

The Patriot



Latest News from the [Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York](#)

Vol. 2, No. 4 (April 2008)



Fox Hunt at Mount Vernon — The Start by John Ward Dunsmore. See story below.
Photo by Amy Northrop Adamo

Greetings from the President

Spring will be a busy season at 54 Pearl Street. In addition to many engaging events at Fraunces Tavern® Museum, we will host our annual Family Night Dinner on Mon., April 21, in the historic Bissell Room. On this special evening, friends and family join our members for fellowship, delicious food, and a special speaker. This year, we welcome Brian Andersson, Commissioner of the Department of Records and Information Services, City of New York. Commissioner Andersson — always an engaging speaker — will discuss the true identity and life of Annie Moore, the first immigrant to enter the United States via Ellis Island. You'll want to [email your reservations](#) now, as we expect to have a full house.

I call your special attention in this issue to the [Dunsmore Conservation Project](#), about which you'll read more below. We are well on our way to conserving the SRNY's entire collection, but are still in need of



Magna Carta Update: Mark Your Calendars!



[Magna Carta](#)

In our March issue, we announced that American International Group (AIG) has underwritten, for a total of \$1M, the exhibition of Lincoln Cathedral's copy of Magna Carta at Fraunces Tavern Museum this fall. This document, one of only four extant copies, will be displayed for three months at the Museum as part of the exhibition entitled "Magna Carta and the

Foundations of Freedom."

Additional historic documents that focus on freedom will also be on view, including broadsides of the American Constitution and Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Flushing Remonstrance. "Magna Carta and the

your help. I do hope you'll consider adding this project to your list of worthwhile gifts.

Portrait of Lafayette, "Our Marquis"
Photo by Amy Northrop Adamo

Magna Carta is coming! You can read all about it later in this newsletter. Be sure to mark your calendars for Nov. 3, the opening day of this groundbreaking exhibition.

On a personal note, I was quite busy this winter. I represented SRNY at two key events of the New York social season: the St. David's Ball on Feb. 28 at the Yale Club and the annual dinner of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on March 14 at the Sheraton Seventh Avenue — the latter in the delightful company of 2,300 gentlemen guests. (I'm told that the Sheraton has the largest ballroom in our fair city.)

Both of these elegant events were also tremendous fun. I was pleased and honored to share the St. Patrick's dais with Mayor Bloomberg, former Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ), and other special guests, including the top officials of many lineage societies. Let me not neglect to mention that the honoree of St. David's Ball was renowned Welsh cabaret singer Iris Williams, OBE. What a joy to meet her! She was joined in the evening's festivities by the uplifting Welsh Choir from Trinity College, Carmarthen.

Please join us on April 21st and visit us often. I look forward to greeting you.

Yours aye,

John Mauk Hilliard
President, SRNY

Dunsmore Collection: Conservation Update

As of April 1, a total of 33 of our 45 John Ward Dunsmore paintings have been identified as needing conservation treatment. To date, 22 have been sponsored and conserved. However, there are still 11 paintings that need treatment, a financial commitment of approximately \$40,000. See [our website](#) for more details.



Bunker Hill: Fight at the Rail Fence
Photo by Amy Northrop Adamo

Many Thanks:

Foundations of Freedom” opens November 3, 2008, and runs through January 29, 2009.

Magna Carta, Latin for “Great Charter,” was given seal by King John in June 1215. Forced upon the King by English nobles and churchmen, Magna Carta limited the power of the monarch for the first time in recorded history. As a result, it also provided the foundation for trial by jury, for the courts, representative government, and independence of the church from the state.

Our thanks to AIG for their generous gift, and to Ambassador John L. Loeb, Jr. for his contribution in support of the “Magna Carta and the Foundations of Freedom,” for which he was honored at the SRNY Ball on Feb. 21. For more information on Magna Carta visit [Lincoln Cathedral's website](#).



From left: Nicholas J. Ashooh, SVP for Communications AIG; Very Rev'd Philip Buckler, Dean of Lincoln Cathedral; Martin J. Sullivan, President and CEO, AIG; and Richard Alan Gregory, Executive Director SRNY/FTM. Above, Dean Buckler presents Martin Sullivan with a certificate designating a Key Stone on the face of the Cathedral. The stone carries Sullivan's name, in honor of AIG's sponsorship of the Magna Carta's visit to New York. Courtesy of AIG

Calendar

Apr. 21: Family Night Annual Dinner with guest speaker Brian Andersson, Commissioner of the Department of Records and Information Services, City of New York. 6:30 p.m., \$60.00 per person.



Brian Andersson
Photo courtesy of NYC TV

Apr. 24: David Wilson on The Southern Strategy: Britain's Conquest of South Carolina and Georgia, 1775-1780. Flag Gallery, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Free with Museum admission (\$4/\$3 students, senior citizens); members free.

May 3: Special Event! The Jewish Community and the American Revolution: A Guided Walking Tour. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Meet at Fraunces Tavern® Museum. \$15/\$10 members. Reservations and payment [online](#). What was the role of the Jewish community in the American Revolution? How was the history of the Jews affected by the Revolutionary War and the actions of the nation's founding fathers (including George

- To Lawrence K. Casey, Jr., SR Texas, for his generous support of the conservation of three paintings: *Bunker Hill: Fight at the Rail Fence*, *Arousing the Minutemen*, and *Paul Revere, 1775*. Conservation of these works is supported by matching grants from ExxonMobil. Mr. Casey grew up along the Battle Road in Massachusetts, so these paintings are especially important to him.
- To the Bay & Paul Foundations for their support of the conservation of *Washington & Family at Mount Vernon*, *The Defense of Fort Washington*, and several frames for the Dunsmore paintings. Funds from their generous grant of \$8,000.00 are designated for this important work.
- To Mr. & Mrs. Chips Page, The Order of Lafayette, Mr. Harlow Unger, and Mr. William Bryk for conservation of *The Portrait of Lafayette*, "Our Marquis."
- To The Artist Preservation Group for complete sponsorship of *News from Yorktown*.

Washington)? The answers to these and other fascinating questions will be answered on May 3, when attorney and historian James S. Kaplan, a licensed NYC sightseeing guide, leads you through the historic streets of Lower Manhattan. As you night owls will recall, Mr. Kaplan led our popular 4th of July Walking Tour in 2007.

May 6:

Alvin Rabushka on Taxation in Colonial America, Flag Gallery, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Free with Museum admission (\$4/\$3 students, senior citizens); members free.

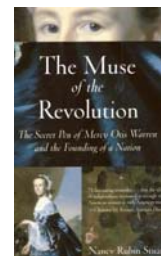
May 15: New Book! Gordon Bond: *James Parker: A Printer on the Eve of Revolution*. Flag Gallery, 6:30 p.m. Free to members; general public \$6. Refreshments provided.

Coming in June:

June 3: New Book! Alexander Katlan, *Painting Exhibitions at the Salmagundi Club*. This lecture focuses on the Dunsmore Collection of paintings. Flag Gallery, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Free with Museum admission (\$4/\$3 students, senior citizens); members free.

June 13: Flag Day Parade and Ceremonies, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Parade steps off at City Hall, 12 noon, ends at 54 Pearl Street with essay contest winners reading their works, a concert of patriotic music, and stirring remarks from special guests.

June 19: New Book! Nancy Rubin Stuart, *The Muse of the Revolution: The Secret Pen of Mercy Otis Warren and the Founding of a Nation*. Flag Gallery, 6:30 p.m. Free to members; general public \$6. Refreshments provided.



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Speaker and Event Round-up

February was a busy month with the George Washington's Birthday Ball as its highlight. (See [The Patriot, March 2008](#), for more details.)

Special thanks! to noted Washington scholar Edward Lengel for joining us at the Museum on the evening of Feb. 21. In this fascinating presentation, he discussed his research on the papers of George Washington. The Museum was Mr. Lengel's sole New York City stop, and our lively audience appreciated this special distinction.

On March 27, François Furstenberg treated us to a talk on his new book, *In the Name of the Father: Washington's Legacy, Slavery, and the Making of a Nation* (Penguin, 2007). This is an illuminating study of how Americans were bound together into a young nation through the words, image, and myth of George Washington. Of

Our warmest thanks and heartfelt good wishes to all of you!

Update on Museum Education

Director of Education Jennifer Patton has excellent news. She reports:

We hope to double the number of school groups this spring compared to last year: 592 groups this April, as opposed to 306 at the same time in 2007. The reason? We've tripled our number of docents. As a result, we've expanded our in-house tour schedule to five mornings a week.

We've also collaborated with Federal Hall more often to host larger school groups: sixteen Federal Hall Collaborative Programs are scheduled this spring, compared to just six last year.

The Patriot has also learned that the Museum has waitlisted more than a dozen teachers in case any tour dates become available before the end of this school year! Great job, Jennifer, and keep up the good work.

Welcome to Our New Members!

The following men were elected to the SRNY on March 24, 2008:

name	ancestor
Raymond J. Manning	Johannes Westervelt
Robert J. Serpico	Zachariah Jennings, Jr.
Eugene Sheldon Shreve, Jr.	Col. Israel Shreve
Richard Roy Stanley	Reuben Hill
Joel Edward Strauch	Samuel Wotring

The SRNY *Patriot*

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54 Pearl Street
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212-425-1776
2administrator@sonsoftherevolution.org

Editor: Maria Dering

Contributors: Amy Northrop Adamo, Richard Alan
Gregory, John Mauk Hilliard, and Jennifer Patton

layout and HTML: Sandy Sanford

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particular interest was the way in which Mr. Furstenberg discussed how slavery shaped American nationalism in ways that influence and haunt us still.

Quiz

Your quizmaster has returned with a question that we hope teases your brain and gives you delight on this 1st of April:

Which American Presidents are NOT buried within the territorial United States?

The answer will appear in the next *Patriot*. Or if you're really dying to know, email [our editor](#). And while you're at it, let us know your comments, questions, and ideas for future issues of *The Patriot*. We'd like to hear from you!