

Mark Skousen
Irvington, NY

Richard Wood, Jr.
Wawa, PA



Friend

Hal & Diedre Bugbee
Vero Beach, FL

Stephen Chastain, M.D.
Amesbury, MA

H. L. Perry Pepper
Gladwyne, PA

T. Sergeant Pepper
Haverford, PA

Sterling Rauf
Cherry Hill, NJ

Enos Richardson, Jr.
Fredericksburg, VA

Jacob Zabara
Miami Beach, FL

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick
Philadelphia, PA

Visit the Friends of Franklin website:
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	\$1,500	Franklin Diplomat	\$100
Corporate Members	\$1,000	Franklin Friend	\$50
Franklin Patriot	\$ 250		

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

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

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

856.833.1771 856.854.0773 (FAX) fof@benfranklin2006.org

Volume 16, Number 2, Summer, 2006

Website: www.benfranklin2006.org

Philadelphia, PA 19106

P.O. Box 40048

Friends of Franklin, Inc.