

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INSTITUTE

**News, Events, and Commentary
from the American Revolution Institute
of the Society of the Cincinnati**

today

July 1, 2021

A Virtual Second of July Celebration

John Adams—the father of American independence if ever there was one—predicted that “the Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. Celebrate the second of July with music of the founding era. David and Ginger Hildebrand of the Colonial Music Institute perform eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century songs—including ballads, marches, and songs from the War of 1812 period—in costume with period instruments. The virtual concert will premiere on the Institute’s website on July 2.



[Learn More](#)

New Society of the Cincinnati Website Launched

The new website of the Society of the Cincinnati recently launched, presenting the mission and resources of the 238-year-old organization with cutting-edge technology to reach more people than ever before. The redesigned and expanded site explores the Society’s founding purpose, its rich history, its modern activities, and its elegant headquarters at Anderson House in Washington, D.C. Visitors to the site will find articles, collections highlights, online exhibitions, virtual and video tours, and other resources on the Society’s history and mission,

membership, library and museum collections, activities today, and historic headquarters.

This website, which will grow in the coming weeks, months, and years, is an expanded resource for our members, Associates, scholars, teachers, tourists, neighbors, and friends around the world who share our interest in and commitment to promoting the importance and legacy of the American Revolution. We hope you enjoy it.

[Visit the Website](#)



My Dear Friend...

The Institute recently acquired a letter of the marquis de Lafayette that relates to four original members of the Society of the Cincinnati in the last years of their lives. Lafayette, of course, was a founding member of the Société des Cincinnati de France. Dated December 8, 1828, the letter is addressed to Nicholas Fish, an original member of the New York branch of the Society who maintained a lifelong correspondence with Lafayette. In the letter, the Frenchman wrote: “Here is another loss among our Revolutionary Brothers in Arms. The Excellent Thomas Pinckney has joined the far greater part of us who have left this world.” Thomas Pinckney of South Carolina was, at the time of his death in 1828, the president general of the Society of the Cincinnati. And the fourth Cincinnatus mentioned is the former president of the United States James Monroe, who was a member of the Virginia Society: “I am doubly grieved to hear my intimate friend Mr. Monroe Had a dangerous fall from His Horse, and finds himself in pecuniary circumstances still more deplorable than I Had apprehended....” It was at President Monroe’s invitation that Lafayette returned to the United States for his triumphal tour in 1824-1825, when he visited Fish in New York and Pinckney in South Carolina. James Monroe recovered from the fall and was finally able to clear his debts by the time he died on July 4, 1831. Nicholas Fish died on June 20, 1833, and Lafayette’s death came the following year, on May 20, 1834.

[View the Letter](#)



French Memoir and Memories of the War for American Independence

Join us for a panel discussion moderated by Library Director Ellen McCallister Clark that will explore the memoirs of French soldiers of the American Revolution including the marquis de Saint-Simon, the comte de Laubardière, and Jean-Baptiste-Antoine de Verger. Many French soldiers preserved their reflections on the revolution in America in daily diaries, private journals and carefully composed memoirs, leaving us with a remarkable array of perspectives on America, Americans, and the first act in the age of revolution. This discussion will highlight gems from the Institute's library, as well as memoirs held in the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection at Brown University and in private collections.

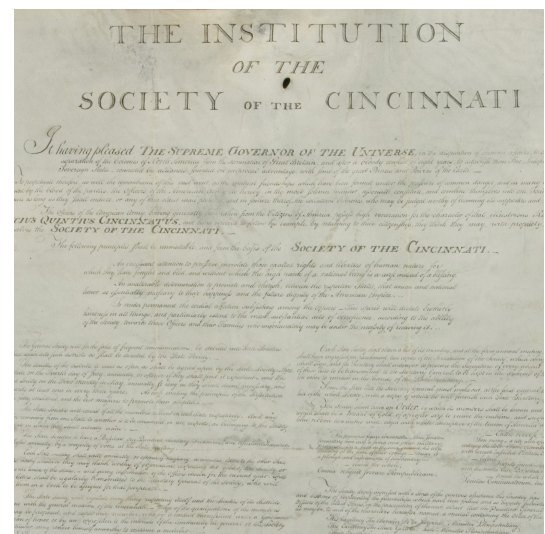
[Learn More and Register](#)



July Teacher Program to Focus on American Cincinnatus, George Washington

As president general of the Society of the Cincinnati from its inception to his death, George Washington subscribed—literally and figuratively—to the aims of the Society outlined in its Institution. Teachers attending a virtual program led by the Institute this month will explore Washington's commitment to these aims—perpetuating the fellowship of the officers, perpetuating the memory of the achievement of American independence, and advocating for justice to be done for veteran officers. This session will feature selected library and museum collection items as well as the Institute's online lesson resources that chronicle Washington's critical role in the formative years of America's republic. Visit the new *Collections for the Classroom* page created for this program communicating why the Society's ideals were important to Washington, and the broader importance of the Society in the early republic.

[Visit Collections for the Classroom](#)





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AmericanRevolutionInstitute.org

The American Revolution secured our independence, created our republic, established our national identity, and expressed ideals of liberty, equality, natural and civil rights, and responsible citizenship that have defined our history and will define our future. The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati promotes knowledge and appreciation of those achievements, fulfilling the aim of the Continental Army officers who founded the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 to perpetuate the memory of that vast event. The Institute supports advanced study, presents exhibitions and other public programs, advocates effective classroom instruction, and provides resources to teachers and students to enrich understanding of the American Revolution and the principles of the men and women who secured the liberty of the American people.



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