



PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

www.amrev.org

NEWSLETTER NO. 24

Spring 2003



**General
Norman Schwarzkof**

The Board of Managers and the Let Freedom Ring Committees wish to thank General Norman Schwarzkof for his assistance in nationally promoting the 2003 Let Freedom Ring Ceremony

CONTENTS

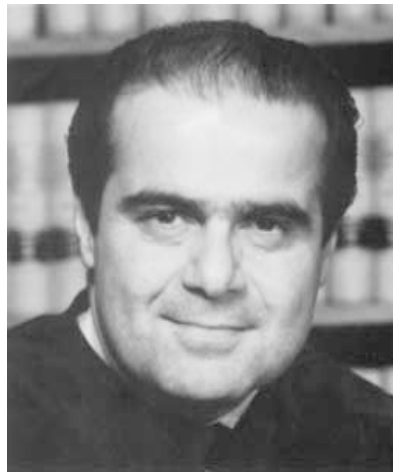
Featured Articles

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Let Freedom Ring | 1, 3 |
| 2003 Triennial | 1 |
| Membership | 2 |
| Rembrandt Peale Portrait | 4 |
| 2003 Annual Church Service | 4 |
| President Emeritus Cheyney | 5 |
| ROTC Awards | 6 |
| 2003 Annual Meeting | 7 |
| President Lewis | 8 |
| Lancaster County Chapter | 10 |
| Can You Figure This Out? | 11 |
| In Memoriam | 12 |
| Calendar of Events | 12 |

LET FREEDOM RING

July 4, 2003

National Guest Speaker



Antonin Scalia

Associate Justice of the United States
Supreme Court

July 4th, 2003, in Philadelphia promises to be a busy day. Your Society is working in conjunction with other activities taking place in the city beginning with the opening of the new National Constitution Center. Presidents Emeriti Curtis Cheyney and George Lincoln will be up early and at the Center for the early morning opening and dedication ceremony. In the meantime, the Independence Day Luncheon Committee will be hard at work at the Society Hill Sheraton preparing for the annual reception and luncheon, followed by the Let Freedom Ring Ceremony taking place this year at Independence Hall. In addition, the four children bell tappers will be anxiously awaiting their turn to tap the Liberty Bell 13 times.

2003 Triennial Meeting

Before you know it, October will be here and the Triennial is in Philadelphia. The committee has been hard at work planning and organizing meeting locations, tours to historic places of interest, and evening receptions at some of Philly's finest locations.

Two locations for receptions are the Academy of the Fine Arts where members and guests will have the opportunity to socialize, munch, and see some of the finest artwork the city has to offer its residents and tourists.

The following evening a reception will be held at the newly dedicated National Constitution Center where members and guests will receive a private tour of the Center planned to be open to the public on July 4th.

Saturday evening will start with cocktail time in the Sofitel Ballroom, followed by dinner and award presentations. Rich Postmontier and his orchestra, one of the Son's favorite musical groups, will be available for a wonderful evening of dancing until the closing hour.

Sunday morning brings the Parade of Colors for the Triennial Church Service and a "Farewell" reception following as members prepare for their trips home from an exciting few days in historical Philadelphia.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!.

50 YEAR MEMBERS

Each year at the Society's Annual Meeting, members who have reached their 50th year in membership are honored:

John A. Bellis, Jr.
 Holbrook M. Bunting, Jr.
 Frederick M.H. Currie
 Edward D Ellithorpe
 William M. Kimbrough
 Edward M.K. Klapp, Jr.
 Frederick H. Knight, III
 Gerald P. Kynett, Jr.
 David P. Loughran
 John W. McPherson
 Galloway C. Morris, IV
 Livingston B. Morris
 Robert H. Newell
 Robert S. Noone, Jr.
 Paul M. Pilling
 Rev. Alfred H. William, III
 Fred A. Williams
 Henry H Wilton

Sorrowfully, Members Robert H. Newell and Fred A. Williams were remembered at the Annual Church Service.

YOUNGER MEMBERS

The Society's Younger Members attended the Radnor Hunt Races on May 17th with their annual excellent attendance in spite of the poor weather conditions.

Harvard C. Wood, IV, new Chairman, is busily putting together his committee. Some of the long time members have now been moved to the older ranks of membership (those middle age years are fast approaching), but not to fear, those Little Patriots keep coming to secure the future of the Sons.

Rowings Role In America's Independence

Jack Sholl is a PSSR member currently living in California, who flies east to attend many of the Society's events. An avid rower, Jack writes for the Masters Rowing Association.

Many Americans know that George Washington traveled from his Mount Vernon, Virginia homestead to New York to be sworn in as President of the United States in 1789. Fewer know that Washington was aided by uniformed sweep oarsmen on the final leg of his journey across water. Yes, uniformed sweep-oarsmen rowed the then soon-to-be legendary president from Elizabeth, New Jersey to Manhattan. Even fewer, I suspect, are aware of a far more critical mission carried out by two brave oarsmen in 1775. A mission so critical, that had it failed, the "shot heard round the world" might not have been fired and colonial aspirations of independence would have been deflated.

History Professor David Hacett Fischer reminds us of the well-known ride of Paul Revere, from Boston to Lexington, on a harrowing night in April, 1775. Revere's role was to warn John Hancock and Sam Adams of their impending capture by British forces ready to depart Boston for Concord and Lexington. Revere was in Boston on that night and the critical component of his itinerary to Concord and Lexington was a segment over water. It began on the evening of April 18, 1775 when two lanterns hanging in the steeple of Old North Church in Boston signaled that the British were preparing to leave by boat across the back bay to Cambridge. Alerted, Revere moved swiftly to North Boston and the Charles River waterfront. These two stalwart, experienced (presumably master) oarsmen were

(continued page 6....)

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SOCIETY OFFICE!

If you were to ask Shirley and Barbara what is new at the office they would say that it's busy. All committee meetings are now held in the Society's new conference room, and more members are dropping by to attend to business and see the new PSSR Office.

Office Needs Your Help

Each year the office staff has to track members whose Society mailings are returned before they are taken off the Membership Rolls. If you have any information concerning the following members, please call the PSSR Office at 215-545-1888.

Richard Steele Baker
 Roger Kyle Brendlinger
 William John Calhoun
 Mark Austin Emmons
 Jeffrey James Freer
 Stephen Krider Kent
 Jeffrey Barclay Mast
 Jeffrey Scott Noone
 Peter Noone
 Bruce Angier Ravenscroft
 Sidney de Mourousse Roberts
 Benjamin Latimer Stowe

PSSR

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Phone: 215-545-1888
 Fax: 215-545-1777
 Email: pssr@amrev.org

Let Freedom Ring
 1-800-330-1776

Free Notary Services Available to
 Members and for Membership
 Applications In Process
 (call for appointment)

Let Freedom Ring™ Friday, July 4, 2003 35th Year

Planning is nearly completed for the Society's major public ceremony - Let Freedom Ring - the nationwide ringing of bells every Independence Day.

The Sheraton Society Hill, Second and Dock Streets, will again be the site of our annual reception and luncheon beginning at 11:00 a.m. hosted by President Leroy M. Lewis, III.

The popular children's room will be available again this year supervised by a professional nanny service. Adults in attendance can be sure the kids will be adorned in balloons as entertainment is provided by the ever popular magician each year.

The public ceremony begins at 1:30 p.m. at Independence Square with the Pennsylvania Regiment and the Color Guard led by Captain Richard D. Smith, Sr., displaying the Society's magnificent collection of Revolutionary War flags. Vai Sikahema, popular NBC-10, WCAU-TV sports anchor and a Bishop in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints will deliver the Invocation.

This year we are honored to have Associate Justice Antonin Scalia of the United States Supreme Court as our national speaker for the ceremony. A native of Trenton, New Jersey, Justice Scalia was appointed to his position in 1986.

A friend of the Society, Vice Admiral Gerald Hoewing, USN, Deputy Chief of Navy Operation (Manpower and Personnel) will represent the Pentagon. Vice Admiral Hoewing commanded the USS John F. Kennedy and participated in LFR 1994-95 and assisted the committee in arranging for exciting flyovers by Navy F-18 Hornets in 1995 and 1996.

Master of Ceremonies for the event will be Robert Reynolds Van Gulick, Jr. Entertainment will include our long time LFR participants, the PA Regiment led by Paul Loane, the exciting American Originals making their fourth appearance at Let Freedom Ring, the world famous Philadelphia Boys Choir, soloist Jaye Green, and Kay Seamayer, singer from Dallas, Texas, and composer of "Let Freedom Ring" to be sung at the ceremony.

At 2:00 p.m. the children bell tappers, Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, will be assembled in the Liberty Bell Pavilion where they will gently tap the Liberty Bell 13 times in honor of the sacrifices of the Patriots of the 13 original states. This year's bell tappers are Jessica and Rachel Burke of Richboro, PA, Robert Bruce Warden of Williamsburg, VA, and David Wolcott of Potomac, MD.

This year the committee has expanded their efforts to recruit more bell ringing locations and to encourage others to have satellite ceremonies. The committee has also had the honor of working with General Norman Schwarzkofit who is promoting the nationwide ceremony with a pre-recorded radio message to be distributed to the 20 largest radio networks, which oversee tens of thousands of individual radio stations. In addition, our military branches have asked that all ships and land bases join us by ringing their bells.

Added support has also been donated by New Life Industries, who last year featured the first Let Freedom Ring T-shirt at no cost to the Society. This year New Life will be donating 10% of the proceeds from the Let Freedom Ring T-shirt sales to the ceremony. Along with this, New Life also did a mailing to 5000 of their clientele and companies promoting the 2003 Let Freedom Ring Ceremony at their own cost.

Please join your Society in promoting Let Freedom Ring. Thousands of other Americans will be with us in spirit as we lead the nation's only official Congressionally-mandated Independence Day celebration at 2:00 p.m. July 4th.

LET FREEDOM RING!!!

Let Freedom Ring Committees

This year the committee structure for Let Freedom Ring is undergoing transition and will take on a new look. Let Freedom Ring is being divided into three areas: Luncheon, Ceremony, and a new committee to focus strictly on the National recruitment for the ceremony.

The Board of Managers welcomes the three new Chairmen who are about to undertake this challenge for next year: Adam Flint - Luncheon Committee, Leif Zetterberg - Ceremony Committee, and Lanny Patten - National Committee.

~~~~~ New Office Pictures



Reception Area



Secretarial Area

George On the Move!

The "Porthole Portrait of George Washington by Rembrandt Peale" will shortly be moving to its new home on loan to the James A. Michener Art Museum, and will be on display in the "Visual Heritage of Bucks County" exhibition in the Byers Gallery. The Michener Museum has planned a special event in honor of George's arrival.

Rembrandt Peale's Washington "The History of a Portrait" 1823 - 2003

Wednesday, July 16, 7:00 p.m.
Ann & Herman Silverman Pavilion
Free with museum admission
Pre-registration required

Carol Easton Soltis, Ph.D.
Guest Lecturer

Carol Eaton Soltis holds a Ph.D. in the History of Art from the University of Pennsylvania. She has researched and written extensively on Rembrandt Peale and his family, including a catalogue raisonne of Peale's work with the National Portrait Gallery.

A member of one of America's most famous artistic families, Rembrandt Peale (1778-1860) created a monumental portrait of our first president which he called his "Standard National Likeness of Washington." After numerous public exhibitions, the painting was acquired by the U.S. Capitol in 1832. Combining artistic ambition with entrepreneurial zeal, Peale went on to create more than 70 replica portraits that were sold on the private market.

Wine-and-cheese reception following the presentation.

James A. Michener Museum
138 South Pine Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-340-9800

ANNUAL CHURCH SERVICE

Brandywine Baptist Church was the location for this year's annual church service commemorating the Valley Forge Encampment and PSSR members we have lost in death this past year (see Necrology on page 12).

The Reverend Dr. William H. Scott along with the Brandywine Baptist Choir, Organist, and Choir Director were gracious hosts to the Society. PSSR Chaplain William Proctor, members, spouses, guests, widows, and church congregational members stood as the Color Guard processed the Colors down two aisles to the front of the sanctuary to begin the service.

Immediately following the church service a reception was held at the Brandywine River Museum where attendees enjoyed a superb catered assortment offered by the Museum caterers. In addition, all four floors were open to those gathered for viewing the noted artwork of the museum, and having time to just enjoy one another's company.

President Lewis, President Emeritus Cheyney, and Vice President Van Gulick who assisted with the church service surprised those gathered when they appeared at the church service in their morning suits from the old days.



Left to Right: President Emeritus Curtis Cheyney, III, Vice President Robert Van Gulick, and President Leroy Lewis, III in a once PSSR tradition of morning suits.

FINAL REMARKS AND GREETINGS

CURTIS P. CHEYNEY, III PRESIDENT EMERITUS 2000 - 2003

At April's Annual Meeting, I expressed my appreciation to the Society for three wonderful years I shared with you as your President; but words are not adequate for me to express the depth of my feeling of gratitude. It is cliché, but certainly appropriate for me to express, that it has truly been an honor to serve, a privilege and its own reward to represent the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution. Although our Society has its historical roots in the Revolution, a time of war when energies and ideas can clearly be focused upon an enemy, it is during the times of peace, especially relative peace, that patriotism becomes more easily an abstraction and difficult to express in a meaningful manner. That difficulty exists for citizens and Society members alike.

However, it is in these times of relative peace during the post-modern era of our stressful Western culture, times of peril and times of promise, that political rhetoric, platitudes about patriotism ripe with hyperbole is not enough; each of us must translate our professed patriotism into action. The Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution is such a vehicle for members to express a patriotic spirit; it is a valuable organization to every member with a desire for patriotic service. This service, mind you, is not in order just to test our neighbor, but that by our service, we should test ourselves as to what we profess about patriotism and gratitude is real. No shortage of opportunity exists in our Society's economy of progress with patriotic initiatives designed to develop an interest and service for the cause of patriotism. Our service should show support for the foundational principles and ideals that led our ancestors to their courageous acts, heroes they were in a very real and true sense. If there is any personal concern that I may express upon disembarking as president, it is that as a Society, we must find ways to kindle in each member that fundamental desire for gratitude in action, and to do so within our Society. It is that spirit of service which marked our ancestors as great patriots.

Those Revolution ancestors are our heroes and they remain examples of heroic values, worthy of our honor and respect as they transformed their fears into courage and into action. More than just applause and lip-service for them, we need to emulate their sense of duty with our own service as we broadcast the truth of their history, a truth of morality and values.

It is those moral truths and values which are the historical truths upon which our Society was founded. Those values are as relevant today as in 18th century America.

Each Society member needs to commit to be a vital participant in the Society; merely paying "lip service" to patriotism and claiming membership in the Society by paying dues without service or participation is not enough. Personal service is its own advocate for the message of gratitude and honor due our ancestors. Your Society provides opportunity for service in the programs, which touch our present day culture.

Politicians don't always believe what they say, and so they are quite surprised when they are taken at their word; we claim that we believe what we say, but the only way we can be taken seriously is by our actions, in gratitude, respectful of our ancestor's services. That call to action sounds reasonable, responsible, and rational, but yet it does not materialize. Opportunities to serve on committees and to participate in programming or to contribute financially over and above the dues obligation, the minimum or bottom economic service, is no longer - and never was - satisfactory for real patriotic membership. The Society is ready to listen to new ideas, encourage new visions and accept responsible challenges as we press towards furthering the goals of our Society and to inspire a new generation of talented membership with a personal patriotic passion for service. Let's get started and let's have every member participate. You need not pause to look around to see where the Society's action is; you can be and must be the action. Plan to attend the Society's George Washington Birthday Party, the Annual Church Service, the July 4th Let Freedom Ring festivities, and the Musket Ball. There are many good and worthwhile opportunities to serve and participate. We who have tread the footsteps of wise and dynamic ancestors need to step out and be the leaders for the next and younger generation who will one day look at us. Hopefully they will appreciate our patriotism more clearly because our actions were bold.

We have a great Society and we are off to a new start, but our continued success depends upon you. Please support your Society and your new President, Leroy Moody Lewis, III, together with the other Officers and Board of Managers, as they take on the unfinished work of your Society, perhaps the largest and most important campaign of patriotic service in your Society's history.

ROTC Award Recipients

This year the Society Projects Committee awarded two Pennsylvania State University "outstanding ROTC cadets" a \$1000 monetary award to be applied to their educational expenses at PSU. President Lewis and President Emeritus Cheyney traveled to State College to attend the Joint Services Awards Ceremony on Friday, May 2nd.



**Army Cadet
Stephen Klocko**



**Air Force Cadet
Gordon A. O'Meara**



Suggested Summer Reading For Children

The Revolutionary War On Wednesday
by
Mary Pope Osborne
Volume #22



Books Available

The following books are available for purchase from the Society Office.

STANDARDS AND COLORS
OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
Edward W. Richardson
Members \$39.95
Non-Members \$49.95
S&H \$3.95/book

FORT MIFFLIN OF PHILADELPHIA
Jeffrey M. Dorwart
\$35.00

Battle of Paoli
Thomas J. McGuire
\$25.00

Your request can be sent to the PSSR Office, 121 S. Broad Street, Suite 1910, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Checks should be made payable to PSSR.

Rowings Role (continued)

waiting to row him to Charleston. Their names were Joshua Bentley and Thomas Richardson. Bentley was a boatbuilder. As Paul Revere was about to position himself in their wherry, moored at the river's edge, they realized that their detection by a British warship anchored close by was highly probable due to noise generated by their oarlocks.

In desperation, they searched for a piece of cloth to wrap around the oarlocks. They had none, and by then near panic stage, they noticed row houses across the street. Trying to make as little noise as possible, they awakened the occupants of the nearest house. Glancing up, they saw a woman's head appear from a second story window. In the name of liberty, they pleaded with her for a piece of cloth that could be used to muffle the oarlocks. Her head disappeared. The group nervously waited. Then, with no warning, a woman's woolen undergarment floated ever so gently to the pavement below, still warm. Grasping it, Bentley and Richardson swiftly fashioned oarlock wraps and, with Revere aboard, glided quietly into the Charles River. Rowing silently, but dangerously near the HMS Somerset, the scullers made it to the Charlestown side of the river undetected. There, Whig supporters, alerted by the "two if by water" signal, from Old North Church steeple lanterns, provided Revere with a fast horse for the continuation of his urgent journey to Concord and Lexington.

It is not at all unreasonable to conclude that had it not been for two master scullers and the ingenuity of a woman, Paul Revere's ride might not have taken place. America's struggle for independence would have suffered a major setback. Rowers today can proudly point to their role in the cause of American freedom.



"Things To Do"

Remember to.....

Watch for Let Freedom Ring invitation, mail reservation into Society Office.

Notify the Office of any address changes.

Submit 2003 dues payment to Society Office.

Check the 2003/2004 Calendar of Events

George Washington's Birthday

We will remember the President's Day snowstorm of 2003 that curtailed many if not all Philadelphia-area activities commemorating Washington's Birthday this year. The PSSR, however, was fortunate to have scheduled their annual George Washington's Birthday Party on February 22, 2003. A date that not only thankfully fell one week past that generous snowfall, but also marked the actual birthday of our first and most honored president.

Two hundred PSSR members and their guests braved rain that threatened to flood streets with drains clogged by ice to attend the Sons' 271st anniversary of Mr. Washington's birth. Those who attended found the Union League of Philadelphia to be warm, dry and welcoming. As they ascended the main stair to Sully's equestrian portrait of General George Washington, they were received and greeted by President Curtis P. Cheyney, III, and national President Robert Lunney.

Arrivees were given a copy of Washington's "Rules of Civility," compliments of President Cheyney. General Washington, portrayed by William Sommerfield, was in attendance, mingling during the cocktail hour, and offering to autograph individual copies of the book. The Colors were paraded under the distinguished leadership of Captain Richard D. Smith, Sr., and crisply presented in a manner to impress our original commander-in-chief. Few would realize that the Color Guard's drill practice had been cancelled due to weather.

After welcoming remarks by President Cheyney and the traditional toasts, the society's guests were seated at tables named for Washington's generals in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the Continental Army's winter encampment at Valley Forge. Participants dined on Filet Mignon and Chilean Sea Bass, Potatoes Terreplein and Asparagus Chevaus-de-frise. A birthday cake in the form of a military drum spewing a fountain of colored stars decorated the center of the table. As dinner climaxed, the assembly sang "Happy Birthday" to our revered first president, after which the centerpieces were cut and served. Chairman James Boote Congdon formally introduced Mr. Sommerfield who, in his role, delivered Washington's farewell address to his troops.

To inaugurate the evening's dancing, the General invited his dinner partner, Sally Congdon, onto the dance floor for instruction in dancing the minuet. Finally, the dance floor was open to all as the Jon Lewis Orchestra smoothly bridged from music of the eighteenth to the twentieth century, capping an elegant evening of patriotic fun.

2003 Annual Meeting



**President Emeritus
Curtis Paul Cheyney, III**



**Newly Elected President
Leroy Moody Lewis, III**

On Thursday, April 17th, PSSR members could be found in the Union League's Lincoln Hall attending the 115th Annual Meeting, listening to President Curtis Paul Cheyney's list of achievements from the year 2000. Among those presented were the increased numbers in membership, improving the efficiency of Board committees, strengthening the Society's ties with other similar organizations, fashioning new approaches to our traditional events and leading the move of the Society Office to new headquarters at 121 S. Broad Street in Philadelphia.

As a token of gratitude President Cheyney, now President Emeritus Cheyney was presented with a giclee of George Washington, one of five in existence, to thank him for his extraordinary efforts in serving the Society.

The meeting proceeded with the membership adopting three amendments to the Society's Bylaws and then to elect Leroy Moody Lewis, III, as its 31st President. After complimenting his predecessor, President Lewis shared three goals for the upcoming year; providing a high level of hospitality to members of other state societies when PA hosts the General Society's Triennial meeting in October 2003, moving towards financial self-sufficiency by cutting costs and increasing revenues, and continuing recruitment efforts for increasing membership.

After the conclusion of the meeting, members enjoyed refreshments and the opportunity for fellowship with old friends, new members, and welcoming new Managers to the Board for 2003, while enjoying another fine dinner at the League.

Newly elected members to the Board of Managers are: James W. Marvin, Jr., Herbert Keyser Zearfoss, Esq., Albert E. Feather, Jr., Adam P. Flint, Lanny R. Patten, David E. Prewitt, Esq., John T. Showler, and Leif Zetterberg.

President Lewis's Acceptance Speech

Gentlemen, I want to thank you for your support and confidence in me. I realize that I would not be standing here were it not for the extraordinary support of the many members who were willing to step forward and support choice in the Society's election process. Now that the election is over, it is time to recall for a moment that we are all members of a distinguished order with high ideals. When we became members of this Society, we agreed to join together in a common purpose to "perpetuate the memory of the men... who achieved the Independence of the country." It is time now to return to our traditional emphasis on community and the goals we share.

I would like to express my special thanks to President Emeritus Cheyney who has been a tremendous example and mentor for me over the past three years. Having worked closely with Curt, I cannot tell you how impressed I have become with his love for the Society and his vision for the Society's future. He has repeatedly demonstrated his dedication through the many late hours that he has spent working on behalf of the Society. Without question, he has raised the bar high and made the job of anyone following him a difficult, if not a near impossible act to follow. It is my intention to continue the initiatives he began.

I also realize that I am the last speaker and stand between you and dinner, a precarious position to say the least. So, my remaining remarks will be brief.

Looking to the future of the Society over the next three years, there are challenges ahead for all of us in three main areas: hospitality, finance and membership. Hospitality: We are hosting the Triennial in Philadelphia in October 2003. This is a major undertaking that is being ably led by Vice President Johnson and his Committee. We will be hosting the General Society Officers and fellow Society Members from all over the country. I know we want to make them feel as welcome here in Philadelphia as we felt in New Orleans, Savannah, Richmond, and New York City in years past. You will be hearing from Vice President Johnson in the future about opportunities to help the Triennial Committee and demonstrate the kind of hospitality that Pennsylvanians always show. Finance: We, like others, are going to be faced with a financial challenge over the next several years. Our Total Return investment philosophy allows us to withdraw from our portfolio at the rate of 5% of the preceding 3 years average value of the restricted portfolio. In order to reach our goal for financial self-sufficiency by 2022 when the Rorer Trust ceases to pay out a 1/14th share to the Society, we have traditionally kept our annual withdrawal to 3% or less. As a result of the value of the portfolio dropping by half since March of 2000, our

withdrawal percentage has moved upwards and is expected to exceed 4% in Fiscal Year 2003.

Bringing this ratio back into line with our goals for self-sufficiency will be a challenge for the Board of Managers over the next several years. We have several alternatives: 1) hope the market recovers and solves our problem, 2) cut expenses throughout the organization, 3) increase the revenue. I'm not inclined to hope that the market will rescue us. This would be a wonderful thing, but I also believe, like General Franks in Iraq, that it is critical that we plan for the worst and hope for the best.

As to cutting expenses, I believe that the Board of Managers has acted responsibly each year with regard to the expenses of the Society. We debated long and hard before we moved to the new Office quarters that clearly increased our office expenses. A generous commitment from the Color Guard to pay half of the annual office rent has made this a financially acceptable decision for the Society. Already, we see the beneficial results in terms of the use of the Office for meetings, which is exceeding our initial usage projections. The new Office is also making it possible to attract quality interns to help support our public programs. And, we believe that having all our files available for the members without the associated delays will help with new member recruitment.

The funds allocated to subsidizing the fixed cost of our events have remained essentially stable over the past several years while inflation has driven up the costs we face for many of these events. This additional cost has mostly been reflected in increased ticket prices. Even though the events themselves have received good reviews, increasing the prices for our events may be a cause for some of the lower attendance figures. We still need to review some of our events to determine whether a different approach to the event might make a different price point possible. I would certainly welcome any feedback from the membership on this issue.

To provide better focus to existing expenditures, we will encourage Vice President Shirk to continue his efforts to ensure that each committee has a mission statement, a clear vision of what they are supposed to do, and documented processes for discharging their duties. In addition, I have already begun working with the Office on a New Board Member orientation session to be held on April 26th, which I expect will help a new Board member get involved faster and with more attention to the timing and appropriate costs of the events. We will also be producing a Board Member's binder which will contain

(continued page 9....)

President Lewis.....(continued)

information that every Board Member should know and have at their disposal.

The last alternative I mentioned is increasing revenue. Solving the problem merely through dues increases is not the answer. Just to stay even, some dues increases will be necessary in order to cover the automatic increases in dues that were approved for the General Society at the meeting in October 2003. President Emeritus Cheyney began the practice of asking Life Members to consider a contribution to the Society. This program has been successful in increasing revenue and it will be continued during my tenure. Further, we have been blessed with some very generous members who have contributed toward specific projects.

However, these sources of revenue cannot be relied on to support all the projects that have been proposed for the Society to undertake. I see the answer to our problem in three areas: recruiting new members, development of grant applications, and developing an attractive program for bequests. To address these initiatives, I will be working with existing committees and proposing the establishment of some new committees in the very near future.

The Society's membership has either declined or has been stable on a year-to-year basis over the past several years. In 1995, the membership stood at 1,202. Our overall membership fell to a low of 1,080 at the end of 2002. In March, we reached 1,095 members of which 35 are Junior Members. Despite having an Office which is now staying on top of applications in-progress and the best efforts of many Past Presidents, we appear not to have been able to return our membership to the levels of the early 1990's when it exceeded 1,300.

Therefore, one of the largest challenges before us is to find ways to increase the number of members in our Society. I have a number of thoughts on how we should address this problem, and will be working with the Membership Committee and the Board of Managers on this challenge. But the basic premise that I will proceed from is that we need to do more to celebrate an individual member's success. Therefore, I plan to create a Membership Recognition Committee that will develop different ways to recognize our members' achievements initially in the areas of recruitment, new Chapter creation, and obtaining positive recognition for the Society in the community through personal efforts. As time goes on, I expect that this committee will find other reasons to recognize the contribution of individual members in support of the mission of our Society. I will also be challenging the new

Officers and Managers to lead the membership growth effort. And finally, I will be exploring with the Membership Committee ways to involve the full membership of the Society in this campaign.

Making the 2003 Triennial in October a success for the Society, overcoming our financial challenges brought about by the market downturn, and a focus on increasing our membership over the next three years will be the three goals I intend to make the hallmark of my tenure as President. I should mention one other goal --- to have some fun while we work together in support of the Society's mission!

In conclusion, I must admit to taking a look back at the remarks of my great-uncle, Judge Edwin O. Lewis, upon his election as President of the Society in 1940. I found only the very briefest comments there. While my remarks are clearly not as what was recorded in the Proceedings, I hope you feel I have kept faith with his lead.

Again, thank you for the honor you have bestowed on me. I will endeavor to serve the best interests of the Society and represent all of its Members in the months ahead.

Remember.....

**2003 Triennial Meeting
October 9 - 12, 2003**

Sofitel Hotel

Philadelphia, PA 19107

President Emeritus Cheyney and President Lewis would like to extend their special thank you to past Vice Presidents

James Bradley Burke
Benjamin Charles Frick

for their years of service on the Board of Managers of the Society

LANCASTER COUNTY CHAPTER

2003 Lancaster Chapter's Annual Meeting

Not only is there a change in your state leadership with the election of Leroy M. Lewis, III, but the Lancaster County Chapter turned over the reigns from now Past Regent John Herman Bowman, M.D. to the newly elected Regent, Arthur Doniphon Old.

President Emeritus Cheyney and Shirley were joined this year by newly elected President Lewis on the annual Sunday ride to visit the Lancaster Chapter to attend their Annual Meeting, which always turns out to be an enjoyable way to to spend the day with Pennsylvania's very active chapter.

Special guest speaker for the meeting was Loretta Treese, an accomplished writer, speaker, and a native of Pennsylvania.



John Bowman, Past Regent with Guest Speaker Loretta Treese



LCC Members Socializing

Well known in the Lancaster area is Jack Loose, LCC Treasurer, for his knowledge of historical happenings in the area. The Newsletter Committee thanks Jack, who has kindly offered to join the committee and to share some of the happenings from long ago.

"SETTING UP SHOP"

As the British ships sailed up the Chesapeake Bay and into the Elk River, officials of the Pennsylvania state government beat a hasty retreat from Philadelphia to Lancaster where they "set up shop" in the County Courthouse and wherever they could find room. In their wake came hundreds of Philadelphia resident-refugees. Leaving the threatened city at the last possible minute, members of the Continental Congress fled inland by way of Reading and Allentown, staying well north of the British invasion. On September 27th, 1777, members of the Congress crowded into the Lancaster County Courthouse to hold a meeting. Members were not only worried by the British, but also where they were going to sleep that night; approximately 2,000 residents of Lancaster already were hosting the State officials, two regiments of Virginia troops passing through, and several thousand prisoners of war. The next day members of Congress left Lancaster and pressed on to York on the west side of the Susquehanna River. Although the town was smaller than Lancaster, it had a place to meet, and homes where the Congressmen could board until the British left Philadelphia. While in York, Congress completed the Articles of Confederation, which were sent to the thirteen former colonies, now states, to be ratified and made effective. In March 1781, the last state ratified the Articles and then the United States had an "official" albeit ineffectual government. After nine months the British retreated from Philadelphia, and the Pennsylvania government and the Congress moved back to the City of Brotherly Love.



Jean Moore and Kate Shirk

Can You Figure This Out!



Along with packing boxes and unpacking boxes came the planning of the new Office's technology issues. Shirley and Fred Peltier, manager and architect, sat down with the new office plans and had to decide where connections would be placed to meet the equipment needs of the office, and given to Andy Wasson of Laurel Technology in order to start his work on the project.

The Information Technology Committee takes the needs of the Society very seriously when it applies to the operational needs of the Office. As of June 2003, the PSSR office has migrated from a peer-to-peer network to a server environment. The reason for the change was to remove the vulnerability of storing business records on a workstation's local hard drive and have this data put in peril by local hardware failures.

For you computer buff members out there, the Newsletter Committee thought you might find the rest of this article interesting.

The new environment is equipped with an IBM X205 Server with a Pentium 5 2,66GHz processor, 512 MB of RAM and a 46GB RAID1 storage array. Each night, a scripted command completes a full backup to the server of all three workstations into a respective compressed .bkf file. The .bkf file is backed up to tape by the server. A UPS protects the server from power sags and spikes and will initiate an orderly shutdown in the event of a power loss.

The server operating system is Window Server 2003 Standard edition and has been deployed with an Active Directory configuration to centralize logins and security. Although this is not typical for an environment of PSSR's size, Laurel Technology Consulting considered the single logon and central security to be of enough benefit to have it installed. Also, the new server has VPN (virtual private network) software, which

allows secure remote access to the server and to any XP workstations in the environment. Using Remote Desktop Protocol, an authorized user can launch a virtual desktop session and perform administrative functions in the PSSR environment from anywhere there is broadband internet access.

Due to repeated hardware failures, the Executive Director's desktop was recently replaced by Dell with a new Optiplex running Windows XP Professional. XP Professional allows Andy of Laurel Technology Consulting to remotely access this computer to provide support. The LFR Dell workstation has the same feature.

Summary:

1. The office runs on an Active Directory tree.
2. The office uses a shared DSL connection for the internet protected by a stateful inspection firewall appliance.
3. Both Shirley and Barbara have access to all three printers in the office.
4. These printers include an HP Laserjet 2200 Series, HP Deskjet 930C Series, and HP Laserjet 4 Plus.
5. All three computers are connected to the Minolta digital copier via the LAN.
6. There is a Microtek ScanMaker X12USL connected to the LFR desktop.
7. A full backup is performed each night on the server.
8. All computers run scheduled virus scans and MS updates.
9. The new digital printer (Minolta) is connected to all three computers for printing large and complex print requests.
10. The telephone system is a 3-line digital PBX unit (Digitel) with 4 phones.
11. A Polycom teleconferencing unit, which has superior voice conferencing capabilities, is located in the new conference room.

Yes, your Technology Committee has definitely been working to give the Society the best it could in design, efficiency and safety. Committee members Murray Gordan (then Chair), Al Feather (now Chair), Scott Sharadin (Webmaster), Leroy Lewis (then VP and now President), Fred Peltier (architect and now Historian), Andy Wasson (Laurel Technology Consulting) along with Shirley Sadak (Executive Director) spend hours making sure all this works for the benefit of your Society.



Andy Wasson, Laurel Technology Consulting

- IN MEMORIAM -

2003 Annual Church Service



| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Walter J. Amesbury, Jr | Thomas Liggett, III |
| Charles C. Arnold | Alden R. Ludlow, II |
| William J. Clothier | Charles R. Marshall |
| Richard H. Cooper | Robert H. Newall |
| Robert M. Cox | Orville Anderson Petty, II |
| Daniel W.B. Flint | George T. Vaughn |
| John R. Fuller | George F. Wagner, III |
| Montgomery Harris, Jr | Charles E. Wardell |
| Kent Kitchel | Fred A. Williams |
| David W. Knepley | Harvard C. Wood, Jr |
| Nathan Lane, Jr | William J. Yearsley |
| Joseph P. Lippincott, Jr | |

**Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution
Newsletter Committee**

Rev. William Preston Proctor, Editor
Shirley A. Sadak, Editorial Assistant

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Winchell Smith Carroll | John W.W. Loose |
| Richard R.P. DiStefano | Charles C. Matthews |
| Edwin S. Hart, III | James Frederick Merriman |
| Robert B. Krogstad, II | Francis Edward Peltier |
| Harvard Castle Wood, III | |

Members are invited to submit articles for printing consideration. Photographs cannot be returned.

2003 Calendar of Events

July 4 Independence Day Luncheon
Society Hill Sheraton, Philadelphia

Let Freedom Ring Ceremony
Independence Hall, Philadelphia

October 9 - 12 Triennial Meeting
Sofitel Hotel, Philadelphia

November 20 New Citizens Reception

December 15 US Federal Courthouse
601 Market Street
Philadelphia

2004 Calendar of Events

February 21 George Washington Birthday Party
Union League of Philadelphia

April 9 PSSR Annual Meeting
Union League of Philadelphia

2nd Thursday Each Month
Board of Managers Meeting
The Union League of Philadelphia

3rd Monday Each Month
Finance Committee Meeting
PSSR Office

Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution
121 S Broad Street - Suite 1910
Philadelphia, PA 19107

NonProfitOrg
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Philadelphia, Pa
PERMIT NO. 5147