Love and Marriage
Revolutionary Shifts in Colonial Relationships

Ever-Evolving Chicago

Visions of America
The Birth of Photographic Panoramas

Caswell-Massey
Dr. Hunter’s Original Remedies Live On

A Capitol Allusion
The Apotheosis of Washington
This Story Could Change Your Life!

This family has discovered something so amazing it has influenced tens of thousands of peoples’ lives!

MADELINE – Almost 30 years ago, as a young mother with two small children, I found myself physically drained—caring for my family was nearly impossible! I struggled to keep up with the demands of a busy life. Then one day, a friend told me about a nutritious substance from the beehive, called Royal Jelly. Not having the internet back then, I didn’t know what it was, but I was so desperate that I gave it a try. In a short time, I began to feel renewed energy and vitality like never before! That’s when I started to learn about the many things God has placed in nature that could help people feel their best. So I started my company, BeeAlive, to help others. Today, 25 years later, we have made a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of people and continue to do so every day.

JASON – As a young boy, I watched my Mom struggle with her energy level and can remember those days vividly. It was hard for me and my sister, Lori, because we wanted a Mom like everyone else had. Fun and energetic! But that didn’t seem possible for us.

Then one day, we started to see Mom begin acting like her old self again, even wanting to run around with us! Lori and I were so excited and had no idea what was making this change in her, but we didn’t care. Slowly but surely, we were getting our Mom back.

Years later, we realized that Mom had been taking something called Royal Jelly and that was a new awakening for her. She began to learn about the importance of a healthy diet and good nutrition... and became our greatest teacher.

Today, as President of BeeAlive, the company my Mom started over 25 years ago, I work every day to help people feel their absolute best. And thank God Mom taught me what she did. I now have a wife and 3-month old triplets. Boy, do I need to be energetic and healthy! Jax, Julia and Evelyn kept us up around the clock, and if we didn’t have Royal Jelly, I don’t know what we would have done. I didn’t miss a beat, running BeeAlive and being the Dad to new triplets! And my wife, Rose, can’t believe how great she felt through it all. She was even able to continue to run her own business, thanks to Royal Jelly!

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NEED MORE ENERGY?
Whether you’re a grandmother wanting to keep up with your grandkids, a dad trying to burn the candle at both ends, or a mom trying to survive the challenges of a new baby or a business, BeeAlive Royal Jelly is the answer. We’ve been helping people feel more energetic for over 25 years. So, if you’re sick and tired of feeling tired and not being able to keep up with the challenges of life, do something for yourself today … call BeeAlive!

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American Spirit
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**Spirit of America World Trade Center Tribute Express**

A real working HO-gauge train collection honoring the strength and resolve of America and the heroes of September 11.

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<td>Shipment 3</td>
<td>“We Will Never Forget” Flat Car with removable, commemorative sculpture</td>
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A real working HO-gauge train collection honoring the strength and resolve of America and the heroes of September 11.

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From the President General

Our cover offers a stunning view of the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. Called “The Apotheosis of Washington,” the Rotunda mural was painted in the true fresco technique by Constantino Brumidi, an Italian immigrant who was a master of creating the illusion of three-dimensional forms and figures on flat walls. He skillfully blended classical and uniquely American images and allusions into his masterpiece.

In our feature on marriage, we explore the changing roles of women in relationships as well as the political and social realm during the early American period. As the Revolution neared, there was a shift in the cultural mindset regarding marriage. Selecting a mate evolved from a solely practical choice to one that factored in the idea of romantic love. And later, when men and women became citizens of an independent republic, their experiences during the Revolution shaped their ideas about both courtship and marriage.

With perfumes, soaps and more, Dr. William Hunter knew how to make customers feel pampered when he opened what is now often called “America’s Oldest Apothecary” in 1752 in Newport, R.I. The original remedies from his shop, later known as Caswell-Massey, attracted the attention of George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who sent Lewis and Clark on their expedition with Caswell-Massey soaps.

Daguerreotypists in the 1840s and 1850s photographed 360-degree views of many of America’s cities and the countryside, leaving behind big-picture views of sweeping landscapes, busy waterfronts and spectacular skylines. Our Visions of America story captures some of these panoramic photographs. DAR members will enjoy the early 20th-century panoramic images of our Washington, D.C., National Headquarters as well as guests at the 15th Continental Congress.

This issue’s Our Patriots department calls readers’ attention to Jack Jouett, dubbed the Paul Revere of the South. Jouett made a late-night ride in 1781 to warn Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia legislature that the British were coming. The young man’s quick thinking and brave, swift ride enabled most of the government officials to escape capture.

Spirited Adventures spotlights Chicago, our third-largest city and a destination renowned for its industry, culture and architecture. Its journey from a prairie trading post to an economic powerhouse is a fascinating chapter in our nation’s history. And if the approach of summer compels you to hit the road, consider the National Pike Festival in Washington County, Pa., or one of the Dozen Distinctive Destinations named by the National Trust for Historic Preservation—just a few of the stories featured in this issue’s Whatnot section.

Merry Ann T. Wright
There’s no better feeling than celebrating America—and here’s a fashion exclusive that does! You’ll love this luxuriously quilted carryall bag bearing the patriotic red, white and blue designs of artist Mary Ann Lasher. It has two interior pockets and zips closed to protect all your valuables. This bag is a perfect fit for everyday use and its classic design will never go out of style. Plus, you’ll also get two FREE coordinating, zippered cosmetic cases, If you order now!

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Most people consider running one marathon to be a feat. Brooke Curran is two years into her pledge to run a marathon in all 50 states, on all seven continents (yes, even Antarctica) and to finish each of the five world marathon majors in five years.

Mrs. Curran doesn’t just train and run for her own sake. She uses her passion to support women’s and children’s organizations in her hometown of Alexandria, Va. A longtime runner, the mother of three and member of the Eleanor Wilson Chapter, Washington, D.C., remembers when she was first inspired by the idea of running for charity.

Running for At-Risk Families

She recalls driving through one of Alexandria’s run-down areas—a neighborhood she frequently passed through on her way home. Usually, she would look around for a moment and feel badly for her neighbors, then a mile down the road she forgot about them.

But this day was different. “I was appalled by my own sense of apathy and lack of connection with my neighbors,” she says. “Running had always been about me—getting better, getting faster. Ironically, the better the runner I became, the less running meant to me.”

So she decided to make it about someone else. “I figured if I could commit to something so audacious then I could ask my friends and family for donations,” she says.

In 2009, she raised $20,000 for the Child and Family Network Centers, which provides free preschool and social services for at-risk children and their families. In 2010, she channeled more than $30,000 to area nonprofits. This year, her goal is to raise $50,000, which will support five local organizations. These include Girls on the Run, which encourages healthy living and boosts self-esteem through running, and The Reading Connection, a group that promotes literacy among disadvantaged kids. Mrs. Curran pays for her own race fees and travel arrangements, enabling all money raised to go to charity.

Oh, the Places She Goes

Since 2009, Mrs. Curran has finished 30 marathons. Running in China last May and among the giant stone heads of Easter Island the year before are top contenders for favorite races.

“The Great Wall was unbelievable, and running on Easter Island was just surreal.”

Stateside she counts Anchorage, Alaska, as well as Raleigh, N.C., among her most memorable marathons. This month, she’s participating in the Big Sur International Marathon in Big Sur, Calif., and next month she’ll be in West Virginia. Then it’s back out west to Wyoming in July.

Next spring she’s headed to Antarctica for one of only two footraces held on the continent. She’s looking forward to it, though she admits, “It does scare me a little bit.” Mrs. Curran suffers from exercise-induced asthma that worsens in cold weather, and she also gets seasick—traveling to Antarctica involves a boat and some of the roughest waters in the world.

While her husband, Chris, and three teenage daughters Clare, Kate and Caroline sometimes travel (and race) with Mrs. Curran, they won’t be making the two-week trip with her to Antarctica. “My philosophy is if you’re coming, you’re running,” she jokes.

When she’s not running or training, she manages the RunningBrooke Fund (www.runningbrooke.com). “I’m working up to six hours a day trying to propel this forward,” she says.

Mrs. Curran already has several local businesses supporting her fund on an annual basis, and she’s also expanded the organization to include a group of local runners who most recently participated in the National Half Marathon in Washington, D.C. “I’m training them, and they’re helping to spread the word about the fund. I’m hoping it helps out for this year’s tally.”

Next on her to-do list is to secure some national sponsors. “I’m always coming up with new ways to raise money and make a difference,” she says.
Dress for The Ages

The sleeves and gathers of this little dress have been altered from their original appearance, but its charm is undiminished. The cheerful turquoise blue wool blend is set off by multicolored floral embroidery at the edges of both sleeves and skirt. The embroidery resembles Berlin work, or what we would now call needlepoint, except that it is embroidered on the wool instead of a canvas grid.

The bodice and skirt of this dress are actually constructed of one piece, with gathers at the waist creating the effect of two separate pieces. At some point the waist gathers have been either deliberately let out or have come undone, resulting in an uneven appearance. Woven tapes inside the dress stabilize the gathers at both the waist and the front of the neckline.

While they’re not visible in this photograph, the garment features two-tiered sleeves, echoing a style popular in adult women’s dresses of the 1840s. The longer sleeve pieces originally may have been connected to the shorter sleeves. Conceivably, the sleeves were detached and stitched in as needed, allowing the dress to be worn both in warm and cold weather. Children’s clothes were frequently reused by younger siblings, so the sleeves might be attached, detached and reattached several times throughout the lifetime of the garment.
Harlow Giles Unger weaves the story of the original spirit of the Revolution into two new releases.

**Lighting the Revolutionary Fuse**

Two recent works by veteran journalist and historian Harlow Giles Unger focus his talents for readable history on the early days of the Revolution.

*Lion of Liberty: Patrick Henry and the Call to A New Nation* (Da Capo Press, 2010) is Unger’s fourth biography of a Founding Father. He notes that few Americans know Henry “was the first of the Founding Fathers to call for independence, for revolution against Great Britain, for a bill of rights, and for as much freedom as possible from government.” In *American Tempest: How the Boston Tea Party Sparked a Revolution* (Da Capo Press, 2011), Unger brings to life the turbulent times and feelings that preceded the Revolutionary War.

Unger’s flair for storytelling and imagination-catching anecdotes make both books highly enjoyable for history buffs and casual readers alike. The author doesn’t hide his feelings about events or people, and, like Patrick Henry, he leans decidedly toward the more libertarian side of the scale.

Henry was an early and implacable foe of the Constitution, which he believed had displaced the Revolution with a near-monarchical government. Unger notes that Henry’s ardent defense of states’ rights and opposition to federal power also helped sow the seeds of America’s Civil War.

Unger’s admiration for Henry and small government is evident throughout *Lion of Liberty*. Henry was born and grew up in the western edges of Virginia, son of Hanover County’s chief justice and nephew of its chief clergyman. Despite a good education and his family’s prominence, he struggled as a storekeeper before turning to law.

The biography begins on December 1, 1763, with a scene from the turning point in young Henry’s law career. He is arguing a case known as the “Parson’s Cause” that attacked the Church of England’s time-honored practice of taxing Virginia landowners regardless of their religious affiliation. Henry’s representation of the landowners dismayed his clergyman uncle.

It also dismayed the judge—Henry’s father. John, a neophyte lawyer, Patrick appeared to be losing the case. Then he unleashed a stunning summation that rocked the courtroom and branded the king a “tyrant.” Henry won, and his career was launched.

The trial gave a glimpse into the passionate soul whose speeches would prod the Colonies toward nationhood. From Hanover County Court and the Virginia House of Burgesses to the Continental Congress, to the post of Virginia governor, to fierce opposition of the Constitution and the Federalists, Henry’s ardor for liberty and small government never cooled.

Just a little more than 10 years after Henry’s victory in the Parson’s Cause, another group of firebrands enraged the British government by tossing a cargo of tea into the chilly waters of Boston Harbor. The Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773, was preceded by days of mob violence against real and perceived British sympathizers. The mob torched homes and businesses, and beat and tar-and-feathered many of their victims.

Pro- and anti-British factions faced off, foreshadowing the divisions between Loyalists and Patriots during the Revolution. The Boston Tea Party touched off a series of similar actions in New York, Philadelphia, Charleston and elsewhere, with a second tea protest in Boston some months later. These events further divided Crown and Colonies, setting the stage for open rebellion.

Unger tells the story through the lives and actions of protagonists such as Samuel Adams, John Adams and John Hancock—proud, ambitious men who avidly sought leadership and power in the coming revolt.

*American Tempest* reaches its climax with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. As in *Lion of Liberty*, Unger concludes by noting that the original spirit of the Revolution was undone by the rise of Federalism and the Constitution.

“To the consternation of many [Boston] Tea Party leaders,” he writes, “the revolution they had helped foment not only failed to end taxation, it forced the new, independent state governments to tax more heavily than the British had proposed or would ever have conceived of proposing.” The federal government also imposed its own taxes.

At the same time, Unger notes, the violence of Patriot mobs against Loyalists lay far from the ideals of freedom of speech and belief. As a result, the book ends on something of a melancholy note, in which the glorious ideals of the Revolution run afool of the realities of politics and human nature.

—Bill Hudgins
American Spirit

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While many associate our nation’s capital with the landmarks that adorn the National Mall, its oldest federal monuments literally surround the District of Columbia. The city’s original boundary stones provide a crucial link to our nation’s establishment and, aided by the DAR and others, these tangible connections to our Founders endure today.

In 1790, the First Congress created a permanent seat for the new capital, and Virginia and Maryland together ceded 100 total square miles of land for the new federal city. President George Washington made sure the best surveyor in the business would outline the new capital: Andrew Ellicott, whose lines would ultimately define the shapes of 11 states and the District of Columbia.

Beginning in February 1791, Ellicott and his team surveyed the boundaries of what would become the federal city, laying the first stone that April. The city was outlined as a tilted square, with each side a straight 10-mile line. According to Stephen Powers, a civil engineer who visits the stones each year, it took until the end of 1792 to complete the process. Crews had to clear the unsettled land at the boundaries, cutting a swath 40 feet wide along the new border so the lines could be visibly marked with stones.

Forty boundary stones were needed to outline the city—a cornerstone for each compass direction and nine stones placed at one-mile intervals along each side. The stones were quarried out of sandstone from Aquia Creek, a subsidiary of the Potomac River that also became the source for the original stones of the White House and the U.S. Capitol. Each boundary marker was 4 feet tall and 12 inches square. The team buried 2 feet of the marker underground, leaving 2 feet above ground. A “square frustum,” a triangular pyramid with the top cut off, capped each marker.

Identifying information was engraved on each stone on-site. The words “Jurisdiction of the United States” labeled the side facing the federal city, and the opposite side of the stone denoted whether it faced Maryland or Virginia. The other two sides listed the stone’s placement year and the compass variance from magnetic north at that location.

Ellicott completed his survey and presented the final map to Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson on January 1, 1793, but the city’s shape changed after Congress returned the entire area southwest of the Potomac River to Virginia in 1846. After the retrocession, 14 of the original boundary stone locations became part of the commonwealth of Virginia, but the markers remained.

Today, 36 of the original 40 stones still dot the original federal city boundary. Despite their fragility, several boast readable, original engravings. “Some stones are in lower areas where water would often cover them, adding to their erosion,” Powers says. “But a few are in pristine condition, especially those on top of hills or elevated areas.”

The stones’ longevity is, in large part, thanks to DAR. In 1915, at the annual D.C. DAR State Conference, the D.C. DAR Committee on Preservation of Historic Spots and Records decided that reclaiming the
boundary stones would be its project for the year. The group began preservation and protection of the boundary stones by erecting iron fences around each one. DAR member Gayle Harris, who wrote a complete history of the boundary stones in 2001, notes that the preservation effort became a permanent project of the D.C. DAR.

"Without their efforts, there is no doubt these stones would have never survived." Powers says. Today, almost 100 years later, 34 fences continue to protect the stones, and the DAR is still actively involved in their maintenance. In fact, the D.C. DAR just commemorated the 220th anniversary of the laying of the boundary stones with a ceremony on April 9. Other groups, including the D.C. Children of the American Revolution, Takoma Park (Maryland) Historical Association and the American Society of Civil Engineers, also take time to make sure they are preserved.

Some stones are more prominent than others. The Original West Cornerstone is in Andrew Ellicott Park, straddling the boundary between present-day Falls Church and Arlington, Va. Another stone lies a mile away in Benjamin Banneker Park, named for the self-taught astronomer and free African-American who assisted Ellicott with part of his survey. Other stones can be found in road medians, alongside busy highways, in residential neighborhoods, in a water treatment plant and even in a cemetery.

Local resident Mark Kennedy created www.boundarystones.org to allow anyone to see the stones in person or appreciate them from afar. The site has photos of all existing stones, information on all 40 original locations and a list of resources. The D.C. DAR website has additional information at www.dcdar.org/BoundaryStones.htm.

— Cherilyn Crowe

Revisiting a Rebellion

In Cry Liberty: The Great Stono River Slave Rebellion (Oxford University Press, 2010), author Peter Charles Hoffer, distinguished research professor at the University of Georgia, provides a well-researched account of the only large-scale slave rebellion in the British North American Colonies. It occurred on a single day, September 9, 1739, along a road near the Stono River close to Charleston, S.C.

Hoffer draws on new sources to re-examine the dramatic day—and the violent cost of slavery. The original story claims that recently imported slaves, who were warriors in training in Africa, learned of an impending war between England and Spain. As a result, the slaves, seeking freedom from their English rulers, decided to plan a full-scale revolt and escape to the Spanish colony of Florida. About 20 white Carolinians and more than 40 slaves were killed before the rebellion was suppressed.

However, Hoffer concludes that the Stono Rebellion may have not been what historians originally thought. This was not a well-crafted revolt: The slaves, while on their way to Florida, were simply breaking into a store to take what they thought was theirs, and chance events escalated the violence. Through investigation of legislative and legal records, land surveys and firsthand accounts from the period to identify where the fighting began, Hoffer reveals a far less heroic, but far more heartbreaking tragedy with deeper significance than first believed.

What About the Missing Stones?

The reasons for the missing stones vary. One has been missing since at least 1891 and is suspected to be a casualty of the Civil War. Two stones were lost to construction projects in the 1950s. The fourth was displaced when it was hit by a car in the mid-1980s, but no one at the scene knew what to do with it. A local resident kept it and, when a survey crew came looking for the stone in 1991, he returned it to them. There are efforts under way to restore it to its original location.
for 12 years, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has recognized cities and towns that offer an authentic visitor experience as one of America’s Dozen Distinctive Destinations. Paducah, in the heart of Kentucky’s Four Rivers region, was recently voted Fan Favorite of this year’s 12 destinations.

Situated where the Tennessee and Ohio rivers meet and named in honor of a legendary 19th-century American Indian chief, Paducah celebrates its past and present in life-sized murals along its riverfront. The National Quilt Museum and River Discovery Center (the city’s oldest building) showcase important parts of the region’s history. In the LowerTown Arts District, visitors can participate in hands-on workshops with resident artists in restored Classical Revival and Italianate homes. The UpperTown Heritage Walking Tour showcases the part of town where African-Americans owned homes, businesses and more during the time of segregation.

Paducah and the following other 2011 Distinctive Destinations combine dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture and landscapes, and a strong commitment to historic preservation and revitalization. In each community, residents have taken decisive action to protect their town’s character and sense of place.

Southern Charmers
Located across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., Alexandria, Va., won the designation for its eclectic mix of early American historic sites, culturally diverse neighborhoods and modern dining and shopping options. Chapel Hill, N.C., boasts well-preserved historic districts, quiet winding streets and a bustling downtown area. Dandridge, Tenn., in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, welcomes visitors with a historic, walkable downtown.

California’s Gems
Located on the Northern California coast, Eureka is a beautifully preserved Victorian seaport that features a lively Old Town; the Carson Mansion, one of the most photographed homes in America; and nearby forests of
The National Pike Festival earns the mantle of world’s longest festival based not on its duration but the distance it covers as it traces a 300-mile portion of the Historic National Road, or National Pike, through Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio. The event celebrates the history of America’s first federally funded highway, which led Easterners traveling in Conestoga wagons, on horseback or on foot westward toward the frontier in the early 1800s. (One of the 12 Madonna of the Trail monuments commissioned by the DAR to honor the spirit of pioneer women stands along the roadside near Beallsville, Pa.) Route 40 has since overlaid much of the Historic National Road.

A procession of wagons, horses, mules and pioneers in historic dress traveling from town to town highlights the event. Through historic demonstrations, music, antiques, food and crafts, the festival showcases the unique charms of the pike towns lining what once was the nation’s main thoroughfare, such as Scenery Hill, Pa., Hagerstown, Md., and many others. Each participating community coordinates its own celebration, as there is no central planning authority organizing the event. Yet every year during the third weekend in May, dozens of towns on Route 40 simultaneously welcome crowds in search of old-fashioned appeal. This year’s festival will take place May 20–22, 2011. Residents or visitors of the Historic National Road corridor can check local newspapers and tourism resources for festival information, or simply head toward Route 40 to join in the fun.

Middle-American Strength

Once the unofficial capital of Indian Territory, Muskogee, Oklahoma’s American Indian, African-American and Euro-American influences are well-preserved in the town. Saint Paul, Minn., is home to some of the state’s most famous historic buildings, including the Cass Gilbert-designed State Capitol and the home of F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Eastern Standard

Once one of the world’s largest whaling ports, New Bedford, Mass., draws visitors with its maritime history and scenic beaches, along with a historic downtown defined by cobblestone streets, period gas lamps and authentic 19th- and 20th-century architecture. New Bedford’s appeal is a credit to the work of its local leaders—such as members of the Waterfront Historic Area League—who have helped rehabilitate more than 40 structures.

Western Giants

San Angelo, Texas, is a frontier city offering visitors an authentic Old West experience. Set in “the shadow of the Big Horns,” Sheridan, Wyo., offers a similar Western atmosphere and abundant recreational opportunities. Visitors to Colorado Springs, Colo., nestled at the base of the Rocky Mountains, can enjoy commanding views of Pikes Peak from just about any part of this historic town.

This year marks the 12th announcement of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Dozen Distinctive Destinations annual list. To date, there are 144 Distinctive Destinations located in 46 states throughout the country. To see a complete list, visit www.PreservationNation.org/ddd.
More About a Real Daughter

**Bradley’s Legacy**

Lydia Moss Bradley, born in 1816 to Captain Zeally Moss and his wife, Jeanette, is one of the most well-known and notably philanthropic of the Real Daughters, DAR members whose fathers were Revolutionary War Patriots. She and her husband, Tobias, whom she married in 1837, prospered in real estate and banking in Peoria, Ill.

The Bradleys planned to use their fortune to endow an orphanage or school in memory of their six children who all died young, but Tobias died suddenly in a carriage accident in 1867 before he could help carry out their plan. At the time of his death, their estate was valued at $500,000, which Mrs. Bradley increased to more than $2 million over a few decades.

In 1875, she became the first female member of a national bank board in the United States when she joined the board of directors of the First National Bank of Peoria. She served for 25 years. Before her second marriage to Edward E. Clark, she drafted a legal prenuptial agreement to protect her assets. (It proved a wise move: Bradley and Clark divorced in 1873.)

Mrs. Bradley funded many public works, including a Universalist church in Peoria and Illinois’ first city park system. She gave land to the Society of St. Francis, which was used to build the St. Francis Medical Center, and also funded the Bradley Home for Aged Women to care for widowed and childless women in the community.

Of her many charitable acts, Mrs. Bradley’s largest contribution to Illinois was in the field of education. She endowed Bradley University, or what was originally known as the Bradley Polytechnic Institute, in Peoria. On the occasion of the dedication of the school, October 9, 1892, the *Chicago Times Herald* reported of Mrs. Bradley’s speech, “... in the few sentences she uttered were compressed the ideals she had cherished for half a century. She said she hoped the institute would be a real benefit to mankind; that it would be the means of making better men and women; that boys and girls would find in the new institution of learning an incentive to intellectual life was her ardent wish." Since 1920, the school has been an accredited four-year university.

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**WHAT’S IN A NAME**

Discover the meanings behind some of the DAR chapters’ names.

The name of Ann Story Chapter, Rutland, Vt., honors a frontier woman known as the Mother of the Green Mountain Boys. After her husband, Amos, died while constructing the family home in Salisbury, Vt., the widowed Ann opted to move her five children into the house he built for them in the wilderness. American Indians burned the original cabin, but Ann and the children rebuilt it and also dug a cave into the side of Otter Creek to serve as a safe hiding place. Most of the settlers nearby had fled due to the Revolutionary War hostilities, so Ann’s cabin became an important outpost that the Green Mountain Boys used for rest, shelter and a message drop.

Carter Braxton Chapter, Baltimore, Md., chose as its namesake the Virginia statesman whose signature appears on the Declaration of Independence at the bottom of the column headed by John Hancock. Braxton, selected to fill a vacancy in the Continental Congress in the fall of 1775, initially was reluctant to support the independence movement but later changed his views. His term in the Continental Congress lasted less than a year, but he is celebrated as a great Virginian due to his long service in the state legislature. The Revolutionary War brought financial hardships to Braxton, as the British captured many of his shipping vessels and ravaged his landholdings. As the father of 18 children, Braxton is believed to have more offspring than any other signer. He died in 1797 in Richmond, Va., at age 61.

Ebenezer Fletcher Chapter, Midwest City, Okla., commemorates the bravery of Ebenezer Fletcher, fourth-great-grandfather of Organizing Regent Rbeda Lela Biggs Coffey. Born in 1761 in New Hampshire, at age 16 Fletcher enlisted in the Continental Army, joining Captain Carr’s Company of Colonel Nathan Hale’s Regiment at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., as a fifer. He was severely wounded and taken prisoner at the Battle of Hubbardton in Vermont. Wearing the shoes of a fallen fellow soldier and with pockets full of moldy bread, Fletcher escaped. He hid by day and at night stumbled through the wilderness, besieged by the enemy as he traveled to rejoin his unit. Fletcher wrote the narrative *Captivity and Sufferings* about his experiences. He died in 1831.

Fort Ashby Chapter, Fort Ashby, W.Va., shares the name of the sole remaining unit in a chain of forts built along the Virginia frontier during the French and Indian War by order of Colonel George Washington. Captain John Ashby was the first officer assigned to command the fort. Sharp fighting between settlers and American Indians occurred at the site in 1756. In 1794, General Daniel Morgan camped there with more than 1,500 troops on the way to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania. The garrison, located on the bank of Patterson Creek, is also known as Ashby’s Fort.
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Crowded With History

When my March/April American Spirit arrived, I was intrigued by the words “Revolution in Upstate New York” shown on the front cover. What a comprehensive and insightful article about the bright and bold women of our lovely Finger Lakes area! In the early part of the 20th century, Monroe County, Seneca County and their neighbor, Cayuga County, were filled with educated and thoughtful women, many of them Quakers, who were determined to see women gain equality in our nation. The National Women’s Hall of Fame as well as the many other historic locations mentioned in the article have always held my interest. These places, along with the names of women like Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, are a deeply ingrained part of the strong patriotic culture of this Military Tract part of New York state. Thank you for sharing such a well-researched and well-written article!

Sandra Stoker Gilliland, Vice Regent
Owasco Chapter, Auburn, N.Y.

An Influential Hamlet

I enjoyed your article “Revolution in Upstate New York” in the March/April 2011 edition. As I read through it I realized that you left out an important area in Upstate New York: Battenville, Greenwich, Center Falls and Easton, in Washington County, where Susan B. Anthony resided from the ages of 6 to 25.

In her formative years she was exposed to religious, economic and social environments that led her later to focus on women’s rights. The influence of her father, Daniel Anthony, and her Quaker upbringing were crucial. She was also molded by the fact that she was brought up in a mill yard at Battenville, where she was exposed to the temperance and abolition movements that were emerging in the Battenville Valley.

Claudia Blackner, Regent
Willards Mountain Chapter,
Greenwich, N.Y.

Leading the Way

Your March/April issue of American Spirit is extraordinary. The role of women in the Revolution has been largely overlooked—but your highlight will help supply future historians with valuable information. I was so pleased you mentioned Cokie Roberts’ wonderful book, Ladies of Liberty, because she has done so much to highlight the important role women played in the founding of our country. I am sending her a copy of the magazine.

In my book, Leading Ladies, I profiled the contributions of Margaret Corbin and Lydia Darragh in the chapter on women in the military. They were amazing women.

Thank you for your many efforts to preserve our nation’s history.

Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. Senator
Nacogdoches Chapter, Nacogdoches, Texas

Nice Drumbeat

I would like to congratulate you and the staff on the consistent excellence of the American Spirit magazine. From one editor to another, you do a great job!

David W. Swafford
Editor, Drumbeat, General Society of Sons of the Revolution

A Mississippian Makes a Case

It was with pride that I read the article concerning rights of married women in our country, especially since Mississippi, my native state, produced a courageous woman who challenged the old laws.

Betsy Love Allen, a Chickasaw Indian woman, deserves credit for the first statute to give women the right...
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to own property in their own names. In 1830 she married Major James Allen, a cattle rancher in Toccopola, a village near Oxford, Miss. Before their marriage, Allen became indebted to John Fisher for $1,000. When James died in 1834, Fisher sued Betsy for the debt her husband owed him as well as a lien on a slave girl.

The lawsuit began in the Monroe, Miss., County Court and was taken to the Mississippi Supreme Court. Mrs. Allen won her case on the grounds that she and her family were members of the Chickasaw tribe and her marriage had been performed under those laws and the gifts to her were made before the establishment of the Mississippi jurisdiction. Her argument was that the court did not have the right to deprive her of property gained in 1829. The Married Women’s Property Act became law in Mississippi in 1839.

There is a statue of Betsy Love Allen in Toccopola and a festival is held there each fall in her honor. The Betsy Love Allen Chapter, Rolling Fork, Miss., is named for this courageous woman.

Maralyn Howell Bullion, Regent
David Reese Chapter, Oxford, Miss.

A Pilgrimage to Captain Molly’s Monuments
How exciting to get the March/April issue of American Spirit and see Captain Molly’s name on the cover. The article was inspiring and let me relive an adventure I had last summer. After Continental Congress 2010, my husband and I headed up to the United States Military Academy at West Point to visit the burial site of Margaret Corbin. We found a street named after her as well as a bed and breakfast inn thought to be the home where she lived during the end of her life.

From West Point, we found our way to New York City and Fort Washington, the site where she heroically manned her dead husband’s cannon. Fort Washington has a circle named for her (with a monument), a drive and a beautiful monument at the actual battle site. I also visited Holyrood Church on Fort Washington Avenue and 179th Street where the New York DAR had dedicated a monument to her. Our chapter will always love your special tribute to a great lady and our namesake.

Jane May Doclar, former Chapter Regent
Captain Molly Corbin Chapter, Grapevine, Texas

Memories of Mount Desert Isle
The members of the Mount Desert Isle Chapter, Bar Harbor, Maine, were absolutely thrilled to read “Island Eden” in the September/October issue. Courtney Peter did well to cover the highlights of the history of Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park as there is a lot here to write about. The photos were beautiful. Much of the grandeur that was in the past was lost forever when the fire of 1947 ravished a third of Mount Desert Island. All that was there is now being replaced by competitive hoteliers who are, sadly, changing the flavor of old Bar Harbor even more.

Norma Spurling, Chapter Regent
Mount Desert Isle Chapter, Bar Harbor, Maine

Send your letters to americanspirit@dar.org.
If you walk past Jill Haffley’s classroom at Coronado High School in Colorado Springs, Colo., don’t be surprised to see her students laughing or joking around with her. No, they’re not misbehaving—Haffley has created a relaxed learning environment on purpose. “I tend to be a little goofy in class, and it relaxes them,” she says. “It makes a much more conducive learning atmosphere. They learn without actually realizing that they are learning.”

Haffley places a high priority on interactive learning. Once a year her U.S. history class takes on a veterans’ history project tied to the Library of Congress. Haffley’s students interview World War II veterans and record their personal stories on video. The interviews are then sent to the Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, along with historical items donated by the veterans.

“The best way to learn history is to ‘do’ history,” she says. “They’ll learn more from those veterans than they will from me—or a textbook.”

A project that focuses on specific decades in American history helps Haffley’s students engage in their history lessons, too. At the end of each school year, students choose a decade and review the historical significance and cultural highlights in a magazine or newspaper format.

“It’s just as if they were presenting a review article in a magazine,” she says. “They basically have free rein to create what they want.”

In addition to reviewing history lessons, the decades project helps students hone their writing ability. “Obviously, it’s my job to teach history,” she says. “But I want my students to be able to write great résumés and cover letters when they graduate. Beyond that, it’s important for me to understand what they think. I have them write opinion papers on historical trials or events, so they aren’t just telling me what I want to hear—this way I know they’re learning.”

Keeping It Real

Although Haffley loves to make history fun, she acknowledges that some parts of history aren’t pretty—or easy to discuss. “Some teachers like to sugarcoat the past, and I can’t do that—our students need to know how certain events really unfolded.”

This comes into play when she teaches the Holocaust. Each year Haffley invites a Holocaust survivor to give a presentation to her class. “Last year our students prepared questions for the Holocaust survivor, and the line of kids coming to the microphone never dwindled,” she said. “There wasn’t a single lull in the conversation—it was such a moving experience for everyone.”

Haffley sets an example for her students by using summer breaks to work on personal genealogy projects. Last year, she was the only teacher in Colorado invited by the Western States Educators Program to tour the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Currently, she is planning an educational trip for students through the Smithsonian Institute. She will lead a group to Washington, D.C., New York City, Philadelphia and Gettysburg. “I go to conferences and read books, but I need hands-on experiences to learn,” she says. “I have to go to these places myself—and I want my students to have those opportunities, too.”

Even after 16 years of teaching, Haffley still feels energized by her career. “I am profoundly fortunate and proud to teach high-school kids about those who came before us,” she says. “For me, everything revolves around history. This is my passion and my honor.”

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TAKING THE EYE-POPPING SCENES IN A SPECTACULAR SIZE set apart the beauty and majesty of a panoramic photo. To be considered a panorama, an image must exceed the field seen by the human eye, 160 degrees, but some provide a 360-degree view. By 1787, Irish painter Robert Barker patented his process of circular landscape painting. He successfully produced views of London, Edinburgh and other European cities. Photography sought to reproduce the expansiveness of the visual by capturing real scenes in vivid detail.

As soon as photography was commercially available there were individuals trying to take these large-format images. Initially, operators photographed one scene, then moved the camera slightly to take the next shot. The series of pictures would then be pieced together to create the panorama.

One of the earliest scenes is a recently restored daguerreotype (a shiny reflective image, introduced to the United States in 1839) of Cincinnati in eight plates. Charles Fontayne and William Porter produced this famous image spanning about two miles of the waterfront, and every wheel spoke, window and person is minutely captured. Research determined the image’s date—September 24, 1848—based on when the pictured collection of steamboats converged at this location. (View the image at www.cincinnatilibrary.org/main/daguerreotype.html.)
Complex and intricate cameras, available by 1846, pivoted to freeze the scene on a curved plate. In the late 1880s, the introduction of flexible film negatives enabled the invention of cameras that could produce a single photo. Photographers used these wide views to illustrate nature’s beauty and to show the effects of devastating events. In 1904, the Cirkut camera set the standard. Suddenly, organizational portraits, large groups of soldiers and any collection of individuals could be shot in one long picture, creating a pictorial community.

Taking a big-picture view of a sweeping landscape or a large family reunion used to require special equipment, but today’s digital magic enables even amateurs to “stitch” together a scene. Nineteenth-century photographers seeking to capture such a view would be amazed at how simple the process has become.

**top**  New York from Brooklyn Heights, circa 1911
W.A. Cooper captured the waterfront of Brooklyn and Manhattan as well as the Brooklyn Bridge in this scene.

**bottom**  Arbor Day at the Park, Providence, R.I., May 23, 1908
Photographer Thomas H. Mills took this image that shows both the crowd and the dignitaries gathered for an event. Overflow spectators sit in their cars and horse-drawn carriages, paddle by in canoes, or sit on the shore of the pond listening to the band in the foreground.
Galvin's Store, Boston, Mass., with a view of Fairfield and Boylston Streets, 1903
Boston photography firm Elmer Chickering & Co.'s view is a pictorial time capsule of what this section of Boston's Back Bay neighborhood used to look like at exactly 1:25 in the afternoon.

Camp Zachary Taylor, Louisville, Ky., circa 1919
In this photograph by Simes & Campbell, soldiers gather in a formation to spell out the name of the camp. This camp, opened in 1917 and closed in 1920, trained soldiers for World War I.

This lovely blue photograph by Levin Corbin is known as a cyanotype and is part of a series of images taken at intervals during the construction of the nation's library.
The DAR in Panoramic View

The NSDAR Archives collections include approximately 200 panoramic photos, archivist Rebecca Baird estimates. The most recent was taken on Opening Night of the 115th Continental Congress in 2006, and the earliest ones date from the beginning of the 20th century.

15th Continental Congress, 1906
This is one of the earliest panoramic photographs in the Archives collection. The photo was taken in the auditorium of Memorial Continental Hall before the building was even completed. President General Emily R. McLean (1905–1909) is visible on the stage with a white dress, hat, and corsage at her waist. When seen in person, it is apparent that two separate photos were pieced together to make the panoramic.

Library of Congress; top right: Wikimedia Commons
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Lookout Mountain, Tenn., February 1864
George N. Barnard took this photograph—an albumen print, which used the albumen in egg whites to bind the photographic chemicals to paper.

The original Administration Building, built in 1921, is visible in the center between Constitution Hall on the left and Memorial Continental Hall on the right. In 1950, the current Administration Building, featuring the addition of more rooms in place of the breezeway, was completed.


DAR Complex of Buildings, circa 1930

Read about 18th-century panoramic painting, popular before the advent of photography, in the March/April 2010 issue.

>>
Spirited Adventures
By Courtney Peter

Ever-Evolving Chicago

The historic Chicago Water Tower
Reshaping the Wilderness

Before the nation’s third-most populous city grew up from the site, the swampy swath of lakeshore land that became Chicago was the seasonal home of American Indian tribes including the Miami and Potawatomi. French explorer Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette, dispatched in 1673 to search for new territory and a water route to the Pacific Ocean, recorded Chicago’s location as they returned from a voyage partway down the Mississippi River. “These two men were but the scouts of what would soon become a massive incursion, one that would reshape the wilderness of the 17th century into a world metropolis,” writes Dominic A. Pacyga in Chicago: A Biography (University of Chicago Press, 2009). Jolliet even offered a vision for the area’s development by suggesting the construction of a canal joining the Mississippi River to the Great Lakes, but the scheme proved to be too elaborate for the time.

A Jesuit mission as well as a small outpost built by explorer René-Robert Cavelier Sieur La Salle welcomed explorers and traders but failed to lure permanent settlers. Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable, a fur trader of West African and French ancestry who was married to a Potawatomi woman, changed that when he built a home at the mouth of the Chicago River in the 1780s, becoming the first full-time resident of Chicago. In 1795, the Treaty of Greenville transferred control of the surrounding area from the American Indians to the United States. The looming arrival of American settlers compelled Point de Sable to move farther west.

Captain John Whistler and a troop of U.S. Army soldiers reached Chicago in late 1803. By the next spring, the group had constructed Fort Dearborn, a stockade, blockhouses and several homes, but the War of 1812 and American Indian hostilities prevented expansion. After the tribes relocated and trade resumed, settlers trickled into the area.

A Working City

Chicago officially became a city in 1837, with a population of 4,000. The rapidly growing mercantile town attracted mostly men seeking commercial success and immigrants who supplied the labor required to create a new city. So began a tide of migration that continues to carry new residents to Chicago even now. Immigrants from Ireland, Germany, Czechoslovakia and other European nations carved out ethnic enclaves often identified by a local church or parish, establishing Chicago as a city of neighborhoods.

The city’s location along Lake Michigan linked Chicago to New York City by way of the Erie Canal, which connected the Eastern port to the Great Lakes via the Hudson River. Ample access to the Chicago River promised to solidify Chicago’s commercial future if prudently developed. According to Pacyga, “Despite the myth of the self-made frontier town, the federal government played an important role in making Chicago an attractive place for investors to make their fortunes” by clearing a sandbar that blocked entry to the river, building a lighthouse, and funding the creation of a harbor, among other projects.

“It is hopeless for the occasional visitor to try to keep up with Chicago. She outgrows his prophesies faster than he can make them,” Mark Twain observed in 1883. Guided by the maturation of the nation as a whole, Chicago evolved from a muddy prairie trading post to an ethnically diverse shipping and industrial hub to a cultural base renowned for its architecture, reinventing itself time and again.
After more than a decade of construction, the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1848, tying Chicago to the Mississippi River via the Illinois River and completing Jolliet’s vision. The canal generated $87,890 in tolls in its first year. The Galena and Chicago Union Railroad began operation less than a year later, providing another conduit for goods flowing through Chicago to markets across the country. Lumber, grain and livestock became important commodities. The need for manufactured goods to supply the Civil War effort propelled Chicago’s economy into the industrial age, introducing steel mills and agricultural equipment manufacturing while also modernizing existing trades.

Though good for business, the swift expansion led to problems. Diseases such as cholera spread across polluted waterways. In 1900, a massive engineering project reversed the flow of the Chicago River to divert sewage and waste away from Lake Michigan and improve the quality of the city’s drinking water. Unchecked growth outpaced city planning, leading to haphazard construction. Nearly all of the city’s buildings, as well as its sidewalks, were made of wood.

On October 8, 1871, the Great Chicago Fire ignited in the O’Leary family barn on the city’s West Side. The fire swept across the business district and residential neighborhoods both rich and poor. The fire destroyed 17,420 buildings covering three-and-a-half square miles but spared the industrial center. Three hundred people died, and 100,000 were left homeless. In the aftermath, the city focused on providing aid to its devastated residents and resolved to rebound quickly.

Architectural Awakening

One of modern Chicago’s most famous attributes—its architectural heritage—was born of the need to rebuild, which attracted architects, draftsmen and construction workers eager to display their skills. The city’s first professional architect, John Van Osdel, designed many of the replacement buildings.

By the end of the 19th century, interior lighting, steel framing and elevators allowed buildings to reach new heights. The architects of the Chicago School, including William Le Baron Jenney, Louis Sullivan, Daniel H. Burnham, John Wellborn Root and Dankmar Adler, utilized these innovations in new ways. The Rookery, designed by Burnham & Root, and the Monadnock are
two early examples that remained standing.
Chicago became the birthplace of the modern skyscraper, with its tallest buildings concentrated in the heart of downtown, nicknamed “the Loop” in reference to the new cable car system. “Chicagoans perceived the new buildings as a uniquely American answer to the problems of the American city,” Pacyga observes.

The architecture of Chicago continued to evolve in the next century with the emergence of Oak Park resident Frank Lloyd Wright’s Prairie School, which emphasized open floor plans and the union of indoor and outdoor spaces. More recent design landmarks include the corn-cob-like Marina City Towers, the John Hancock Center and Willis Tower, formerly the Sears Tower, the tallest building in North America.

Celebrations and Growing Pains

In the late 1800s, the still relatively young city of Chicago yearned to prove its importance. The World’s Columbian Exposition in 1893, held to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus’ voyage to America and awarded to Chicago over contenders St. Louis, New York City and Washington, D.C., presented the perfect opportunity. As manager of the construction of the fair venues, Burnham opted for classical buildings in the Beaux-Arts style. Their brilliant, ornate facades inspired the nickname “the White City.” Approximately 27.5 million people attended the six-month-long event, which was considered a resounding success.

Forty years later, the 1933 Century of Progress World’s Fair celebrating the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Chicago attracted more than 48 million revelers during the two seasons it was open. “Unlike the Columbian Exposition of 1893, the fair looked to the future for its architectural inspiration and displayed a wide range of vibrant colors and building materials,” Pacyga writes. The vision embodied the city’s continuous pursuit of modernity.

The festive atmosphere was not constant. In the years between the fairs, the city contended with an economic downturn. Labor unrest and strikes sparked violence, and the outbreak of World War I caused tension among the city’s immigrant population. Echoing the Civil War period, a manufacturing boom helped, but at the war’s end returning soldiers faced widespread unemployment. African-Americans relocating from the South as part of the “Great Migration” arrived in Chicago, increasing competition for housing and jobs.

Chicago also acquired a national reputation as a gangster’s haven, based on the notorious activities of Al Capone and years of corruption among local politicians. Mid-century activists worked to reform the political and law enforcement systems. In a city long captivated by local government affairs, few topics aroused more interest than a mayoral election, and Chicago is often a factor in national politics as well. The city has hosted multiple national conventions, including the 1860 Republican National Convention, which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency.
In 1950, Chicago’s population reached its peak of 3.7 million. Ever-expanding suburbs surrounded the city. After a World War II–induced construction freeze, housing and transportation systems required urgent attention. Chicago would be remade again.

Modern Chicago

As factories and plants moved or closed, Chicago shed its image as an industrial hub and embraced new businesses focused on communications, technology, retail and entertainment. The city also emerged as the center of the national airline industry. These developments, along with the elevated train system, commonly called the El, guarantee convenient entrance into the area and plenty to do upon arrival.

A roster of museums devoted to broad subjects and niche topics (see sidebar) invites hours of exploration. Established centers for the performing arts provide options ranging from classical Shakespeare to the award-winning Steppenwolf Theatre Company to the improv comedy of Second City.

Crowds congregate at Lincoln Park, Grant Park, Millennium Park and other green spaces around the city. Lincoln Park features a free zoo, and Millennium Park houses the Pritzker Music Pavilion, designed by architect Frank Gehry, as well as the reflective, silver kidney bean-shaped “Cloud Gate” sculpture (above). On the lakeshore, Oak Street Beach and North Avenue Beach offer urban oases.

The opening of Potter Palmer’s dry goods store, the future Marshall Field and Company Department Store, in 1852, signaled the city’s debut as a retail center. Today shoppers can find practically anything along the famed Magnificent Mile, a 14-block stretch of Michigan Avenue.

With its unique blend of cultural institutions, historic sites and attractions, Chicago honors its beginnings while forging ahead as a global metropolis.

Courtney Peter explored the Schuyler-Hamilton House for the January/February issue.

Discover Chicago

Whether you’re looking for a world-class museum, a renowned genealogical research library or a day at the ballpark, Chicago offers a perfect venue.

The Field Museum of Natural History was founded to house the biological and anthropological collections assembled for the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893. Its most famous resident is Sue, the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex ever discovered. Visit www.fieldmuseum.org.

The Museum of Science and Industry features hands-on exhibits designed to spark interest in science, especially among children. Visitors can descend into a coal mine exhibition or climb aboard an early diesel-electric passenger train. The museum offers free general admission on June 1–2 and 6–9, 2011. Visit www.msichicago.org.

A world-renowned independent research library that is also free and open to the public, the Newberry Library houses an impressive collection of rare books, maps, music, manuscripts and other printed material spanning six centuries, including more than 17,000 published genealogies. Visit www.newberry.org.

The Chicago Architecture Foundation offers a variety of walking, bike, boat and bus tours designed to enhance the awareness and appreciation of Chicago’s architectural legacy. Visit http://caf.architecture.org.

Home of the Chicago Cubs, Wrigley Field is the second-oldest major league ballpark and a landmark for baseball fans. The historic venue offers tours for those unable to score tickets. Visit http://mlb.mlb.com/chc/ballpark/tours/index.jsp. The Cubs’ South Side rivals, the Chicago White Sox, now play at U.S. Cellular Field, which replaced the circa-1910 Comiskey Park.


The National Veterans Art Museum showcases art inspired by combat and created by veterans in an effort to foster a greater understanding of the impact of war. Originally created with a focus on the Vietnam War, the museum has broadened its scope to include the work of all war veterans. Visit www.nvvam.org.

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According to the website of the Architect of the Capitol, the office responsible to Congress for the stewardship of the landmark buildings throughout Capitol Hill, apotheosis means “the raising of a person to the rank of a god, or the glorification of a person as an ideal. George Washington was honored as a national icon in the 19th century.”

In 2009, thriller writer Dan Brown made the Rotunda and its soaring fresco a central element in his novel, *The Lost Symbol*. When his hero, Robert Langdon, calls the site “a sacred space,” a skeptical investigator scoffs that the Rotunda is “not some sacred shrine to ancient mystical secrets.” Langdon proves her wrong, pointing out Brumidi’s skillful blending of classical and uniquely American images and symbols in the Rotunda.

A 4,664-square-foot fresco wasn’t on the drawing boards when work began on the Capitol building in 1793. By 1850, the Union held 31 states, and the Capitol was running out of room. Congress authorized new additions that doubled the length of the building. The expansion later included replacing the old hemispherical dome, which would be too small in proportion to the new structure.

Thomas U. Walter, the fourth Architect of the Capitol, had worked with Brumidi on other projects in the Capitol and designed the new dome with the artist in mind. The new cast-iron structure featured both an inner and outer dome, with a concave canopy suspended between them. Visible through an oculus, or eye, at the top of the inner dome, this canopy would serve as Brumidi’s “canvas.”

**The Artist as a Young Man**

Brumidi was born in 1805 and trained as an artist in Rome. Thoroughly schooled in classical forms and imagery, he was a master of *trompe l’oeil* painting—using color, shadow and light to create seemingly three-dimensional images. He also mastered the ancient and difficult technique of fresco—painting on fresh plaster—patterning his style after Michelangelo and especially Raphael. He executed works ranging from frescoes to portraits for the Vatican, churches and Italian palaces, before being caught up in Rome’s Republican Revolution of 1849–1850. He was imprisoned after the rebellion collapsed; though he contended the charges were false and politically motivated, in January 1852, he was sentenced to 18 years in prison.
Appeals for clemency to Pope Pius IX resulted in a complete pardon in March 1852. He soon immigrated to America, arriving on September 18, 1852, which by coincidence was the 59th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Capitol by George Washington, according to Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol by Dr. Barbara Wolanin, curator for the Architect of the Capitol. (Her book is the source of much of this article; published by the Government Printing Office, it is available in pdf format at www.access.gpo.gov/congress/senate/brumidi.)

Brumidi quickly established himself in New York, and he created portraits, altarpieces and decorative painting for private homes throughout America and Mexico. On December 28, 1854, he was in Washington, D.C., where he had been able to arrange a meeting with Captain Montgomery C. Meigs, a civil engineer in the Army Corps of Engineers whom Secretary of War Jefferson Davis appointed to oversee work on the Capitol.

Meigs, a passionate, knowledgeable lover of art, planned to decorate the Capitol with frescoes and murals in the style of Michelangelo and Raphael that also embodied American history, culture, technology and values. Meigs did not believe any native-born American artist capable of combining the two.

After meeting Brumidi, however, Meigs thought he’d found his artist—with the added benefit that Brumidi was in the process of becoming an American citizen. (He had applied for citizenship within two months of arriving in 1852 and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1857.) Meigs commissioned a trial fresco for his office, which Brumidi completed in March 1855. President Franklin Pierce, Meigs, Davis and others approved of the work. By age 49, Brumidi had begun a 25-year career that spanned six presidencies, from Pierce to Rutherford B. Hayes.

The Grand Design

Not surprisingly, controversy and politics dogged his work, which continued through the Civil War. Funding stalled occasionally when Congress wrangled over budgets. A number of artists, public officials and individual citizens criticized his style, palette, quality of execution and prolific classical imagery. Some said the whole project would be improved by covering it with a couple coats of whitewash.

For a time, members of the nativist and anti-immigrant “Know-Nothing” political party joined some American artists in protesting that foreigners were in charge of this uniquely American project. But Brumidi had the confident admiration of his employers (though these changed with the political winds) and continued to paint.

Originally paid $8 a day, in July 1857, he got a raise to $10 per day—the same pay as a member of Congress. When Walter
commissioned “The Apotheosis,” Brumidi was offered $40,000 for the entire job—$10,000 less than the artist originally asked. Brumidi accepted; he once reportedly said, “My one ambition and my daily prayer is that I may live long enough to make beautiful the Capitol of the one country on earth in which there is liberty.”

Brumidi struggled to perfect the design for “The Apotheosis.” In his first version, Washington stood with a group of other Founders in the center of the dome, surrounded by mythical deities and allegorical figures. But the design could be seen in its proper form from only one of the four entrances to the Rotunda. His second design was centered on an oval portrait of Washington, with figures arranged in arcs above and below, but it, too, made visual sense from only one vantage point.

His final design represented a breakthrough of artistic imagination, enabling viewers to appreciate and comprehend the images from any angle. In a chapter of Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol, art historian Francis V. O’Connor describes the structure as follows:

“At dead center was no longer the head of the protagonist, but a brilliant, golden sky. Washington is enthroned beneath the sky, flanked by just two allegories, at the west facing east. Above him, but reversed, is the arc of the thirteen colonies, creating a second ‘eye’ to the dome, toward whose blinding glory all heads point, yet turn away. But even more important, he has reorganized the various historical and allegorical figures in the earlier studies into six groupings around the edge of the design in such a way that one or more would appear upright no matter from what angle the whole was viewed.”

Brumidi’s proposal for the canopy was accepted in early 1863. It’s amazing to think of Brumidi, at the age of 60, working atop a scaffold 180 feet from the floor for months. To be sure, he had assistants who helped with applying plaster to each day’s work area. But Brumidi oversaw everything, through winter chills and Washington’s oppressively humid summers.

Reviving the Artist and his Art

Though he felt the fresco needed more work, the scaffolding came down in January 1866. After completing “The Apotheosis,” Brumidi continued to work in the Capitol. He labored on the frieze below the canopy up to his death on February 19, 1880.

Over the years, moisture damaged areas of the frescoes, while grime gradually obscured the once-vivid colors. Attempts to repair the damage—once by overpainting—further marred the effect he originally achieved.

In the 1980s, Congress approved a thorough cleaning and conservation project. Using modern methods to remove layers of overpaint and grime, the conservators brought back the original glory of the work, much as was done in the Vatican’s Sistine Chapel. Today “The Apotheosis” and other works look much as they did in 1865, to the delight of millions.

Much of the credit for reviving public awareness of Brumidi and his stunning work belongs to DAR member Myrtle Cheney Murdock of the Columbia Chapter, Washington, D.C., author of a 1950 monograph titled Constantino Brumidi: Michelangelo of the United States Capitol. The wife of a congressman, she became fascinated with the artist soon after arriving in Washington in 1937.

She was as stunned by the magnificent painting and Brumidi’s deeply felt patriotism as she was by the general ignorance of both the art and the artist. “How can countless exquisite frescoes and paintings adorn our Capitol Building and yet the American people have little or no knowledge of their existence?” she asked in the introduction to her work.

Bill Hudgins writes the Bookshelf column for American Spirit.
A late-1800s ad for Caswell-Massey in Newport, R.I.'s Market Square

CASWELL-MASSEY
DR. HUNTER’S REMEDIES LIVE ON

An early-1900s photograph of the historic Lexington Avenue boutique in New York
Caswell-Massey has been “made in the USA” since its founding in 1752 by Dr. William Hunter in Newport, R.I. In 1876, the company became Caswell-Massey, named for its one-time owners John Rose Caswell and William Massey. When The Equitium Group, an investment firm in Miami, took over in 2007, the new owners pledged to remain dedicated to the company’s age-old traditions.

Dr. Hunter’s Dispensary

A Scottish immigrant, Hunter was known in 1752 for treatments he gave to midwives who delivered babies in Newport. That year, he opened Dr. Hunter’s Dispensary to attend to the physical and emotional ills of villagers who lived in cottages near Long Wharf.

In Newport, one of the leading ports of Colonial America, Hunter bought the extracts and exotic items for his formulas from tall-masted cargo ships at the docks. Since many of his tonics tasted so bitter, Hunter figured out that a spoonful of sugar would make those medicines a little easier to take. He was probably the first to invent orange soda in 1755 by pouring flavored water over bicarbonate blocks to make them fizz. A year later, he delivered some of the first lectures on anatomy and surgery in America at Newport’s Colony House.

When a teenage painter, Gilbert Stuart, wasn’t feeling well, Hunter reportedly went to his side in Newport. After Hunter was said to have noticed some of the painter’s drawings around town, in 1770 he asked Stuart to do a portrait of his two Spaniel dogs lounging beneath a Townsend and Goddard table. This early artwork of Stuart’s now hangs on the walls of the Hunter House in Newport. The house belonged to Hunter’s son, William, a distinguished two-term U.S. Senator from Rhode Island in the early 19th century.

A Loyalist, Dr. Hunter was forced into exile from Newport during the Revolutionary War. Before his death in 1777, he handed over the keys to Dr. Hunter’s Dispensary to his

Before America washed its hands of British rule, the Founding Fathers—and Mothers—were using soaps from Caswell-Massey. George Washington, Dolley Madison and John Adams each groomed themselves with personal care products from the nation’s oldest drugstore.

BY PATRICIA BATES

A Caswell-Massey formula book from the early to mid-1800s includes an 18th-century formula for toothpowder made of sugar and cuttlefish bones. The bottles are from the mid-20th century, and each bottle and stopper has a ground glass finish.

“Let your hands be as tender as your heart. For exceptional results, use as your grandmother would have—apply quite heavily, and then slip on sleeping gloves. Morning will reveal hands soft and tender as those remembered caressing your childhood cheek.”

— From the Dr. Hunter’s Rosewater & Glycerine Hand Crème package

BY PATRICIA BATES

A Caswell-Massey formula book from the early to mid-1800s includes an 18th-century formula for toothpowder made of sugar and cuttlefish bones. The bottles are from the mid-20th century, and each bottle and stopper has a ground glass finish.
apprentice. During the next 150 years, each pharmacist would train the next in the succession behind the counter.

**Famous Customers**

By 1780, George Washington liked to splash on Number Six, a delicate combination of orange, bergamot, rosemary and 28 other aromatics still made by Caswell-Massey today. To the Marquis de Lafayette, Washington sent a gift bottle of Number Six from Hunter's set of fragrances Number One through Twenty.

Lafayette declared Number Six to be equal to the world-famous parfums of France. He even visited Newport to replenish his supply during his celebrated tour of America. Today, the Number Six label features a fleur de lis along with the universal symbol of hospitality: pineapples.

By 1796 John Adams had become a loyal customer of Hunter's. When Thomas Jefferson sent the Lewis and Clark Expedition to find a water route to the Pacific, they brought along Hunter's soaps. Dolley Madison preferred the scent of White Rose. And like father, like son: John Quincy Adams ordered from Hunter's assortment for his 1825 inauguration.

Dr. Hunter's Dispensary became so well-known by 1833 that it expanded to Fifth Avenue in New York City. Abraham Lincoln used Caswell-Massey's Castile Soap, which was also used for tooth brushing. Lincoln was a descendant of the Caswells, who arrived in the New World in 1699.

By 1926, the Vanderbilts, Astors and other upper-class city denizens gathered at the new flagship soda fountain on Lexington Avenue to wait for their pills and potions. In the early 20th century, actresses Sarah Bernhardt and Greta Garbo liked to moisturize with Cucumber Night Cream.

Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower used Almond Cold Cream bars in the White House, and John F. Kennedy was rumored to wear Jockey Club cologne. Today, Caswell-Massey's Presidential Soap Collection honors Washington, Eisenhower and JFK.

Caswell-Massey also filled more than 12 million prescriptions through the years—including Katharine Hepburn's—and sold medical supplies as well. After its lease expired in April 2010, the retailer closed its historic flagship store. Its architectural moldings and wooden cases are in storage until the company can display them elsewhere along with its historic ledgers and tools of the trade. Caswell-Massey still has retail stores throughout the country. The company also sells products through its website and mail-order catalog, as well as in department stores and specialty shops.

Every cream, gel or lotion is made at an Edison, N.J., factory.

With a nod to its founder's famous formulas, Caswell-Massey's 600 products include a line of Dr. Hunter's Original Remedies. From Barber Shop Shave Crème to the Original Hair Wash, each remedy is based on a formula from the apothecary archives.

Patricia Bates covered the Dorothy Quincy Homestead for the March/April 2009 issue.

There's a drugstore on a corner in nearly every town these days, but Caswell-Massey has been “America's Original Since 1752” after being established in Newport, R.I., by Dr. William Hunter.

Today, visitors to the town can see Hunter's patient account books in an exhibit at the Museum of Newport History, along with a medical kit, glass bottles and other items from pharmacists. Visitors also can see through the front window of a circa-1780 apothecary run by Dr. Charles Feke, a trainee of Hunter's.

Hunter gave anatomy lectures at the Colony House, an English Georgian structure from 1739 that the French later used as a temporary hospital. Public tours are given about once a month at the private event hall through the Newport Historical Society. For more information, call (401) 841-8770 or go to www.newporthistorical.org.

The last cosmetic counter for Caswell-Massey was located at 212 Thames Street and Queen Anne Square, just a walk away from the Museum of Newport History. Today, Number Six cologne and the Newport line of cologne, talc and shampoo toiletries, in a box featuring an 18th-century engraving of the waterfront, are available at the museum's gift shop.

Hunter's commissioned painting from Gilbert Stuart hangs at the Hunter House, a two-story Georgian Colonial owned by his son Senator William Hunter after the Revolutionary War until the 1860s. The house on Washington Street and other Newport mansions are operated by the Preservation Society of Newport County. For details, call (401) 847-1000 or visit www.newportmansions.org.

Patricia Bates covered the Dorothy Quincy Homestead for the March/April 2009 issue.
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Revolutionary Courtship: Looking for Love in Colonial America

By Beth Clayton Luthye

When Anna Rawle of Pennsylvania sent a letter telling her mother about her engagement to John Clifford, it wasn’t filled with giddy talk of flowers and lace. “[I]f I am to be unhappy,” she wrote, “I console myself with reflecting on the shortness of life.”
But the future Mrs. Clifford did not intend to sound morbid or even sarcastic. According to Mary Beth Norton, professor of American history at Cornell University and author of *Liberty’s Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750–1800* (Little, Brown and Company, 1980), Colonial women like Anna Rawle were remarkably aware of what a serious business marriage was. “It would determine their ‘future happiness or misery,’ it would ‘Cast the Die’ for the remainder of their lives,” she writes, quoting women’s writing during that time. “As Eliza Lucas Pinckney commented succinctly in 1745 shortly after her own wedding, matrimony was ‘a nice affair for if we happen to judge wrong and are unequally matched there is an end to all human felicity.’”

Of course, women were not forced into marriage. Arranged marriage was never a social norm in the Colonies, and even the idea of marriage strictly as a business transaction was falling out of vogue in the mid-18th century. While parents were most often involved in the courtship process, women did have some control over their future through the right to refuse or reject a proposal. Yet it was this very freedom that was also the source of much angst for women.

“Fears were extremely realistic on their part,” Norton explains in a recent interview. “Because divorce was rare and difficult to obtain, marrying a wastrel or an abuser could lead to a lifetime of trouble. No wonder they were terrified about making a mistake.”

So why would young women take this kind of gamble? Simply put, they didn’t have much choice. A very small minority of Colonial women did decide not to marry, but “in the grand scheme marriage was the best bet,” explains Toby Ditz, professor of history at Johns Hopkins University. “For women of most classes, there was enormous pressure to marry. Becoming a mistress of her own household brought more status and power than remaining a dependent of kin or a lifetime of domestic service.”

The real choice for Colonial women was “only whom, not whether, to wed,” Norton notes in *Liberty’s Daughters.*

As the Revolution neared, however, there was a shift in the cultural mindset, and conversations regarding independence began to color relationships of all kinds. Later, when men and women became citizens of an independent republic, those experiences during the Revolution shaped both courtship and marriage.

**A Novel Approach to Love**

At the beginning of the 18th century, marriages were often based on economic arrangements. Wealthy families with land influenced children to marry as a way to solidify powerful relationships and build up property holdings. This changed in the latter half of the century, in part because young people began to expect the freedom to choose their partners.

Carol Berkin, professor of history at Baruch College and the City University of New York Graduate Center and author of *First Generations: Women of Colonial America* (Hill and Wang, 1996), notes that during most of the Colonial period, “a marriage was generally deemed successful if the partners lived up to their differing marital obligations. ... There were, however, some signs that for certain 18th-century colonists the definition of a good marriage was changing.”

During the mid-18th century, the rise of the novel influenced the American ethos. Not only did it foster an idealized version of romantic love, but it also presented an underlying subtext that suggested love is tied to independence.

“In literature, women’s ability to freely judge whether and whom to marry becomes a metaphor for political freedom,” Ditz explains. She points to the wildly popular *Clarissa,* published in 1748 by Samuel Richardson, the best-selling English novelist. Clarissa refuses to marry the man her family has chosen for her and at first seeks freedom in the arms of the rake Mr. Lovelace. When she later refuses to yield to him, she meets her tragic end. While Loyalists saw Clarissa’s story as a cautionary tale, Patriots longing for freedom emphasized her parents’ tyranny and her capacity to choose.

“As John Adams declared, ‘The people are Clarissa.’ Essentially, he said, ‘We are all declaring our independence as adults.’ The claim was that she had the freedom to choose,” Ditz continues.
This novel approach to choice carried into courtship patterns as well. While the average farmer and rural dweller were still forced to focus on more practical concerns, Berkin explains that in urban centers and among the middle and upper classes, “a new romanticism developed—the idea that you should marry because you care for someone.”

“What develops is the idea of a companionate marriage,” Berkin says. “The woman found a husband who was honorable and moral and nonviolent toward her, and the man found a wife who was pleasing and virtuous and charming. ... There is a respect, not just the expectation that she can have babies and make great soap. But also people now have servants—they live in cities and can buy things they used to have to make. Soap doesn’t matter much anymore.”

Of course, Berkin is quick to add that we “have to be careful about over-emphasizing romanticism.” As she explains in First Generations, “The valorizing of companionship did not replace but was added to the older understanding of marriage as an economic institution, for it did not break down the gendered divisions of labor or alter the obligations and duties of wife and husband. Nor did it require the family hierarchy to be altered. Indeed, a commitment to a companionate marriage did not disturb the patriarchal privileges of the head of the household.”

**Domestic Affairs**

The freedom to choose whom to marry did not equal anything resembling autonomy for 18th-century wives. As soon as a Colonial woman took that “dark leep,” as Pamela Sedgwick called marriage in 1782, her status became *feme covert*, a legal dependent of her husband, the undisputed head of the household. “Even with very good marriages, women were legally subordinate,” Ditz says.

This is seen in the words Thomas Jefferson wrote his newly married daughter, Martha Randolph, as late as 1790:

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**Accessory to a Wedding**

*A recent DAR Americana Collection exhibit featured courtship and marriage-related items from the DAR Museum. Items included (clockwise from top):*

**Suspenders.** These mid-19th-century suspenders made of wool, canvas, leather, silk and elastic have a romantic floral needlework design. The intimate nature of these suspenders made them an appropriate gift to a fiancé.

**Shoes, 1802.** These shoes made of leather, linen lining, silk binding and tassels were worn at the 1802 Maryland wedding of Elizabeth Bowie Davis to Thomas Davis. The color of the shoes represents the current fashion of the period and would have complemented the popular white muslin dress. It also reflects the development of brides’ wearing white at their weddings.

**Shoes, circa 1740.** These shoes made with green brocaded silk were worn by Lucy Hutchins at her wedding to Colonel Gordon Hutchins.
“The happiness of your life depends now on continuing to please a single person. ... To this all other objects must be secondary.”

The expectations of early American wives were clear, according to Norton. Their sphere was the home, and domesticity was their inevitable destiny. The greatest accolade for a woman would have been that of “notable housewife.” Yet, she writes, “Unsurprisingly, women rarely found the ideal as attractive in reality as it was in theory. ... Women revealed their assessments of the importance of their work in the adjectives they used to describe it: ‘my Narrow sphere,’ ‘my humble duties,’ ‘my little Domestick affairs.’”

Norton points to the example of South Carolinian Martha Laurens Ramsey, whose husband, David, described her as a model wife. Martha declared her “self-denying duties” simply as “a part of the curse denounced upon Eve.” It seems, Norton writes, that “the only Americans who wrote consistently of the joys of housewifery and notable womanhood were men.”

The roles within a marriage were fixed. Women had their place, and men had theirs. To be fair, though, men didn’t have a choice. “Anglo-American law made them the legal head of the household,” Norton explains. “Wives could not act independently of their husbands.”

Ditz adds that there was enormous pressure on men to be successful heads of household. Independence was a core value associated with adult masculinity, and it was tied directly to mastery over others, including household dependents. So, she says, there was a “powerful association between marriage and this independent status as master. ... Men who failed to achieve this used rhetoric like being ‘ruined’ or ‘unmanned.’”

“The danger of disappointment,” writes Lisa Wilson, professor of American history at Connecticut College and author of *Ye Heart of a Man: The Domestic Life of Men in Colonial New England* (Yale University Press, 2000). “This danger included emotional upset as well as damage to one’s name and public character. Getting ‘bagged,’ as it was called, was bad enough without the additional burden of patching up a sullied reputation. A broken heart could, therefore, be emotionally, socially and economically devastating. ... The object was to find a mate, but also to avoid being bagged.”

Ditz notes there was also a power shift in the parent-child relationship that affected courtship during this time. As marriage was being redefined around values of love and respect, the role of the parent lessened and the choices of the daughter expanded. “It becomes normative to say that women should freely consent—it would be tyrannical to force her to marry. Now women have the power to judge and reject their suitors. So they are, in effect, evaluating the manhood and social eligibility of young men.”

Still, women were ever aware of the serious consequences should they judge wrong and wind up in a bad marriage, so they generally continued to ask for their parents’ input. Norton offers the example of Nabby Adams, who decided not to marry Royall Tyler, a law student, because her father, John Adams, adamantly opposed the match (although Abigail did favor it). When Nabby later married, she chose William Stephens Smith, her father’s secretary, a match her father approved. History shows that this decision ended poorly, however, as Nabby Adams Smith found herself married to a man who lacked the very dependability her father had wanted for her.
Revolutionary Changes at Home

In the days following the Revolution, men and women alike were busy rebuilding their families and farms, but it wasn’t simply a return to previous patterns, particularly for women, who, in the midst of crises, learned they could rise to the challenges set before them. Wives and mothers had played their own important roles in the war, from boycotting English goods to taking part in espionage. They had also taken on the responsibilities for family farms or businesses in their husbands’ stead, and they did so with competence.

“They (women) found that the Revolution and a protracted home-front war swept aside their ordinary life and settled expectations,” Berkin writes in First Generations.

In Liberty’s Daughters, Norton also notes that “after months and sometimes years of controlling their own affairs, women tended to reply testily when their husbands persisted in assuming their subservience.” She tells the story of Mary Bartlett, the wife of New Hampshire Congressman Josiah Bartlett. When Josiah left for Congress in the fall of 1775, he wrote to Mary that he hoped she would have “no great trouble about my out Door affairs,” and he continued to write to her about “my farming Business.” The shift in her responses over time signified a changing mindset in the Bartlett home, at least on Mary’s part. While she continued to report on “Your farming business” in 1776, by Josiah’s second term in Congress in 1778, Mary’s phrasing had become “our farming business” in her letters.

In addition to private letters, public conversations were taking place regarding the role women should take in the new republic. In the end, though, the conclusion was that women should be responsible for educating their children in republican values, re-emphasizing the sphere of domesticity.

“Assigning to women the role of guardians and instructors … allowed the nation to acknowledge women’s contributions during the war without intentionally disrupting long-standing gender relations,” Berkin writes.

Still, there were distinct, if subtle, changes in the American mindset regarding marriage. “The old ways were by no means entirely displaced,” Norton writes, “but increasing numbers of American families no longer conformed to the previously dominant patriarchal style.”

Norton points to a July 1792 article titled “Matrimonial Republican” in Lady’s Magazine as a sign of the public change in expectations regarding marriage. “I object to the word ‘obey’ in the marriage-service,” the author began, “because it is a general word, without limitations or definition.” The writer then asserts that a woman in essence became her husband’s “slave” when she committed to that vow. “The obedience between man and wife, I conceive, is, or ought to be mutual,” she wrote. “Marriage ought never to be considered a contract between a superior and an inferior.”

Norton notes that the expectations for young, marriageable women—and men—were markedly different after the war, in the days of the new republic. “I saw growing equality in courting couples’ correspondence with each other, in contrast to the letters I read that were written before the Revolution,” she says. “Young people came to stress the need to love a spouse. I found some young women saying they would never marry if they didn’t find a man they could love. It was hard for a single woman to support herself at the time, so such statements were a dramatic sign of the importance women began to place on finding a husband they could love and respect.”

Clearly, though, post-war changes in the lives of wives were far less revolutionary than those taking place for their husbands. While there is a widespread acknowledgement of the moral capacity of women, Norton calls the Revolution’s legacy for women “ambiguous,” as women’s roles were still primarily relegated to the private domestic sphere, rather than the public political or business spheres, in the years leading into the 19th century.

“Republican womanhood eventually became Victorian womanhood,” Norton writes, “but at the same time the egalitarian rhetoric of the Revolution provided the women’s rights movement with its earliest vocabulary.”

“One way to think about it,” Ditz adds, “is as a moment of possibility.”

Beth Clayton Luthye is a freelance writer in San Diego.

Nabby Adams broke her engagement to Royall Tyler after her father, John, adamantly opposed the match. She chose to marry William Stephens Smith, her father’s secretary.
According to John Maass, a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History in Washington, D.C., who wrote about Tarleton’s raid in the Autumn 2000 issue of *Virginia Cavalcade*, General Charles Cornwallis had intercepted American dispatches and knew the Virginia assembly was meeting in Charlottesville. “The British commander was concerned that the assembly, recently reconvened in Charlottesville, would issue a statewide call for the mobilization of militia to repel his [Virginia] invasion,” Maass wrote. “Therefore, he dispatched … Tarleton, his most combative and controversial lieutenant, ‘to disturb the Assembly.’”

Determined to warn the government of Tarleton’s approach, Jouett took off on his horse, covering the 40-mile journey in about six and a half hours, using the moonlight as his guide. He beat Tarleton to Charlottesville, thwarting plans for a surprise attack by the British and avoiding what some historians say would have been a decisive blow to the Patriot cause.

Remembering Jouett’s Brave Ride

On the night of June 3, 1781, John “Jack” Jouett spotted British Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton with 180 dragoons and 70 mounted infantrymen in Cuckoo, Va. A native of the area, the 26-year-old Jouett correctly guessed that Tarleton’s target was Charlottesville, the temporary seat of the Virginia government located about 40 miles west of Cuckoo. Tarleton’s goal was to capture then-Governor Thomas Jefferson and other high-profile Virginia delegates, including Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Harrison and Thomas Nelson Jr.

By Lena Anthony

According to John Maass, a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History in Washington, D.C., who wrote about Tarleton’s raid in the Autumn 2000 issue of *Virginia Cavalcade*, General Charles Cornwallis had intercepted American dispatches and knew the Virginia assembly was meeting in Charlottesville. “The British commander was concerned that the assembly, recently reconvened in Charlottesville, would issue a statewide call for the mobilization of militia to repel his [Virginia] invasion,” Maass wrote. “Therefore, he dispatched … Tarleton, his most combative and controversial lieutenant, ‘to disturb the Assembly.’”

Determined to warn the government of Tarleton’s approach, Jouett took off on his horse, covering the 40-mile journey in about six and a half hours, using the moonlight as his guide. He beat Tarleton to Charlottesville, thwarting plans for a surprise attack by the British and avoiding what some historians say would have been a decisive blow to the Patriot cause.
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For starters, he says, it’s unlikely that all four brothers were captains. What’s more, Britton searched the University of Virginia’s volumes listing all the officers in the militia and never found Jouett’s name. Further, Britton cites Thomas Jefferson’s own diary recounting the morning of June 4, 1781, in which he says that “a Mr. Jouett” came and warned him. “Later on that same morning, a fellow in the Continental line came to warn him, but Jefferson referred to him as Captain Hudson,” Britton explains. “The fact that he referred to Jouett as ‘a Mr. Jouett’ suggests he wasn’t a captain after all.”

Other accounts of that day mention Jouett wearing “a scarlet coat and military hat and plume,” according to Virginius Dabney in the December 1961 edition of American Heritage. But Britton says that doesn’t mean he was a captain. “He had a habit of dressing up,” he says. “We get the sense that he was a bit of a showboat.” That said, the Virginia House of Delegates resolution from 1781 that honored Jouett for his heroic service the night of his ride states: “That the Executive be desired to present to Captain John Jouett...”

If he wasn’t a captain prior to his ride, it is certainly safe to say that Jouett was loyal to the Patriot cause, as both he and his father signed the Albemarle County Declaration of Independence on June 21, 1779, renouncing their allegiance to the British throne.

A Treacherous Ride
As for the exact whereabouts of Jouett when he saw Tarleton and his men, that’s another matter of speculation. According to Britton, it’s likely that Jouett was in Cuckoo that night to help his father, a commissary selling supplies to the Continental Army, by working on the family farm near the Cuckoo Tavern. After assisting his father, Jouett probably had dinner at the tavern and spotted Tarleton and his men from inside. Some accounts of the evening—including an account published in August 1922 by DAR member Jennie Thornley Grayson of the Jack Jouett Chapter, Charlottesville, Va.—have Jouett capturing a British dragoon, stripping him of his uniform and disguising himself as the enemy so he could eavesdrop on Tarleton without being noticed. Another account places him asleep under a tree as Tarleton approaches in the distance.

In any event, after spotting Tarleton, Jouett took off toward Charlottesville, leaving Cuckoo on horseback around 10 p.m. Unlike Paul Revere, who was accompanied by William Dawes on his ride and who was instructed to ride the 20 miles from Boston to Lexington to warn John Hancock and Samuel Adams of the approaching enemy, Jouett rode alone—and unprompted. “It wasn’t something that he had to do,” says Joel Meador, interim executive director of the Jack Jouett House Historic Site near Versailles, Ky. “He took the initiative because he believed in American independence.”

Since Tarleton was taking the main road from Cuckoo, Jouett needed to find a back way to Charlottesville. Having lived in the area his entire life, Jouett had an advantage over the British—he knew the roads. Legend has it that Jouett rode 40 miles through brush and on cow paths. Britton says that description is likely an exaggeration and that the backwoods portion of his ride was closer to 15 miles long.

Matthew Harris Jouett

A Son Scorned?
Matthew Harris Jouett painted the portraits of many of his family members—but there is no record that he ever painted his father, Jack. Was there a strain on their relationship? According to Joel Meador, interim executive director of the Jack Jouett House Historic Site, family lore suggests that Jack disapproved of Matthew’s decision to become a painter since he had sent his son to school to become a lawyer. “Some people believe this created a rift—with Gilbert Stuart later becoming a sort of surrogate father to Matthew,” Meador explains. Matthew studied under Stuart and named a son—Alexander Gilbert Stuart—in honor of his teacher.

Among Matthew’s most notable portraits is a full-length depiction of the Marquis de Lafayette, who sat for him in his Lexington, Ky., studio when Lafayette made his 1824–1825 grand tour of America.
Starting a New Life

Two weeks later, the Virginia General Assembly adopted a resolution honoring Jouett’s heroic ride and awarded him a sword and a pair of pistols for his service. This recognition marks the end of Jouett’s documented story in Virginia.

The next year, he set out for Kentucky, probably to claim land, according to Meador. He settled first in Mercer County, where he married Sally Robards in 1784. They had 12 children, including Matthew Harris Jouett, the famous American painter, born in 1788. (See sidebar on page 46 for more about Jouett’s relationship with his son.)

After moving to Kentucky, Jouett started a career in politics: He played a role in helping Kentucky become a state in 1792, served as a state legislator for three counties during his lifetime, and counted Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay among his friends. About a decade after arriving in Kentucky, Jouett relocated his family to Woodford County, where he made money as a horse breeder, and also operated a water-powered grist mill and distillery from around 1798–1805.

Preserving a Hero’s Legacy

The Jack Jouett House Historic Site, located in Woodford County, Ky., near Versailles, includes the home where Jouett and his family lived from 1797 until about 1810. Meador describes it as a modest two-story Federal-style cottage. The downstairs had a parlor, dining room and bedroom, while the upstairs had two bedrooms, where the children likely slept. A kitchen was housed in a stone cabin located next to the home. The property was vast, encompassing 530 acres. “It was very much a working plantation,” Meador says. “He had 20 slaves, at least at one time, and around 40 horses.”

While most of the plantation’s buildings have long since been destroyed, the home itself was well-preserved, even prior to the restoration work that started in 1972. The reason, Meador says, is twofold. “For the last 100 years of its private existence, the owners had rented out the home to tenants,” Meador explains. “There was always someone living there, hence it was being maintained, and because they were renters, they didn’t have the right to change anything about the home.” In fact, when Woodford County acquired the home in 1972, the property still had a working outhouse.

Today, the home is one of few lasting reminders of Jouett and his contributions to American independence. His legacy has all but disappeared. Many historians agree that Tarleton’s raid on Charlottesville actually haunted Jefferson for the rest of his life. Jefferson’s political opponents later called the future president cowardly for fleeing Monticello, even though he was vastly outnumbered. Jefferson’s ongoing embarrassment and defense of the escape (see American Spirit’s May/June 2010 review of Michael Kranish’s Flight From Monticello: Thomas Jefferson at War) could be one reason why Jouett isn’t more well-known.

Another reason for Jouett’s exclusion from the history books has more to do with the vagaries of fame, agree Britton and Meador. Unlike Paul Revere, Jouett didn’t have an agent—he lacked a poet as prominent as Longfellow to memorialize his heroic ride. ☞

Lena Anthony profiles exemplary DAR members for the Today’s Daughters department.
Saving the Records of Jefferson’s County

By Eric G. Grundset

Untold quantities of historical records have been lost during conflicts, and the Revolutionary period is no exception. Wars have always presented challenges for records and their keepers. The Colonial records of New York were spirited away from Kingston in Ulster County in 1777 just before British forces arrived and burned the town.

While many other towns were not so fortunate, similar stories of record rescues fill the annals of Revolutionary history. Up and down the East Coast, clerks and other local officials hid records from destruction by enemy forces.

The seat of Albemarle County—an inland Virginia county far from the coast and likely British threats—seemed to be a safe place, or so the Virginia General Assembly assumed when it evacuated Richmond for Charlottesville in early 1781 as General Charles Cornwallis’ army marched north to occupy the new capital city. Governor Thomas Jefferson also retreated to Monticello, his home on a mountaintop overlooking the county seat. On June 4, 1781, as an enemy force commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton approached, intent on capturing Virginia officials, Jack Jouett, as the Our Patriots feature describes, rode to warn Jefferson and the state’s legislators of the advancing troops.

When Jouett arrived with the news, the small Piedmont court town of Charlottesville must have been in turmoil. The approaching enemy imperiled the security of the courthouse’s contents. One can imagine county court officials hurrying to grab whatever records they could pack and make a speedy escape to the countryside.

In Flight from Monticello (Oxford University Press, 2010) author Michael Kranish notes, “Tarleton’s main cavalry thundered into Charlottesville…ransacked the village and destroyed [arms, supplies, tobacco and] county records.”

Rescuers of the county records, apparently focused on maintaining clear titles to land and property, were able to save deeds and will records, but little else. Those precious volumes were secreted from harm by one or more rescuers until the British left and the documents could be returned to the ransacked courthouse. Where the Albemarle County records were stored in the meantime remains a mystery.

The identities of those who saved the records also have long been unknown. One clue as to who may have helped lies in a small volume housed at the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Among materials that the library purchased in 1950 from a Chattanooga, Tenn., resident is a battered booklet labeled “Albemarle Sheriff’s Ledger, 1782–1783.” Inside, the title page reads “N. Hamner’s Sheriff Book.” The ledger is bound in worn brown leather and contains listings of taxes collected. At the very back, however, is one page unrelated to taxes, titled “State of the Record & papers belonging to the Office of [blank] Saved from destruction of the Enemy.” The list mostly matches the volumes that still reside in the office of the Albemarle County clerk of court.

The compiler of the document was Nicholas Hamner (1742–1794). He was likely born in James City County and moved with his parents, Robert and Elizabeth, to Albemarle County as a young boy. He and his wife, Agnes Tompkins Hamner, raised six children on farmland 10 miles south of Charlottesville.

Hamner served as an Anglican vestryman of St. Anne’s Parish in southern Albemarle County in the 1770s and was connected to many families in the area through kinship, business associations and official responsibilities.

In 1779, he and many other Albemarle residents signed the oath of allegiance to Virginia that became known as the Albemarle County Declaration of Independence. Shortly thereafter, he served as a captain in the Albemarle County militia and may have been involved in guarding the British and Hessian prisoners of war housed at the Albemarle Barracks just northwest of Charlottesville. His militia unit was later among the many present at Yorktown in the autumn of 1781.

And, apparently, Hamner was sheriff, or perhaps a deputy, of Albemarle County in the closing years of the Revolution, based on the title of his tax ledger. Given his responsibilities and general community standing, either he alone or with others spirited the surviving county records out of Charlottesville and into hiding as Tarleton’s forces approached.

One cannot say with certainty who saved the records of Jefferson’s county, but Nicholas Hamner’s “Sheriff Book” points to his possible involvement and helps expand a small part of the story of Jefferson, Jouett and Albemarle County during the perilous time only four months prior to the siege of Yorktown and Cornwallis’ surrender.

Eric G. Grundset, director of the DAR Library, is a direct descendant of Nicholas Hamner.
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