

## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION INSTITUTE

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

today

February 1, 2022

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### ***The Return of Lunch Bites***

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, our monthly Lunch Bite programs allowed guests to attend mid-day presentations at Anderson House, where staff and other experts highlighted and discussed treasures from our museum and library collections. We are delighted to announce that this popular program series is finally back!

On Friday, February 11 at 12:30 p.m., join Historical Programs Manager Andrew Outten on Zoom for a virtual presentation on a German military jaeger rifle. The soldiers of the German auxiliary forces that supported Great Britain during the Revolutionary War were a formidable foe. They were well trained and highly disciplined. Among these German auxiliaries were specialized corps of light infantry soldiers known as jaegers. With backgrounds as hunters, foresters, and trackers in the German wilderness prior to arriving in North America, men who made up the various jaeger corps were some of the most elite soldiers to fight in the war. This Lunch Bite will focus on the unique characteristics of a German military jaeger rifle in our collections along with the background, training, and tactics of those who fought with it.



[Learn more and register](#)

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### ***Upcoming Virtual Author's Talks***

Join us this month for two virtual author's talks that will highlight new books written about American privateers in the Revolutionary War and the Delaware River campaign of 1777.

On February 3 at 6:30 p.m., Professor Kylie Hulbert of

Hampden Sydney College will discuss her new book *The Untold War at Sea: America's Revolutionary Privateers*. Her work reconsiders the role privateers played in the Revolution, challenges the conventional view of privateers as opportunists motivated by profit, and argues that despite their controversial tactics, privateers merit a place alongside minutemen and Continental soldiers and sailors as important contributors to the American victory.

On February 16 at 6:30 p.m., Professor James Mc Intyre of Moraine Valley Community College will discuss his forthcoming book, *A Most Gallant Resistance: The Delaware River Campaign, September-November 1777*. Often overlooked, the American defense of the Delaware River threatened the British hold on Philadelphia by preventing the flow of supplies to Gen. William Howe's army. Until the American forts could be taken, their hold was not secure. The fighting for the forts along the Delaware was some of the most severe of the Revolutionary War and, as Mc Intyre asserts, warrants an important place in the overall narrative of the Philadelphia campaign.

[Learn more and register](#)



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## ***Thomas Pinckney Goes to Charleston***

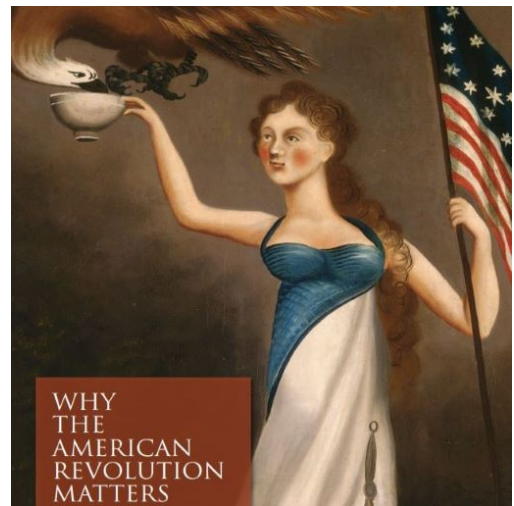
For the first time in more than a century, Samuel Morse's portrait of Major General Thomas Pinckney will be on display in the city where it was begun in 1818. We have lent the portrait to the [Gibbes Museum of Art](#) in Charleston, S.C., where it will be exhibited from February 10 through August 2022 in the Kim and Jim Pallotta Main Gallery. The portrait shows Pinckney, a Charleston native, wearing a U.S. Army uniform of the War of 1812 period—when he attained the rank of major general—as well as his Society of the Cincinnati Eagle insignia. Commissioned in early 1818, Morse began the portrait in Charleston that spring, took the unfinished canvas home to Massachusetts that summer, completed the portrait in August, and returned with it to Charleston that fall. After two hundred years in family hands, the Institute purchased the portrait in 2019 and [had it conserved](#) last year, all with dedicated gifts from 195 generous donors. Now it returns to the city of its birth to be displayed at the Gibbes Museum, which owns numerous other portraits of Pinckney family members as well as other works by Morse, among which our portrait of Thomas Pinckney will find a fitting temporary home.



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***Register as a Teaching Associate to  
Receive Our Newest Publication***

One of the Institute's most popular blog posts, [Why the American Revolution Matters](#), is now available in poster format for classroom use. We will mail a copy of this resource to any educator who enrolls as a Teaching Associate at the Classroom section of our website to share what "The wisest of our Revolutionaries understood . . ." Teaching Associates of the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati receive regular updates about educational products as well as invitations to online and in-person programs, workshops, and seminars. Joining the Teaching Associates is free—there are no fees and no dues.



[Enroll as a Teaching Associate](#)

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## *How to Clean a Mansion*

Historic houses and the collections held within them require prudent care and attention to keep them in good order, to preserve their useful existence for as long as possible. Last month Paul Newman, the Institute's museum collections and operations manager, began the process of curatorial housekeeping—the cleaning of the public rooms of Anderson House that form the tour route and provide the setting for our historical programs and other events.

Over the next several months, Paul will clean the objects and architectural features in fifteen rooms (each with ceilings at least twelve feet high), covering more than twelve thousand square feet of the house. Of course, we cannot use a feather duster or household vacuum when cleaning sixteenth-century tapestries. Paul is using conservation-grade tools as appropriate for each object and situation. For the most part, he wears a pair of nitrile gloves to ensure the oils from his hands do not transfer to the objects, which over time would cause damage. Natural fiber brushes are utilized to direct dust into a HEPA filter vacuum modified to enable precise control of the speed of the motor, crucial in minimizing the risk of loss from the item being cleaned.

In applying curatorial housekeeping, the Institute ensures Anderson House and the collections on display can be studied and enjoyed for generations to come.



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## *Meet One of Our Master Teachers*

A 2018 Master Teachers Seminar participant, Rob Schulte teaches U.S. History at Neptune High School in Neptune, N.J., and is a seasonal National Park Ranger at

Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. He was named New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance Teacher of the Year in 2018 and New Jersey Council for Social Studies Fred Cottrell Educator of the Year in 2020. His [Master Teacher lesson](#) using the letters of a Connecticut captain from our collections has been shared across the country. Rob answered a few questions about his experience at the Institute.

### **How is the Institute's Master Teachers Seminar different from other professional development programs?**

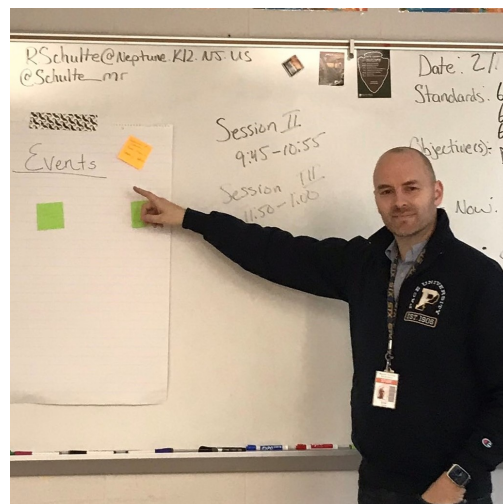
The Seminar stands apart from other residential teacher programs with its focus on the document and artifact collections at the Institute. The opportunity to research as a historian is something teachers rarely get the chance to engage in. To then apply that experience in the creation of lessons and curriculum is useful for educators who want to root their teaching in primary sources. Master teachers leave the program with the skills to use local, state, and online digital collections and create effective lessons. The camaraderie of fellow teachers attending, the incredible location in D.C., and the exceptional staff of the Institute make for an amazing week of professional development.

### **What was the focus of your research in the Institute's library?**

My lesson focused on how the idea of independence motivated colonists to fight in the Revolution using a series of letters the Institute acquired in 1993 written by Capt. Jonathan Birge of Connecticut. Birge's notes to his son, wife, and mother humanized the cost of the war for my students and helped them make an emotional connection to the Revolution by getting to know a soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

### **Why is it important for students to understand and appreciate the achievements of the American Revolution?**

Now more than ever, the ideals our first patriots fought for are relevant to a new generation. Our students need to see how their actions and engagement can fulfill the legacy of the aspirational ideals of the Revolution.



**Applications to our 2022 Master Teacher Seminar are due February 2**





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*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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