

Franklin Gazette

Volume 9, Number 4 Winter, 1999

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

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man." - B. Franklin, 1755

President's Message

by Ralph Gregory Elliot

In late September a band of Friends of Franklin ventured to Scotland.

For a few weeks of his 84 years, Benjamin Franklin had visited Scotland, once in 1759 and again in 1771. Little definitive is known about what he did there. We know that by the time of his first trip in August - October of 1759, he had already become "Dr. Franklin," thanks to an honorary LL.D. degree conferred upon him in absentia by the University of St. Andrews on February 12 (coincidentally, 50 years to the day before the birth of one of Franklin's few peers in the American pantheon, Abraham Lincoln).

When Franklin arrived in Scotland in 1759, the Scots were on the cusp of what David Daiches has called that "extraordinary outburst of intellectual activity" that has lately come to be known as the Scottish Enlightenment and is generally agreed to have had its greatest flowering from 1760 to 1790. It included such luminaries as the philosopher, David Hume; the economist, Adam Smith; Dr. Joseph Black, the physician and discoverer of carbon dioxide; the geologist, James Hutton; Adam Ferguson, the founder of sociology; William Cullen, the influential teacher of clinical medi-

cine; and Lord Kames, whose many interests and pursuits defy neat categorization.

On his visit in 1759, we know that Franklin established warm friendships with Hume, Kames, Cullen and many others of their colleagues. He was granted the freedom of the cities of Edinburgh (September 5) and Glasgow (September 19) and the burgh of St. Andrews (October 2); and the 1999 group of Franklinistas were shown the official records evidencing several of these conferrals. Franklin claimed to have spent the happiest weeks of his life during his stay in Edinburgh in 1759. On his visit in 1771, Franklin was the guest of David Hume and Lord Kames, among others.

The upshot of these contacts is difficult to pinpoint with precise accuracy, but the very fact that these great men of learning and science so valued the acquaintance of Franklin is itself telling. For Franklin was, after all, resident in London during all of these years for one purpose and one purpose only: he was the paid lobbyist for Pennsylvania and, from time to time, other colonies. He was in London hat in hand seeking redress of grievances on behalf of a relative

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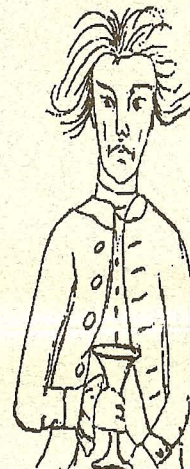


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

An illustration for Franklin's bagatelle "On Wine". The artist was William Temple Franklin, his grandson.

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President's Message

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handful of colonial dependencies 3000 miles across a sea that almost none of those with whom he dealt had ever visited or were ever likely to visit or had any interest in visiting. America was a land that no one viewed as anything more than an economic asset; and many viewed it primarily as an unremunerative drain on the Crown's fisc.

But what set Franklin apart from all of his fellow lobbyists before King and Parliament, all his fellow denizens of Westminster's 18th-century version of Washington's Gucci Alley, is that he was far more than a lobbyist. When he arrived in England in 1757 to take up the frustrating charge that for the next 18 years minus two would occupy his waking hours, he was already not only the preeminent national figure in a congeries of colonies each one of which viewed itself as a "country," but he was also an international figure of renown and respect in the intellectual circles of Europe.

It is often easy to forget that by the age of 51, Benjamin Franklin had not only achieved much, but had diffused his accomplishments and intellectual achievements beyond the confines of Philadelphia through the twin devices of publication and extended correspondence. In the 1740's he had begun conducting his electrical experiments (all the while running a printing business, serving as postmaster of Philadelphia, and planting the seed that would blossom into the American Philosophical Society). In 1751, his *Experiments and Observations on Electricity, Part I*, was published in London; Parts II and III were published in 1753 and 1754. (Through 1774 five editions will have published.) In 1752, Dalibard performed Franklin's suggested lightning experiment in France. In 1753 the Royal Society in London conferred its coveted Copley Medal on Franklin, and in 1756 elected him a Fellow. That

year he was also elected a Fellow of London's Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

Thus it is that by 1757 Benjamin Franklin was America's first international celebrity, and a celebrity not because of eccentricity or outré conduct, but one celebrated for his contributions to the life of the mind and the diffusion of knowledge for the betterment of mankind. In the Age of Enlightenment, Franklin was a perfect fit. And so it comes as no surprise that in 1762 Oxford confers an honorary D.C.L. degree upon him; that in 1766 on a trip to Germany, he is elected to the Royal Society of Scientists in Gottingen; that on his first trip to Paris in 1767, this colonial lobbyist not only meets with many French scientists, but is also presented to King Louis XV; and that in 1772 he is elected one of only eight foreign members of the Royal Academy of Sciences in France. And all the while during his agency he continues to write and publish on a wide variety of topics.

We tend too often to think of Franklin as either an entrepreneur or a political figure; but forget that 18th Century Europe valued him more for his mind, for his contributions to pure and practical science, and —perhaps symbolic of the age — for his eager willingness, through discussion, correspondence and publication to share what he had learned, to expose his hypotheses and deductions to the critical thinking of other good minds, to recognize that the process of learning and human advancement is at bottom one of sharing, not hoarding. And it was in this spirit that David Hume and Lord Kames warmly opened their homes to him on his visits to Scotland, and that Adam Smith regularly read parts of what would become his *The Wealth of Nations* to Franklin for his comments and insights, especially on the economy of colonial America. His interest in education (evidenced by his role in founding what is today the University of

Pennsylvania) inspired him to encourage Americans such as William Shippen and John Morgan, later founders of America's first medical school in Philadelphia, to come to Edinburgh for their medical training.

Last evening I attended the 100th football weekend concert by the Yale and Harvard Glee Clubs. (Harvard and Yale had each conferred honorary Master's degrees on Franklin in 1753.) Not only were the assembled choristers a veritable United Nations, but the music they performed — unlike the golden days of yore when I sang in their midst — was heavily but beautifully laced with songs from such non-traditional glee club sources as the Republic of Georgia, Argentina and Japan, as well as traditional fare. The entire program bespoke that universality, and the common bond of mind, spirit and the human condition, that Franklin, in his ready sharing of the fruits of his intellectual labors, represented and fostered as he diffused his learning throughout the world's community of thinking people in his time.



News from the Franklin Papers

The editors of the Franklin Papers are delighted to announce the arrival of our new Assistant Editor, **Judith Adkins**, who joined the staff in October. Judy is a graduate of Duke University, and earned her Ph.D. in early American history from Yale University in 1998. Judy has already made herself an indispensable member of our team. Besides being exceptionally bright, articulate, and passionate about historical research, she also turns out to have the best brownie recipe on earth.

Associate Editor **Karen Duval** represented the Franklin Papers at this year's annual meeting of the Associa-

tion for Documentary Editing, held in Charlottesville, Va., in October. In a session devoted to "children's voices" in documentary editions, Karen presented a fascinating study of the correspondence between Franklin and his grandson Benny Bache during the period of Franklin's French mission, when Benny was sent to Geneva for schooling. Karen, who is our French expert now that Claude-Anne Lopez is in semi-retirement, pointed out how the youngster lost his ability to write in English during the years he was in the French-speaking school.

Senior Associate Editor **Jonathan R. Dull** was recently invited to address the French American Friendship Foundation in New York, at their January meeting. His topic will be King Louis XV and King Louis XVI as architects of the American Revolution.

Editor-in-Chief **Ellen R. Cohn** presented papers at two conferences in Europe this summer. In mid-July, she addressed the International Conference on the History of Cartography, which is held once every two years, and this summer was in Athens, Greece. Her talk was on Franklin's charts of the Gulf Stream, focusing on the French version that was engraved by Georges-Louis Le Rouge in Paris, about which almost nothing (including the date of publication) had been known. This talk grew out of research Ellen had originally undertaken for volume 33 of the Papers, where the chart was reproduced as an illustration. She spoke more broadly about the Gulf Stream charts to the Tenth International Congress on the Enlightenment, held at the end of July in Dublin, Ireland, in a double-session devoted to Benjamin Franklin that had been organized by J.A. Leo Lemay, and also included a terrific talk by our friend Roy Goodman.

In November, Ellen addressed the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences on the subject of Franklin's Passy Press.

Franklinia Census

by **Martha Lee Wolf**,
Executive Director,
Historic Bartram's Garden

The rare and beautiful *Franklinia alataamaha*, named after Benjamin Franklin, is growing in private and public gardens across the nation and around the world, with the heaviest concentration in the Philadelphia area, according to a new census conducted by Historic Bartram's Garden.

As of October 1, 1999, more than 1,700 people from 35 states plus the District of Columbia and eight foreign countries responded to the Franklinia Census, the world's first-ever census of a plant or tree. The census is still ongoing.

Historic Bartram's Garden launched the census in spring 1998 to commemorate the 300th birthday of John Bartram (1699-1777), America's first botanist. Bartram and his son, William, are credited with saving the *Franklinia* from extinction.

Some 30 percent of the world's *Franklinia* population grow in the Philadelphia area. The top 12 states responding to the census were Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Virginia, Ohio, Massachusetts, Georgia, Connecticut, Delaware and Oregon. Foreign countries included Belgium, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand and Switzerland.

Public gardens and parks growing the most *Franklinias* include Scott Arboretum, Fort Tryon, Holden Arboretum, Hofstra University, Orland E. White Arboretum, Van Dusen Garden, Longwood Gardens, Planting Field Arboretum, Mt. Cuba and Historic Bartram's Garden.

The oldest documented *Franklinia* was reported at Arnold Arboretum in Massachusetts, which came from a specimen obtained from Bartram's Garden by Philadelphia horticulturist Thomas Meehan in the 1880s.

Point and Counterpoint

by Claude-Anne Lopez

I was glad to see the text of Franklin's *Morals of Chess* published in the Fall 1999 issue of the *Gazette* because it gives me a chance to provide our readers with a provocative opposite view.

If Franklin ever had a devoted friend and admirer, it was Dr. Jacques Barbeau-Dubourg, the first French translator of his works and one who never failed to assure him of his inviolable attachment. Yet Dubourg, for once, dared to differ. With deferential disclaimers to his 'dear and respectable Master,' he brought to Franklin's Fourth of July party (1779) a refutation of Franklin's *Morals of Chess*. Here are his remarks, appearing in English for the first time:

Rather than an amusement, the game of chess is an empty occupation, a painful frivolity that does not exercise the body, that tires the mind rather than refresh it, that dries up and hardens the soul... It is the simulacrum of war, that cruel game whose only excuse must be its unavoidability. The greatest good or the least harm it can produce is to inflate one person's arrogance and mortify the self-esteem of another.

Chess players are almost always anxious, suspicious, unapproachable, fussy and contemptuous. Success has an inebriating and swelling effect on them, adversity destroys them. They are totally unforgiving toward each other and forever distrustful of onlookers when the boredom they inspire is not sufficient to keep people away.

A strange medical observation is that playing chess diminishes perspiration and increases urination whereas most other games have the opposite effect, which is much more conducive to good health. But that is the least of its drawbacks. What I cannot condone is that far from developing useful talents, chess seems to smother any seed of public virtue in human hearts. So many bright minds are fascinated by the sight of a chess board that the Fatherland loses the potential of some of its best citizens.

It is a delusion to imagine that this game is in the image of human life. On the contrary, how many disparities!

1. In chess, time counts for nothing. In life, it may be essential to be able to make up one's mind quickly. To know the value of time is one of the most important human sciences.

2. In chess, the fight is always one on one. In life, one often has to defend oneself against various people simultaneously, and one always has a chance to be helped by several and to help them in turn.

3. In chess, the outcome is always winning or losing, with nothing in between. In life, one can suffer

little losses or great ones, little gains or great ones.

4. In chess, there are indeed thousands of possible combinations, but they are all of the same kind, depending solely on calculation and not at all on luck. In life, fate never fails to play a role in human affairs... No game is meant to teach us how to live; their only point is to fill, harmlessly, some gaps. The happiest of all mortals is the one with the fewest gaps.

Who gave the better appraisal of the game, Dr. Franklin or Dr. Dubourg? Let the reader decide.

The translation of Barbeau-Dubourg's response to Franklin's *Morals of Chess* comes from Claude-Anne Lopez's forthcoming book, *My Life with Benjamin Franklin*. For anyone who wants to read the essay in its entirety, and in the original French, it is published under the title "Autre Moralité des Echecs," in vol. 30 of *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, pp. 19-20. Barbeau-Dubourg's cover letter, written in English, is on p. 18 of the same volume.

Franklin Genealogy

DESCENDANTS PROJECT PUTTING DOWN ROOTS

Several years ago, descendants of President Zachary Taylor watched as their famous ancestor's body was exhumed. In contrast, Benjamin Franklin's family is breaking new ground. Descendants now have an instant pipeline of communication established through the Friends of Franklin Descendants Project, which in less than three years has become an international clearinghouse for information about Benjamin Franklin's direct line.

The single factor making all this data readily available is the Internet, where genealogy is now the second most popular activity on the World Wide Web—surpassed only by sex. One might say that without sex, there would be no genealogy. All those marriages and liaisons in Benjamin Franklin's line have resulted in a database of over 2730 names, at least 1765 of them direct descendants, with nearly 800 living today. In all, about 1000 individual records were added since the project began. For this, we must give thanks to all the descendants who generously shared information. In fact, the Friends of Franklin is now compiling a list of descendant addresses in order to invite more family members to join the Friends of Franklin and to participate in events. Presently we only have about one-quarter of our mailing list complete, so any additions would be much appreciated. Please contact Elly Fitzig, Manager, Descendants Project, The Friends of Franklin, Inc., online at www.benfranklin2006.org, or mail information to her at 825 Linden Court, Wichita, KS 67206.

Besides family members searching for their roots, a number of businesses, societies, and institutions are also using this resource. For example, a CNN producer needed facts

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Update on the Restoration of Franklin's House at 36 Craven St., London

by Penelope Hartshorne Batcheler, Historical Architect

Ann Keigher, Treasurer of the Friends of Benjamin Franklin House (London), and Project Chair of its restoration, writes that Phase I of the restoration is complete. They have "secured the structural integrity of the house." Phase II will ready the house for interpreting Franklin's "life, work and contributions within the context of his London years."

In an added note to me on this April 1999 letter, Ann confirmed a suspicion I had when first visiting the house with the Friends of Franklin on October 21, 1997. That is, the façade we all saw was never seen by Franklin. Indeed, it is a "Robert Adam" style façade added c.1800 when developers were upgrading Craven Street.

While at the house I noticed not only that this façade contrasted stylistically with the mid 18th century interior woodwork, but the inside of the entranceway did not meet the 18th century hallway cornice or wall trim properly. I was not surprised to read, therefore, in the Autumn 1998 "Craven Street Gazette" (organ of The Friends of Benjamin Franklin House), that "A major problem was discovered on the front wall where the facing brick had pulled away by four inches." This showed that c.1800 the outer four inches of the 18th century front wall was stripped away and the "Robert Adam" façade applied with inadequate anchoring.



The front facade of the Craven St. house, as seen by Friends of Franklin during the London tour. (photo: P. Batcheler)

Editor's note: We're indebted to Friend of Franklin E. Philip Krider, professor at the University of Arizona, for drawing more information about Franklin's London home to our attention: Phil notes that there was an article on Benjamin Franklin's Craven St. house in the October, 1999, issue of Architecture magazine. The article can also be found on the web at: <http://www.architecturemag.com/oct99/tp/pres/pres.asp>. Called "Dr. Fatsides Slept Here," the article gives details of the Craven St. fundraising and preservation efforts, as well as showing a favorable picture of Franklin and his many accomplishments.

Member Profile

Dudley Herschbach is currently the Frank B. Baird, Jr. Professor of Science at Harvard University. Recently we asked him to explain his interest in Franklin; here is his eloquent response to the *Franklin Gazette*:

"Way back in 1946, as a freshman in high school, I became very interested in Franklin. In part this was because I identified with him as a printer. I had an after school job working in the print shop for the Campbell Press, the weekly newspaper for a town of 3000 near San Jose, CA. I loved the smell of ink, assembling the hand-set type, running the press, and writing pieces for the paper.

"A decade later, when I was a graduate student at Harvard, I attended a concert at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences which commemorated the 250th anniversary of Franklin's birth and the 200th of Mozart's. The concert featured a glass harmonica specially constructed for the occasion, and intended to do justice to music that Mozart had composed specifically for that instrument....Several of the glass bowls shattered during the performance! The concert also included the string quartet attributed to Franklin. Experts are unsure whether he really composed it. But it exhibits some impish hints. The key is F, with scordatura tuning such that each musician has to play only four notes, one on each of the open strings, leaving nothing for the left hand to do. I was intrigued by this and other evidence of Franklin's yen for whimsical fun.

"In the years since I have enjoyed looking into what Franklin called his "scientific amusements." When in 1993 I was invited to give a talk at the American Academy, I decided to make this my topic. In the course of tracking down some items for it at the Burndy Library, I learned from the librarian about the Friends of Franklin and of course joined straightaway. I've greatly enjoyed reading the *Gazette*, as well as opportunities to give talks and write articles about Franklin. Most of all, I cherish the pleasure of becoming acquainted with wonderful fans and scholars of Franklin, especially I. Bernard Cohen and Claude-Anne Lopez."

In His Own Words:
Benjamin Franklin

Franklin's Drinking Song

by Claude-Anne Lopez

On a high-spirited March 29, 1781, Franklin sent a jolly letter in French (French too good to be his own) to his friend, the abbé Martin Lefebvre de La Roche. This abbé, a professional librarian, was a member of the charmed circle gravitating around Madame Helvetius, the philosopher's widow, enjoying her hospitality and the somewhat bohemian atmosphere she knew how to create, leading John Adams to remark, in his inimitable way, that the Parisian abbés had as much power to pardon a sin as to commit one.

Be that as it may, abbé de La Roche had given to Franklin a little book of poems by the late Helvetius, entitled *Le Bonheur*. Reading it, the Doctor was reminded that he, too, had tackled the topic of happiness in a drinking song composed some forty years earlier. (That would have been when he was in his mid-thirties but we have found no trace of it in his earlier papers.)

After explaining to the abbé that "to bear the bell" means "to win the prize," Franklin proceeded to quote the song's text:

Singer.

Fair Venus calls, her Voice obey;
In Beauty's Arms spend Night & Day.
The Joys of Love all Joys excell,
And Loving is certainly Living well.

Chorus.

O No!
Not so!
For honest Souls know,
Friends and a Bottle still bear the Bell.

Singer.

Then let us get Money, like Bees lay up Honey,
We'll build us new Hives, & store them well;
The Sight of our Treasure shall yield us great Pleasure,
We'll count it, & chink it, & jingle it well:

Chorus.

O No!
Not so!
For honest Souls know,
Friends and a Bottle still bear the Bell.

Singer.

If this does not fit ye, let's govern the City;
In Power is Pleasure, no Tongue can tell.
By Crouds tho' you're teased, your Pride shall be pleased,
And this can make Lucifer happy in Hell.

Chorus

O No!
Not so!
For honest Souls know,
Friends and a Bottle still bear the Bell.

Singer.

Then toss off your Glasses, & scorn the dull Asses,
Who missing the Kernel, still gnaw the Shell.
What's Love, Rule or Riches? Wise Solomon teaches
They're Vanity, Vanity, Vanity still.

Chorus.

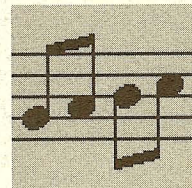
That's true,
He knew;
He 'ad try'd them all through.
Friends and a Bottle still bore the Bell.

The new Editor of the Franklin Papers, Ellen Cohn, whose multifaceted abilities include musicology, discovered that the song remained popular long after Franklin had died and his authorship had been forgotten. David Vinton, of Providence, RI, selected it for The Masonic Minstrel... (Dedham, 1816) for use in lodges throughout North America. Ellen also noted that an article by Carleton Sprague Smith entitled "A Tune for Benjamin Franklin's Drinking Song 'Fair Venus Calls'" was published in the Inter-American Music Review x (1989), 147-55.

Now that they are about to enter a new millennium, the Friends of Franklin may wonder whether, in their search for happiness they should follow Helvetius's advice-don't even think of love or wealth, just contemplate the arts and sciences-or Franklin's easier one: enjoy a convivial bottle of wine.

Dear Friends, the choice is yours. Be happy!

Editor's note: Anyone desiring the music for the Masonic song may contact the Gazette editor.



Franklin Tidbits

Francophone readers of the *Gazette* may wish to look up Claude-Anne Lopez' most recent article on Franklin. "Le 'cher ami': Benjamin Franklin" was published in *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century*, vol. 374 (Oxford, 1999).

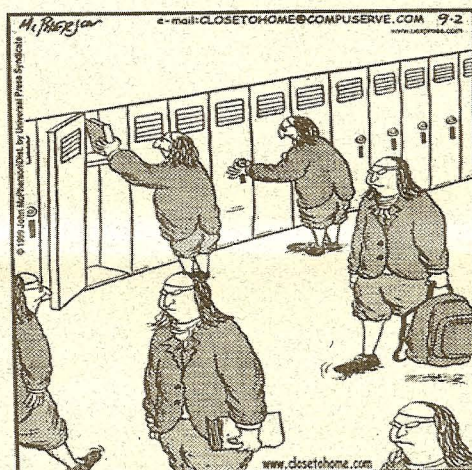
While recently perusing the Quick Poll archives on the History Channel website (<http://www.historychannel.com>) your editor ran across an interesting Franklin item. The Quick Poll for July, 1999 was the question "Which American patriot do you admire most?" with the choices being Thomas Jefferson, Ben Franklin, George Washington, and John Adams. Needless to say, dear readers, Franklin won the poll hands down with 37.1% of the vote. Washington came in second with a respectable 31.1%, followed by Jefferson with 25.5% and Adams with 6.4%. Perhaps Franklin's high standing is partly due to the fact that he was the only one of the four choices never elected President!

More than 300 people attended a conference in Cherry Hill, NJ on Nov. 21, 1999 to learn more about Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), which has been getting a lot of press attention lately. According to an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Massachusetts psychiatrist Edward Hallowell stated at the conference that he believes Benjamin Franklin may have had ADD. "Why else would a man go out into a rainstorm with a key on a kite hoping for lightning to strike?" Hallowell went on to state that "at least half the American population could have some form of genetically based attention deficit." The 51% of us sharing this fate will be relieved to know that Hallowell concedes that "people who have the disorder tend to be creative, as was Franklin." Your editor theorizes that these unsubstantiated observations were engineered solely to bring attention to their proponent, and that Franklin's trip out into the rainstorm may have been motivated by scientific curiosity.

A Friend of Franklin from down under, Chris Andrew of Chapel Hill, Australia wrote to us last summer, sharing his excitement for two particular threads of Franklin interest: genealogy and lightning. Chris has found three different branches in his family tree connected to the surname "Temple." This past summer, Chris traveled to Alabama, then on to Toulouse for a conference on lightning. In between, he was able to visit Washington, DC and Philadelphia. Chris acknowledges friend and colleague Phil Krider for making the Friends of Franklin known to him. Thanks, Chris! We love to hear from Friends and hope that more of you will share your activities and interests with the *Gazette*. We also encourage you to share your enthusiasm for Franklin with your friends, to help our organization grow.

The September, 1999 issue of *Smithsonian in Your Classroom* was devoted entirely to the theme of "Making Friends with Franklin." This magazine is produced by the Smithsonian Institution to help provide ideas for lesson plans for teachers of grades 3-8, and "to bring into their classrooms the educational power of museums and other community resources." This heavily illustrated tool contains a history lesson, a science project, a writing exercise, and an art project, all based on Franklin and his interests and accomplishments. The entire last page is devoted to the Friends of Franklin, including quotes from Friends who were attending the portrait gallery reception, a plug for the *Gazette*, and contact information for our organization. This was some wonderfully positive publicity that could potentially reach a large number of educators and young people!

CLOSE TO HOME



Nobody at Ben Franklin Senior High was too psyched about the school's new dress code.

Genealogy

cont. from p.4

about Franklin's will for a program involving wills and estate planning. The Philadelphia Museum of Art, preparing for the current exhibit *Worldly Goods: The Arts of Early Pennsylvania, 1680-1758*, sought clues to the provenance of a dressing table possibly from Franklin's home. The Independence National Historical Park requested similar data about a desk in their collection. And the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame, preparing to induct Benjamin Franklin into its ranks, invited a descendant to attend the ceremony.

One can only hope that Benjamin Franklin might approve of this constant exchange, as he rests peacefully besides Debby on the corner of 5th and Arch Streets, relieved that we are only digging up information.

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

Claude-Anne Lopez; New Haven, CT

Martin Mangold; Rockville, MD

Robert Middlekauff; Oakland, CA

Michael Newcomb; Cave Creek, AZ

Barbara Oberg; Princeton, NJ

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

300th Birthday Celebration

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

"A good party -- with a symposium
on subjects of his interest and ours."
Penny Batcheler; *Philadelphia, PA*

"He would have used the internet to
communicate with everyone."
Charles Lard; *W. Hartford, CT.*

"In Paris, with a few friends, includ-
ing charming women."
David Bishop; *Rochester, MN*

Remember: Franklin on Amazon!

Support Friends of Franklin by doing
some of your holiday shopping online
at "the world's largest bookseller" --
Amazon.com.

Go to the Friends of Franklin website
at <http://www.benfranklin2006.org>.
Go to the Amazon.com link at the bot-
tom of the page, click on, and then
proceed to browse and order books
on the Amazon site. A percentage
of all purchases will be returned to
the organization. Remember, the
"kickback" only happens when you
enter the Amazon site *through* the
Friends of Franklin site. It doesn't
"work" if you go directly to
Amazon.com. The book selections
reviewed in the *Gazette* and the
website are a good place to start or-
dering, but remember: *Any* book you
buy through the link supports Friends!

Welcome to Our New Members!

Honorary Members:

Peter Jones; Edinburgh, Scotland
Jean Jones; Edinburgh Scotland

Sustaining Friend:

Peter Snyder; Glen Arm, MD

Franklin Friends:

Catherine Allan; St. Paul, MN

Richard Bodman; Northfield, MN

Andrew Doig; Edinburgh, Scotland

Mrs. Benjamin Koons;
Bryn Mawr, PA

Steven M. Lash;
Bloomfield Hills, MI

Ken Mackay; Stirling, Scotland

Donald Mackinnon;
Kirkintilloch, Scotland

Andrew Skinner;
Glasgow, Scotland

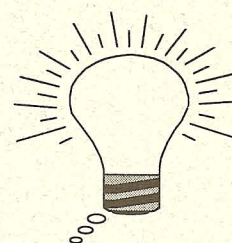
Robert Smart;
Straithkiness, Scotland

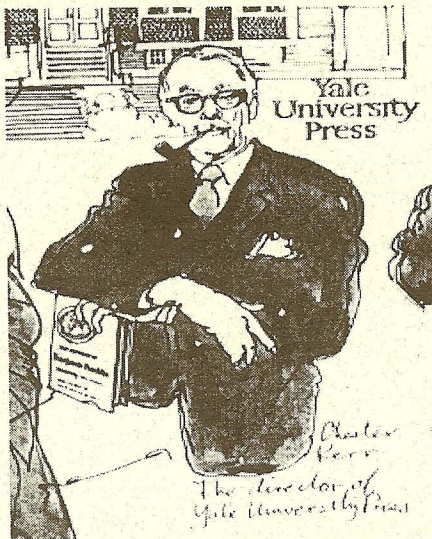
Sally Snyder; Sea Cliff, NY

Elise Zoller; Salt Lake City, UT

Educators:

Franklin School; Vincennes, IN





Chester Brooks Kerr 1913-1999

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin lost a good friend on August 22nd with the death of Chester Kerr, the editor emeritus of Yale University Press. As a member of the Administrative Board of the project from its inception until 1980 (a period covering volumes 1 through 21), serving as Secretary of the Board until 1970, he played a key part in the enterprise. Chester Kerr did much to establish high standards for the edition, especially in the areas of design, materials, and production. The distinctive volumes that are familiar to scholars and Franklin aficionados alike are a product of Kerr's thirty-year career at the Yale Press. Kerr was present at every milestone in the project, and insisted on celebrating them by toasting with orange shrub (a mixture of rum, sugar, and orange juice) from Franklin's own recipe, kept in a barrel in his garage.

It was Kerr who wrote the Publishers' Acknowledgments for volume 1 chronicling that "project born one evening in 1952..." The preparations for volume 1, published in 1959, required a particularly intense commitment on the part of the Press, and Kerr as its Secretary. Great pains were taken on the design of the vol-

ume, which required a customized typeface, special ink, paper, and book cloth, on top of the normal work of design and production undertaken by the Press for every volume.

Even after his retirement from the Administrative Board of the *Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Kerr continued to pursue his enthusiasm for Franklin. A few years back, in planning a trip to Russia, he called the Franklin Papers office to inquire about the names of Franklin's Russian correspondents so that he could search the archives for hitherto unknown Franklin documents. Concluding his essay for volume 1, Kerr observed, "It is part of Benjamin Franklin's legacy that two centuries after he lived his name continues to evoke a magical response." In the preservation of that legacy Kerr left his own mark. Those who share Kerr's love of Franklin's legacy should lift their glasses of orange shrub high and drink to Chester Kerr's contribution.

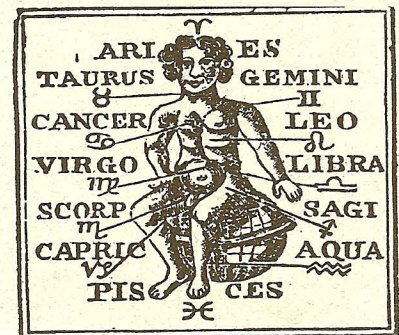
International Glass Music Festival

Glass Music International, Inc. is sponsoring an International Glass Music Festival on April 27-30, 2000. This exciting festival will happen in Philadelphia, "home of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Inventor of the Glass Harmonica." Each day of the festival will be graced by the talents of world-class glass musicians performing on the glass harmonica and glass harp, sometimes accompanied by voice, organ, or verrophone. Featured performers include Kathryn Yatri Taussig, Ann Stuart & Jonathan Stuart-Moore, William Zeitler, Dean Shostak, Cecilia Brauer, and several other talented musicians.

Participants will also hear a glassblower's perspective and attend a panel on tuning glass instruments. Visits are planned to the Franklin Institute, the Franklin Court Museum, the American Philosophical Society,

Christ Church, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Registration for the festival is \$150, with daily registration also available at \$50 per day. Registration fees include one luncheon, one continental breakfast, two champagne receptions, and two afternoon teas. An optional boat ride down the Delaware River on the Spirit of Philadelphia, with dinner, show, and dancing on Saturday night is available at a cost of \$45. For more information, or to register, contact Elizabeth Glancy Brunelli, Harbor Point, 40 Westwind Road Apt. 505, Boston, MA 02125. Tel/Fax: 617-288-6111.



Calendar of Events

January 13 & 14, 2000. Celebration! of Ben Franklin with dinner and symposium in Philadelphia. Stephen Jay Gould will be the keynote speaker.

January 22, 2000. Friends of the Franklin Papers annual birthday celebration at the New Haven Lawn Club.

April 27-30, 2000. World Glass Music Festival 2000, in Philadelphia. See article to the left for more information.

September 14-18, 2000. Benjamin Franklin's Historic Boston and Nantucket. Friends of Franklin tour to the Boston area. Call 215-BEN-0300 for more information.

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

Life Members	\$1,000	Franklin Friend	\$50
Institutional Members	\$1,000	Student Members (full time only; photocopy id)	\$20
Sustaining Friend	\$ 100	Subscription (Educators and libraries only)	\$20

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