

Franklin Gazette

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

"A ship under sail and a big-bellied woman are the handsomest two things that can be seen common" - *B. Franklin, 1735*

President's Message

by Ralph Gregory Elliot

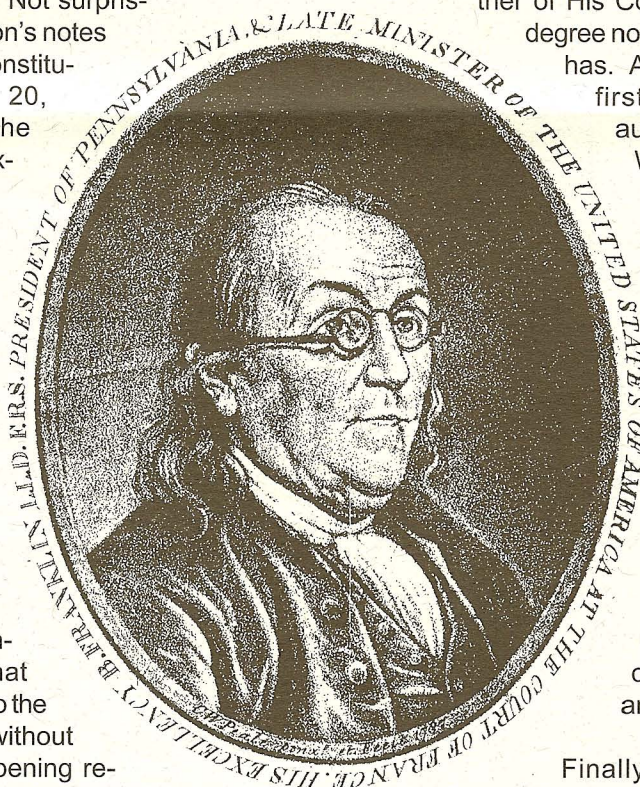
First of all, let me thank all of you who came forward in response to my query in the last Gazette as to the source for Franklin's remarks on the impeachment provisions in the Constitution. Not surprisingly, they were from Madison's notes of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention of July 20, 1787. Franklin favored the clause "as favorable to the executive." The alternative used in the past was assassination, which had the disadvantage that the defendant "was not only deprived of his life but of the opportunity of vindicating his character. It wd. be the best way therefore to provide in the Constitution for the regular punishment of the Executive when his misconduct should deserve it, and for his honorable acquittal when he should be unjustly accused." I note that even Charles Ruff, Counsel to the President, cited Franklin (without citing to Madison) in his opening remarks in the Senate in January.

I commend to all of you who have not seen it the magnificent exhibit on George Washington at the Huntington Library in Pasadena, California. It's there until late May, and in the Fall will be ensconced at the Morgan Library in

New York City for a space of time. It is filled with letters from Washington (and Martha) throughout his life, and so arranged that it brings the often-cold and distant Father of His Country to life in a way and to a degree no other presentation I've seen ever has. Among the items is a copy of the first printing of the Constitution autographed by Ben to Jonathan Williams.

Our various Committees are abuzz with activity, bringing forward new initiatives the Friends will likely pursue to spread the gospel of Ben to all peoples everywhere. The Scotland tour in September is rapidly filling up. And the Friends of the Franklin Papers on January 16 held their annual birthday party for Ben at the New Haven Lawn Club, where Associate Editor of the Franklin Papers Ellen Cohn delivered a fascinating illustrated talk on Franklin and the Gulf Stream.

Finally, in January our Web Page, as promised, came on-line: www.benfranklin2006.org. Check it out. We're looking for your ideas (and contributions) on what it should contain. Use it, and tell your friends about it. And, of course, your letters and contributions to this Gazette are equally welcome.



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Gift memberships and
back issues are available.

Man of the Millennium, Our Friend?

By Claude-Anne Lopez

According to many people, *The Independent* is the best newspaper published in England. In its issue of December 30, 1998, kindly sent to me by my friend Suzy Bittker, there appears an unsigned editorial entitled "A Search for a hero who helps us to define ourselves."

A poll, it seems, has been conducted by the program TODAY of Radio 4 for the nomination of such a person, man or woman, native of the British Isles or not. Many votes, of course, were cast for Winston Churchill. The first of the few women on the list is Queen Elizabeth I who defied imperial Spain with Britain's scanty resources. Gandhi and Mandela gathered a number of voices, as did Gutenberg, Galileo, Luther, Shakespeare, Mozart, Chekhov, Darwin, Adam Smith, Mary Wollstonecraft and many others.

"But," says the writer of the editorial, "the man who combines all that we are looking for is often overlooked. His name is Benjamin Franklin. As a scientist, he tamed lightning: the lightning conductor was his brainchild, allowing man to build unafraid of the elements. Thunder and lightning had belonged to God: now they belonged to man. Technological advance since Franklin's time, from computers to space travel, has relied on the electricity he harnessed.

"His confidence was remarkable. He became one of the most fervent of the Americans once the British connection was irretrievable. As a letter-writer, his erudition is legendary. The first of the "natural men" whose bourgeois mores were to come to dominate the globe, he declined to wear a wig while ambassador in

Paris. He was self-made, a printer and publisher, the first of a new breed.

"He was a master of the modern political art of compromise, striving to avoid the breach with the mother country. He conceived the compromise between the rights of states and the popular vote, and the two-chamber Congress containing both a Senate and House of Representatives, that made the U.S. possible.

"Franklin replaced religious absolutes with what was practical, an American injunction that has since become world orthodoxy. And by happy coincidence, he was born a loyal colonist - a Briton through and through. The next millennium will probably uncover as its hero a woman born in Lagos, Sao Paulo, or Nanking. But it is Franklin we humbly submit as person of this millennium."

What do the readers of the *Gazette* think about this assessment?

300th Birthday Celebration

*More Friends answer the question:
"How do you think Ben Franklin
would celebrate his 300th birthday?"*

"A magnificent feast with good wine and great friends, and some colchicine to suppress an attack of gout."
--Francis P. Chinard; *Montclair, NJ*

"With his ladies in Paris?"
-- Heather E.S. Crease; *Kent, UK*

"Comparing notes and toasts with Clinton."
-- Robert Diamond; *Aventura, FL*

For some reports on how the 293rd birthday was celebrated, see the article on p. 9.

A Special Salute and Farewell to Friend of Franklin

Barbara Oberg

A Farewell to the Friends

By Barbara Oberg

Some of you already know that I will be leaving the Franklin Papers and Yale on April 1 to become General Editor of the Thomas Jefferson Papers at Princeton University. As exciting and challenging as this opportunity is, I leave Yale, the delights of the Franklin Collection in Sterling Library, and my wonderful Yale colleagues of twelve years with feelings of real loss and sadness. Together we have been the most stable and long-lived editorial team of our size among the historical documentary editions. Collectively we represent over a century of expertise and an unparalleled commitment to Franklin scholarship. I do not give this up lightly. I shall miss starting each working morning by looking up at the painting of Caroline Howe (the admiral's sister) playing chess with Franklin and then swiveling around in my chair to observe Joseph Wright's 1782 oil painting of Franklin with gray hair, hazel eyes, in a dull red coat and waistcoat. These treasures amaze me anew every day.

So too will I miss the close ties to the Friends of Franklin. I cannot claim to have been present at the creation of the Friends, but I have some early memories: a formative Board meeting at the Society Hill Sheraton in April, 1990, when we were gathered in Philadelphia for Leo Lemay's wonderful symposium, *Reappraising Franklin* (the first time I met George Waters); lunch at the University of Pennsylvania Faculty Club (Stuart Karu was guiding us) as we worried over and planned for the future; phone calls and faxes among many of us as we attempted to put together this tiny but devoted group. In recent years we have grown in number and geographical scope. Thanks to Roy Goodman's enthusiasm we extend across the continent and beyond the United States. Presidents Frank Jones, Malcolm Smith, and Doug Whitley have presided over a stable and participatory board. Successful May symposia at the Franklin Institute for several years enriched our understanding of various facets of Franklin's life. And the Friends traveled and traveled. I remember Boston and a very damp, chilly walking tour through the tiny streets of Franklin's birthplace with Ralph Archbold indefatigable; New Haven and Mystic; Chicago and the pleasures of the Field Museum and fascinating lectures on Franklin and the West; a balmy autumn week-end in Williamsburg and a visit to an eighteenth-century print shop; and especially London, Oxford, and Twyford, where you all offered warm friendship and support. Cameo images of many of you

from those occasions remain with me. I think of high spirits, good fellowship, and voracious appetites for more, more, more knowledge about Benjamin Franklin.

Everything is in place for a bright future for the Friends. We have a spirited membership, a dedicated Board, an unsurpassable Executive Director in Kathy DeLuca, and a president who keeps us in line and on the right side of the law, but always with grace, wisdom, and humor. With Ralph Gregory Elliot in charge, I have absolute confidence in our future.

Of course this isn't really good-bye. My membership in the Friends is duly renewed and I look forward to keeping up with all of you. I await with great anticipation the celebrations of 2006 and the opportunity to unite with the Friends in honoring Benjamin Franklin. Thomas Jefferson certainly would have done so. Princeton is not very distant from Philadelphia and I welcome visits from Friends. Please come!



Goodbye, Barbara...

Few of our readers must still be unaware that Barbara Oberg, come early spring, will leave the Franklin Papers to assume the general editorship of the Jefferson papers at Princeton University. Not only that: she will also help launch and coordinate the new series to be prepared at Monticello, that will cover the years of Jefferson's retirement, as well as some topical series such as his accounts, and extracts from the Gospel.

Knowing firsthand Barbara's extraordinary level of energy, we, her colleagues of the last twelve years, do not doubt that she will handle simultaneously the selling of her New Haven house, the buying of one in Princeton, and the jump from the world of the 1780's

Cont. on page 6

Goodbye, Barbara - cont. from p.3

with which our Yale edition of Franklin is currently concerned, to that of the 1790's in which she will meet Jefferson before his presidency.

Barbara has been a superb fundraiser at the Franklin Papers. Starting from a shaky budget in 1986 when she took over, she is leaving the Papers in better shape than they have been for a long time, thanks to the generosity of the Pew Charitable Trusts, of Norman Lear and his wife, and of the Friends of Franklin Papers all over the country.

Our series has gained momentum under her leadership. Eight volumes (XXVIII-XXXV) have been published, to consistently good reviews, as we persevere in our task of presenting history in a concrete way, one tree at a time until the forest is there.

I asked Barbara what had been her best moments in Room 230 Sterling Memorial Library and she said they were early in the morning when the office was quiet and the sun streamed through the stained glass windows with a special ray right on Franklin's portrait. She would look forward to whatever document was to be studied, knowing that no two problems were alike and monotony would never be our problem. And the worst times? You guessed: the piles of paperwork, the constant interruptions when the phone started ringing.

Barbara, we congratulate you as you move on to new horizons and challenges.

-- Claude-Anne Lopez, and the
Franklin Papers staff



Good Reads: Reviews of Franklin Related Materials

Benjamin Franklin and His Gods. Kerry S. Walters. 280 p. Paperback, \$18.95; hard cover, \$44.95. University of Illinois Press, 1998. According to the publisher, Walters examines Franklin's "search for the Divine" using a "multifaceted approach - and in so doing has created the first extended treatment of Franklin's religious thought in thirty years. Walters brings the same intellectual range and depth to the understanding of Franklin's beliefs that Franklin brought to his own quest. What emerges from this pilgrimage into the soul of one of America's greatest figures is a very human Benjamin Franklin who grew with the accumulation of knowledge to arrive at a 'theistic perspectivism,' which provided him with a philosophical explanation for the diversity of religious faiths - and a justification for the liberty of conscience he advocated throughout his life."

Der Burger im Spannungsfeld von Sittlichkeit und Selbstbestimmung: Studien zur Franklin-Rezeption im Deutschland des 19. Jahrhunderts. Karl Heinz Denecke. 182 p. Peter Lang, 1996. For our German readers! "This book focuses on essential aspects of the reception of Benjamin Franklin in Germany in the 19th century, using selected Franklin biographies. The picture of Franklin is examined in view of such diverse aspects as the self-made man, the useful man of common sense, the politician and the statesman. Franklin's own autobiography serves as a contrast to better work out the specific German points of this reception. In spite of their strong orientation towards Franklin's own self-presentation in the autobiography, German authors also investigated didactic interests which span from the bourgeois-liberal to the moral-religious to capitalistic effects and intents."

Experiments and Observations on Electricity by Benjamin Franklin. 1751 Ed. Commentary by I. Bernard Cohen. 1 CD. \$25. Octavo Digital Rare Books, 1998. Franklin's classic work on electricity is now available on CD-ROM! Cohen calls this work "one of the most important scientific treatises of the 18th century, the founding work on the new science of electricity." According to the publisher, "This Octavo edition gives you unprecedented access....You can view the actual pages of this rare book cover to cover - in all their original brilliance — on your computer! Magnify pages up to 800% to see the finest details in full color. Print a color or black & white copy on your computer's printer. You can even search the complete text, or copy and paste text into other programs." This looks like a wonderful tool for the computer-savvy researcher or collector!

From Gloucester to Philadelphia in 1790: Observations, Anecdotes, and Thoughts from the 18th-Century Letters of Judith Sargent Murray. Bonnie Hurd Smith. 338 p. Paperback. \$17.95 Curious Traveller Press, 1998. Kate Ohno of the Franklin Papers recommends this book: "Although Franklin died shortly before her arrival, there are a number of Franklin anecdotes in the volume. Murray was befriended by Sarah Bache, and attended a party in Franklin's former home (occupied by the Baches). Counter to Mike George's comments from the Winter, 1998 issue of the Gazette, Murray did not view Franklin's residence as 'modest.' She was a professional writer and is quite adept at descriptions, and her account of Franklin's 'mansion house' is delightful. She also describes the commencement exercises at the University of Pennsylvania, with Will Bache's oration on potatoes, and other fascinating information about Franklin's Philadelphia."

Friends of Franklin Scotland Tour Complete Itinerary

If you haven't signed up for "Benjamin Franklin's Historic Edinburgh and Scotland" tour from September 23-29, 1999 here's what you will be missing:

23 September, Thursday: We will gather at the King James Thistle, our headquarters hotel, promptly at 1:30 p.m. for registration, the distribution of tour materials, and for the affixing of the official Friends of Franklin name badge. Following introductions and the inevitable Tise and DeLuca rendition of things to remember and other matters to avoid, we will strike forth for a walking tour of Edinburgh's New Town. Strikingly similar to Society Hill in Philadelphia and those structures that remind us of American independence—Independence Hall, Carpenter's Hall, and Christ Church—we will be reminded as we nose around New Town of the close connections between 18th century Scotland and America through the medium of our hero Benjamin Franklin. We will get our bearings on the historic area of Edinburgh that will be our home for the next week. Our walk will culminate at the Royal Society of Edinburgh—of which Franklin was a member—where we will be greeted to Scotland by various dignitaries of the Society and our Edinburgh hosts, Drs. Peter and Jean Jones, he the Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh and she a geologist and former Research Associate at the Institute. We will be told about Franklin's involvement with the Society and of the special character and activities of the Society. From the Royal Society we will meander back to the King James Thistle for a brief rest before launching at 6:30 into a grand Opening Reception and Welcome Dinner in the cozy quarters of our historic and magnificent hotel. We will conclude our deliberations soon enough for everyone to have some extra sleep and time adjustment hours.

24 September, Friday: At 9 a.m. we will board our bus for a guided tour of Franklin's Historic Edinburgh and also the hometown of Sir Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson, John Paul Jones, John Knox, and many another renowned Scot. Once we have surrounded the town, we will leave our shuttle in the middle of Edinburgh's medieval Royal Mile where we will do some more hoofing around Old Town—from another era altogether and filled with houses, shops, and sites of ancient story. We will end our peregrinations at Edinburgh's City Chambers where city representatives will describe for us the ceremony whereby Benjamin Franklin and his son William in 1759 were made guild brethren of the City of Edinburgh. Don't be surprised if some of our group is made honorary brethren as well. Having thus become honorary Edinburghers we will repair to a nearby historic restaurant for a true Scottish lunch and a welcome glass of Scotch or whatever tickles your fancy. After lunch we will proceed to the historic University of Edinburgh for a tour of the place there came together some of the most brilliant minds of the eighteenth century—David Hume, Adam Smith, Joseph Black, Thomas Reid, and, of course, Franklin himself. This is the birthplace of the Scottish Enlightenment that informed those American patriots who fought against the British throne just as had Scots for centuries on end. We will conclude our long and adventurous day in Edinburgh with a visit to the residence of Joseph Black (now a private home) where Franklin and the famous Scottish chemist who discovered carbon dioxide met to talk science and sip Madeira. After tea or our own sip of sherry, we will disband for the day. We will have the evening free for theatre, museums, and other entertainment.

25 September, Saturday: We will begin promptly at 8:30 for a daylong bus tour in the Central Highlands where in 1771 Franklin spent much of his time partly in travel with fellow Americans Henry Marchant and Edward Church. We will visit Falkirk, where Franklin observed the manufacture of his Pennsylvania Fireplace at Carron Iron Works. A new museum on the history of Carron Iron Works will be one of our stops. We will take a look at the grand Forth and Clyde Canal which links Edinburgh and Glasgow and which Franklin saw under construction when he came through these parts. Our view will be at Linlithgow Palace from which we take a guided walking tour. After a short distance along the towpath, we will have lunch at a wayside inn. We will proceed to Blair Drummond, the historic home of Henry Home, Lord Kames, where Franklin stayed for weeks as the Homes' guest in 1771. Although the building is now a home for handicapped children, but we will be given a private tour of the place where Franklin and Lord Kames spent hours on end talking politics and philosophy. The last stop on our tour of the Central Highlands crisscrossed by Franklin will be at Stirling Castle, a most prodigious site, visited by tourist Franklin himself in 1771. Then we will race back to Edinburgh where you will have your evening free.

26 September, Sunday: We will spend a more leisurely Sunday in Edinburgh. In the morning we will visit the grandest landmark on the Edinburgh horizon—the great Edinburgh Castle. Constantly built, torn down, then rebuilt over the long and stormy wars between England and Scotland for hundreds of years, it became Scotland's greatest castle in the 1350s. Our kilted tour guide will take us across the intricate defenses and into the palace where lived James IV and the colorful Mary, Queen of Scots (be sure to see the movie Elizabeth to see just how very colorful she was!). We will see the timbered Great Hall, the Argyle Battery, and the beautiful St. Margaret's Chapel dating from the 12th century. We will peer over the famous Stone of Destiny, a relic said to be "Jacob's Pillow," on which the ancient Hebrew ancestor dreamed of the ladder of angels connecting heaven and earth. While looking out from the Castle, you will get the best vista of the expanse of Edinburgh. From this spot you can look down the Royal Mile and choose the church, museum, or other sites you would like to visit during the rest of the day which will be free for you to explore on your own. St. Giles Cathedral, Gladestown's Land (lavish historic house), the Museum of Childhood, the John Knox House, the Royal Museum of Scotland, Holyrood Palace, the National Gallery of Scotland. We will give you a list of the highlights. Just don't visit the new Museum of Scotland, for at the end of the day (or at a time that will be arranged), we will have the pleasure of a private tour of this new and magnificent museum by our host, Dr. Peter Jones, who was one of the principals in planning this new museum and conceiving its exhibits and contents. When we take this visit, there will be food and drink and time for you also to explore the part of the Museum of most interest to you.

27 September, Monday: We will leave by bus at 8:30 headed to St. Andrews, north of Edinburgh, where Franklin visited 1759 this ancient town and university that had presented him in absentia the degree that made him "Dr. Franklin." At St. Andrews we will experience a recreation of the festive academic reception given Franklin and William when they came to town. We will tour the campus—the oldest in Scotland—led by students in scarlet gowns. We will dine in some corner of the outlying medieval town where members of our group will then have time to explore the town, tour St. Andrews Castle, or go to the British Golf Museum in this ancient Mecca of golf. In mid afternoon we will bus to Perth also visited by Franklin in 1759 as he trekked across the Perthshire Highlands. We will stop and give you some free time to shop and explore in this popular town. Then back to Edinburgh where you will have another free evening.

28 September, Tuesday: Another day trip will launch at 8:30 on our way to Glasgow, another ancient place of learning and industry visited by Franklin both in 1759 and 1771. Here he met another raft of scholars, printers, and resident Americans learning new trades. We will be received with honor befitting Franklin at the University of Glasgow by Dr. Andrew Skinner, Adam Smith Professor of Political Economy, and probably the world's greatest authority on Smith, author of that other revolutionary enterprise of 1776—The Wealth of Nations. And it was Adam Smith who Franklin came to know in 1759. Professor Skinner will discuss the lifelong connections Franklin developed with Smith and with a whole cadre of scholars at Glasgow. We will have lunch at the University and then a bus tour of those areas and sites in Glasgow seen by Franklin on his visits. Printshops, founding factories, and places of the Industrial Revolution that impressed Franklin on his visits to this bustling city of business and knowledge. We will trudge back to Edinburgh with a surprise stop along the way that will entertain and edify.

29 September, Wednesday: On this last day of our visit to the land of the Enlightenment that brought "common sense" to the American Revolution, we will begin the day with a visit to the Library of the Royal College of Physicians. This was during Franklin's visits the home of Baron Orde and a place where Franklin, David Hume, and other notables of the Scottish Enlightenment gathered to discuss science, knowledge, and revolution. We will pause to talk with notables of the College and our Scottish hosts about our impressions of Scotland and of Franklin's time there. We will move over to Hopetoun House for a tour of a place that was designed and was going up during Franklin's visits and surely inspired him to promote the designs of John and Robert Adam in America. You will have free time for lunch and in the afternoon to look at places you have identified as more Edinburgh sites that should not be missed and which are better remembered than regretted that they could not be crowded in. The best will have been saved for last. We will have our closing time together at the impressive Prestonfield House—reception, farewells, memories, and dinner—the historic home of Alexander Dick where Franklin visited, rested, talked, and wrote memorable letters for five days during his 1759 tour. It is today Edinburgh's most fashionable dining spot. And our visit will confirm and document its notable reputation.

It is not too late to register for this exciting, educational, and entertaining tour! Call Kathy DeLuca at 215-BEN-0300 for more information or to register for a week that will be long remembered.

Bartram 300: A Gathering

Bartram 300: A Gathering - an international symposium celebrating the life and legacy of John Bartram (1699-1777) will take place in Philadelphia on May 19-21, 1999. Sponsoring institutions are The Academy of Natural Sciences, American Philosophical Society, John Bartram Association, The Library Company of Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the Philadelphia Botanical Club.

Bartram, a Quaker and thoughtful citizen, was a pivotal figure in American colonial life. A good friend of Benjamin Franklin, he helped found the American Philosophical Society, giving intellectuals a voice in the scientific discussions of the day. He served as the King's Royal Botanist, searching the colonies for rare and useful plants. His correspondence with eminent scientists, with reports on his travels and observations, earned him a reputation as one of the leading scientists of the day, a man Carl Linnaeus called "the greatest natural botanist in the world."

Sessions open on Wednesday night at The Academy of Natural Sciences with a keynote address by historian, author, and PBS host David McCullough. The symposium will continue over the next two days with panels of international scholars discussing the range of Bartram's field explorations, the language and recording of scientific information in the 18th century and its dissemination through a network of interested botanists worldwide, as well as considering the enduring legacy of Bartram's work in all matters of scientific inquiry.

Attendees will also visit the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia's historic Society Hill, and Bartram's home, now Historic Bartram's Garden, where there will be exhibits, tours, and a dramatic

reading by members of London's Chelsea Physic Garden.

Following the Symposium, the Living History Festival will be held at Historic Bartram's Garden on Saturday and Sunday, May 22-23, 1999. This public event will include a visit by the Kalmar Nyckel Swedish Tall Ship, re-enactors, crafters, period entertainment and food, and children's activities.

Registration is requested by April 19, 1999. Some at-the-door registrations may be available. For registration materials or more information, call 215-729-5281, e-mail bartram@libertynet.org, or write to Historic Bartram's Garden, 54th St. and Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19143.

Franklin Tid-bits

Friend of Franklin Dan Kalenak was written up in the Jan. 17th issue of the *Odessa American*. Dan makes appearances at schools and organizations dressed as Franklin, whom he refers to as "America's Best Man." Dan has also written, produced, and narrated a one-hour audio cassette that highlights Franklin's wisdom, parallels between Franklin and Jesus, and Franklin's secrets to inner peace and self-improvement. The tape is available for \$10 (post paid) by writing to Dan at PO Box 7762, Odessa, TX 79760.

Harry Hemmerle of Lansdale, PA has developed a biking tour called "Where in the World is Benny??? (A Camera Tour)." The introduction to the tour reads: "Trying to find all of the places in Center City Philadelphia that memorialize Benjamin Franklin could turn into a three hour, 10 mile, ice cream interrupted, social bike tour. The tour starts at 22nd and Spring Garden, goes thru University City to Center City to Independence Hall to Olde City and back to the beginning. In all there are

about 14 stops that only scratch the surface of Benny's influence on Philly." If anyone is interested in a copy of the complete tour, or better yet, interested in participating in such a tour once the weather warms up, please contact the editor. This looks like fun!

1999 Birthday Celebrations

Ben Franklin Elementary School in Wichita Falls, TX, celebrates the birthday of their namesake every year. Principal Eddie McCauley reports: "After studying about his many accomplishments for two weeks, our students were paid a visit by the great statesman himself! Before Mr. Franklin made a presentation to our students, we sang Happy Birthday and a song about his life. At lunch we were all treated to birthday cake. It was a great experience that I'm sure our students will remember for years to come. A first grade teacher overheard one of her students say to another, 'Do you think that's the real Ben Franklin?' The other student replied, 'I don't know, but he sure looks like him!'"

The Celebration! in Philadelphia has been described by B. Franklin Reinauer as "a smashing success." Approximately 350 people attended this gala event, held at the Benjamin Franklin Memorial. This room "is impressive" with its heroic oversized statue of Franklin; "the subdued lighting brought a beautiful view to all." Mayor Ed Rendell presented a proclamation declaring Jan. 14, 1999 "Benjamin Franklin Day." John Hendricks, honored as the first recipient of the Benjamin Franklin, Founder bowl, delighted everyone with his gift of \$20,000 to the City of Philadelphia and the Board of Education, to be used for technology in the schools. This was certainly a turn of events that reflects the spirit of Franklin, and his interest in both education and technology. We eagerly look forward to the second annual Celebration! next year.

Franklin and His Friends

Franklin and His Friends: Portraying the Man of Science in Eighteenth-Century America is a new exhibit of portraits specifically brought together for the first time at the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. The show will run from April 16 to September 6, 1999.

Organized by Brandon Brame Fortune and Deborah J. Warner, *Franklin and His Friends* will be a groundbreaking exhibition and book that assesses the developing identity of the scientist in early America through portraiture. Painters and printmakers, many of whom shared interests with their subjects, created portraits of men of science with the all-important tools of their profession. These men, including Benjamin Franklin, were portrayed by such accomplished American painters as Gilbert Stuart, John Singleton Copley, and Charles Willson Peale. Each portrait tells a unique story through imagery that not only defines likeness, but also constructs the identity of the subject as a member of the community of science. The exhibition will also feature microscopes, telescopes, static electrical machines, and other instruments illustrated in the portraits, botanical drawings, prints that depict men of science at work, and rare books whose contents and illustrations are relevant to an understanding of the portraits.

The exhibition will explore several related questions. Why did such a diverse group of men, with a variety of vocational interests, choose to be represented with the tools of their scientific pursuits? Why was the emerging character of the "scientist" so culturally significant in the eighteenth century, and in the new American republic? And why was the ideal image of the man of science — retired from the world, and yet devoted to the production of "useful knowledge" — such a compelling one? In sum, the exhibition will provide a new

look at early American science — through the lens of portraiture.

An illustrated brochure by Brandon Brame Fortune will be free to the public. *Franklin and His Friends: Portraying the Man of Science in Eighteenth-Century America* by Brandon Brame Fortune with Deborah J. Warner will be published to accompany the exhibition. An important study of one aspect of the iconography of male portraiture in early America, the book will include lavish color illustrations of both the portraits and the instruments included in many of the paintings. It will be soft cover, with approximately 150 illustrations.

A variety of educational and outreach programs will occur throughout the time of the exhibition's showing. For further information, please call the National Portrait Gallery at 202-357-2686, or write to the Smithsonian Institution, National Portrait Gallery, F Street at Eighth, Washington, DC, 20560-0213, or visit the website at <http://www.npg.si.edu/>.

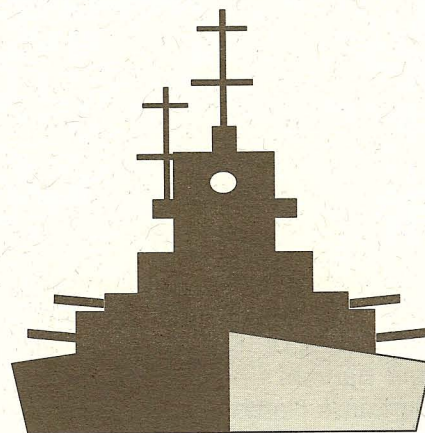
Speaking of Ships

Did you know that six ships bearing the name *Franklin* have served in the U.S. Navy? It's true, according to the *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*. The first was originally a Marblehead fishing vessel fitted out by order of Colonel Washington in 1775. She was part of the fleet of schooners under Commodore John Manly that captured numerous British vessels. She was returned to her previous owner in 1776. The last vessel to bear the name was a nuclear ballistic missile submarine, SSBN 640 *Benjamin Franklin*, which served for twenty-eight years before being decommissioned in 1993.

The second *Franklin* was a brig built at Philadelphia in 1795. She was captured by Tripolitan corsairs in 1802, and sold to the Bey of Tunis. She was purchased in 1805 by Captain James Barron at Trieste, served in Sicily, and finished her career in

New Orleans. The third *Franklin* was a ship-of-the-line (battleship) built in 1815; she was the first vessel constructed at the now-defunct Philadelphia Navy Yard. She served in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. She was broken up at the Portsmouth, N.H. Navy Yard in 1852. Two years later, materials salvaged from her were used in construction of the fourth *Franklin*, a screw frigate that served in Europe and the North Atlantic before being decommissioned in 1915.

The most famous ship to bear the name was the fifth *Franklin* (CV-13), an aircraft carrier which served in the Pacific during WWII. After serving admirably in several battle situations, she is best known for the events of March 19, 1945. In spite of the fact that a fierce air battle left her dead in the water within 50 miles of the Japanese mainland, with a 13 degree list, no radio communications, over 900 personnel dead or wounded, and fires raging from the air strike which ignited on-board weapon stores, she heroically made it home with 710 hands. Numerous survivors were noted for heroism, including Lt. Commander Joseph T. O'Callahan, S.J., USNR, the ship's chaplain, who not only administered the last rites, but organized and directed firefighting and rescue parties, and led men below to wet down magazines that threatened to explode. O'Callahan received the Medal of Honor, and the *Franklin* herself received four battle stars for WWII service.



Special Thanks to Our Life Members!

William D. Anderson, Jr.;
Wichita, KS

Jackson C. Boswell; Arlington, VA

Elly Fitzig; Wichita, KS

Michael L. George; Dallas, TX

Doug Hall; Cincinnati, OH

James Hayase; Tokyo, Japan

Mr. & Mrs. David A. Jones;
Louisville, KY

Frank B. Jones; Bloomington, IN

Benjamin Franklin Kahn;
Chevy Chase, MD

Stuart E. Karu; Cape Elizabeth, ME

John T. Kelly; Penn Valley, PA

E. Philip Krider; Tucson, AZ

J.A. Leo Lemay; Newark, DE

Martin Mangold; Rockville, MD

Robert Middlekauff; Oakland, CA

Michel Roubinet;
Ozoir La Ferriere, France

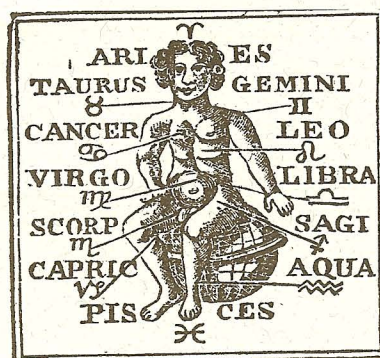
Deane M. Sherman; Rockville, MD

Malcolm Smith; Highland Park, IL

Noriyuki Uenami; Tokyo, Japan

George Franklin Waters;
Rochester, MN

Ehsan Zayan;
London, UK



Calendar of Events

April 16 through September 6, 1999.

"Franklin and His Friends: Portraying the Man of Science in Eighteenth-Century America." The National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C. For more information, see the article on page 10.

April 20, 1999. Friends of the Franklin Papers monthly meeting. At noon, Friend of Franklin J.A. Leo Lemay, professor of American Literature at the University of Delaware, will be the guest speaker.

May 2-8, 1999. 50th International Science and Engineering Fair; in Philadelphia, for grades 9-12. Called the "Olympics of high school science fairs" this event has students competing for scholarships and prizes totaling over \$2 million. One of the judges is Friend of Franklin and Nobel Prize winner Dudley Herschbach. The ISEF uses a kite and key as part of their emblem, in recognition of Franklin's pioneering achievements in science and technology. What an inspiration for our young people!

May 16-24, 1999. "John Bartram Tercentenary." A variety of events will take place in Philadelphia, including a Symposium on Ben's dear friend, explorer/naturalist John

Bartram. See the article on p. 9 for more information.

September 23-29, 1999. Not to be missed! Friends of Franklin tour of Scotland. See further details and the full itinerary on pages 7 & 8 of this newsletter.

Welcome and Thank You to Our New Members!

Upgrades to Life Membership

William D. Anderson, Jr.;
Wichita, KS

Robert Middlekauff;
Oakland, CA

Ehsan Zayan;
London, UK

Sustaining:

Jay Snider;
King of Prussia, PA

Friends:

George D. Batcheler;
Philadelphia, PA

Bonsal Glascock;
Menlo Park, CA

Kenneth E. Kirby;
Philadelphia, PA

Peter Mosely;
Portola Valley, CA

Satoko I. Parker;
Philadelphia, PA

B. Franklin Pepper;
Alexandria, VA

John Walker Glascock;
Town & Country, MO

William H. Walker, III;
Orono, ME

William Wardyga;
Pawtucket, RI

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Institutional members	\$1,000	Subscription to the Gazette	\$20
Sustaining Friend	\$ 100	(Educators and libraries only)	

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