



PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

www.let-freedom-ring.org

2006 LET FREEDOM RING PRE-CELEBRATION EDITION

National Spokesman



Edward G. Rendell
Governor of PA

Each year Governor Rendell's support has helped increase the recognition of the Society's Let Freedom Ring celebration.

As one of Philadelphia's biggest fans of the City's history, Governor Rendell has no problems talking about the historicalness of Philadelphia, and all its great historical markers, including our beloved icon, the Liberty Bell, where he has posed with many individuals over the years.

This year marks a very special presentation regarding the icon and its protection and future for generations to come.

It was Let Freedom Ring's long term history with the Society that prompted a very special gift presentation in February at the George Washington Birthday Party.

See Story on Page 2.

Concurrent Resolution Number 25

United States Senate & The House of Representatives

"Whereas the tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

Whereas the adoption of this historic document marked the birth of our country as a free and independent nation; and

Whereas it is fitting that the anniversary of this great event should be appropriately observed in each year at the same moment throughout the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Congress hereby (1) declares that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year by the ringing of the bells throughout the United States at the hour of 2 o'clock, eastern daylight time, in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, or at such other time on that day as may be determined by local authority, and (2) call upon civic and other community leaders to take appropriate steps to encourage public participation in such observance."

Adopted 26 June 1963

Guest Speaker



Samuel A. Alito
Associate Justice
Supreme Court
of the
United States

Each year the Let Freedom Ring Celebration committee starts a tedious process of finding known national speakers for our July 4th celebration.

This year your Society is extremely honored to have Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito of the Supreme Court of the United States as our national guest speaker on July 4th.

We are pleased and honored that Justice Alito, along with his wife, will take time on a holiday to join us and help honor our nation's beginnings by giving the keynote address of the day to those gathered at the celebration.

Justice Alito will also be attending the reception/luncheon at the Sheraton Society Hill. Invitations are in the mail. If you have not received yours, please call the Society Office at 215-545-1888 and make a reservation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO PSSR IN HONOR OF LET FREEDOM RING

On Saturday, February 18th, at the George Washington Birthday Party, those in attendance received a special gift along with your Society.

Now President Emeritus Johnson had the honor of receiving from Michael Raphael, CEO & President of Direct Dimensions, Inc., the final laser scan of the Liberty Bell in honor of Let Freedom Ring, and its long history for what it represents. During dessert members and guests watched as the laser scan along with a picture of one of the scans was presented to your Society for archival security protection of the Bell. This scan enables the United States government, if the bell is ever damaged or terrorized, to be reproduced as it stands today for its millions of visitors to see on a daily basis. While Dennis Reidenbach, Superintendent of Independence Hall, and Mary Bomar, Northeast Region Director for the Department of the Interior looked on, President Johnson was handed the framed scan as a gift from Michael Raphael

LFR Foundation, Inc. Update

President Johnson recently announced the formation of the new LFR Foundation, Inc., which pertains to the national promotion of Let Freedom Ring. As with any new creation, the bricks and mortar are still being laid in the architectural plan, things being added, tried, and sometimes taken away. The newsletter will keep you updated on the Foundation's current happenings and future plans in upcoming newsletters.

As members and guests listened to the presentation President Johnson announced that there were special gifts wrapped as the centerpieces at each table for all attendees commemorating the evening's gift to the Society. To the delight of all, those in attendance received crystal cubes with the scaled down Liberty Bell inside taken from a laser scan to mark the event.

The crystal Liberty Bell cubes will be available on the Let Freedom Ring website for sale. Purchases can be made directly to Direct Dimensions. If you are interested in purchasing a cube, please go into the LFR website at www.let-freedom-ring.org.

Your Society has also ordered a limited amount of the crystal cubes for the Let Freedom Ring reception and luncheon to have for members who may wish to purchase one. The cost of a crystal cube is \$30.00 each. If you would like to order one in advance, please call the Society Office at 215-545-1888 and the staff will be happy to order one for you to have at the July 4th celebration. The Office expects to run out of the cubes quickly, so please remember to place your order with them if you are interested in purchasing one. These are truly commemorative gifts for Let Freedom Ring.



ANOTHER SECRET

Yes, it's that time again when our Executive Director has to keep the secret of which ship is coming to dock at Penn's Landing in honor of Let Freedom Ring. She is also promising that there will be some surprises aboard.

Working with the Atlantic Fleet and Fleet Force Security issues are getting to be part of our Executive Director's everyday operational responsibilities. With the success of the docking of the USS Cole last year in Philadelphia, your Society's involvement with the military intensifies each year. It was reported to our Society Office that the USS Cole, as also the USS Laboon, completely enjoyed their visits in Philadelphia over the July 4th holiday.

This year our surprise ship is scheduled to arrive on June 30th at the Walt Whitman Bridge at 11:17 a.m. As usual, a grand welcome is planned for them. The estimated docking time at the Market Street Berth will be approximately lunchtime.

Shirley along with Clifton Davis, Executive Director for Sunoco Welcome America, have planned this welcoming, but even she won't tell Clifton the name of the ship. Your Society is learning that women can keep a secret and it is quite evident in the Society Office when it comes to our visiting ships in honor of Let Freedom Ring.

Please make plans to join us on June 30th to welcome the USS ?????????? as it arrives in Philadelphia and takes part in the Let Freedom Ring Celebration.

Watch the Society's two websites for details concerning its arrival at:

www.amrev.org
www.let-freedom-ring.org

Don't forget to mark the calendar and welcome our visitors.

CHILDREN, THE FUTURE BEARERS OF LIBERTY

For the past few years, the Let Freedom Ring celebration seems to bring with it new themes. Children, the Future Bearers of Liberty, is the theme of the 2006 celebration.

Starting at 11:00 a.m. our historical friends at the National Constitution Center will gather children to tell them stories and color historical murals for the parade down 6th Street to Independence Hall as part of Sunoco Welcome America's (SWA) Go 4th and Learn Project. Children from all over the area, including children of the Sons, will be learning the history of our great area from stories told by story tellers from Governor Rendell's Once Upon A Nation Project, funded last year by your Society and this year also.

From there the children, also part of SWA's Go 4th and Learn, will march in the Let Freedom Ring Children's Parade towards Independence Hall on 6th Street, led by the PA Regiment, Honor Guard from our visiting naval ship, and your Society's Color Guard led by Richard Dana Smith, Sr. Sailors will line the path as future bearers of freedom pass by carrying their colorful banners and flags waving.

Joining these youth will be the Philadelphia Boy's Choir, directed by Jeff Smith, and the Upper Darby High School Choir, directed by PA's Teacher of the Year -Barbara Benglian, in addition to the Upper Darby High School Band, directed by Jason Majerczak.

In addition, the Sons of the Sons' will be participating this year for the first time reading excerpts from the Declaration of Independence with their father/grandfather on stage with them. The Little Patriots are starting their volunteer service to the Society. President Emeritus Joseph Loughran, Esq., a member of the group that rings the tower bell each year, will be up in the tower with his grandson and PSSR member ringing the bell at the 2:00 p.m. hour when bells across our nation start tolling their bells 13 times in memory of the forefathers and the freedoms in conjunction with the tapping of the Liberty Bell by four young descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Pre-entertainment will start at 12:30 p.m. in front of Independence Hall followed by the celebration at 1:00 p.m. and the traditional tapping at 2:00 p.m.

Come join your Society as our own Little Patriots also take part in their first Let Freedom Ring Celebration.

TWO SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Because of the Society's very long history with Independence Hall, really from its beginnings, and its active role to the present, President Fenstermacher, along with Michael Raphael of Direct Dimensions, will have the proud honor to gift a copy of the laser scan of the Liberty Bell to Superintendent Dennis Reidenbach at this year's 2006 celebration of the tapping of the Liberty Bell, a truly historical occasion for those who will be in attendance. The Park's copy of the scan will also go into security archives for its protection and preservation for future generations.

In addition, there will be a second presentation to INHP right before the bell tapping at 2:00 p.m. Everyone who attended the George Washington Birthday Party got to see a picture of one of the actual scans of the Bell on display. This picture has been professionally framed and will be gifted to the Park where it will hang by the Icon for the public to see, which shows thousands of data points from the Bell. Note, this is not the final scan that is being security archived for the Bell's protection.

Hot July 4th

Each year on July 4th, your Society knows that its members and families would like to be relaxing at a picnic, poolside, or down the shore. And yes, they also wish that George Washington and the Signers would have possibly done all this on a cool spring or fall day, maybe in April or October. Let's be honest, we've all thought about it. Your Society though has watched Let Freedom Ring grow since 1969, its inception, and want to thank the many who do give up that time above to be with us each July 4th and assist or attend the celebration, yes now, our Little Patriots too.

Behind the scenes it takes many in all different areas to assist us each year in its planning and execution. On page 4 of this edition, you will see just some of the behind the scenes personnel who plan and work and also the volunteers on this project months ahead of its event time.

On behalf of the Board of Managers and the newly formed LFR Foundation, Inc., we would like to thank all of you in advance for all your dedication and efforts each year for our July 4th celebration. We are honored to be part of a Society that is making history on July 4th, 2006

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!!

The Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and the LFR Foundation, Inc. sincerely wants to thank the following for assisting with the 2006 Let Freedom Ring Celebration:

- Let Freedom Ring Committees
- Governor Edward G. Rendell
- Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito of the US Supreme Court
- Captain Smith & the PSSR Color Guard
- PSSR Members & Little Patriots
- Independence National Historical Park & Staff
- Liberty Bell Tappers & Families
- Philadelphia Boy's Choir
- Upper Darby High School Choir & Band
- Second Pennsylvania Regiment of the Continental Line
- Crew & Officers of our Visiting Naval Ship
- National Constitution Center & Staff
- Once Upon A Nation & Staff
- Sunoco Welcome America and Go 4th and Learn & Staff
- Greater Philadelphia Tourism & Marketing Corporation & Staff
- Mayor John Street & Staff, City of Philadelphia
- Temple University Tourism and Hospitality Department Interns & Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority
- Military Flyover Crews
- Penn's Landing Corporation & Staff
- U.S. Military Personnel Participants Here and Around the World
- Bell Tapper Participants & Sponsors Here Around the World

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