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News from the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati



[CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

Featured Story

A Portrait of a Cavalry Officer Joins the Collections

The American Revolution Institute recently acquired a portrait of Anthony Walton White, a New Jersey-born officer of the Continental Army and original member of the Society of the Cincinnati. The pastel portrait, which was executed in the 1790s by James Sharples, was generously donated in memory of C.A. Philippe von Hemert by his three sons, all of whom are White's descendants.



Anthony Walton White joined the Revolution in August 1775 with a short stint as a volunteer aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington during the Siege of Boston. After serving with the Third New Jersey Battalion in 1776, White was appointed a lieutenant colonel of the Continental Light Dragoons in 1777 and was later ordered by Washington to take command of all the cavalry serving with the southern army. White joined Lafayette's force in Virginia as commander of his cavalry on the campaign to Yorktown, then accompanied Brig. Gen. Anthony Wayne's troops to Georgia in 1782, where they besieged the city of Savannah until it was evacuated.

The portrait depicts White wearing a cavalry uniform of the 1790s and the Eagle insignia of the Society of the Cincinnati. That decade he became a general in the New Jersey militia and commanded the volunteer cavalry of the

Federal Militia Army in the expedition against the Whiskey Rebellion. He also served as a brigadier general in the U.S. Army during the Quasi-War with France. In our collections, White's portrait reunites with his sword, camp cups, Society of the Cincinnati membership diploma, and other documents that preserve his story.

This Month in Revolutionary History

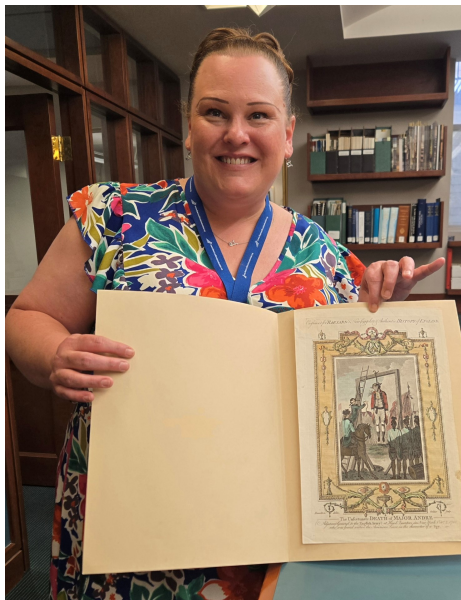
Lord Dunmore's Proclamation

November 7, 1775

"I do, in virtue of the power and authority to me given, by his Majesty, determine to execute martial law...I do require every person capable of bearing arms to resort to his Majesty's STANDARD, or be looked upon as traitors to his Majesty's crown and government...I do hereby farther declare all indented servants, Negroes, or others (appertaining to rebels) free, that are able and willing to bear arms, they joining his Majesty's troops, as soon as may be ..."

250 years ago, Virginia's royal governor in exile, John Murray, Earl of Dunmore, issued a proclamation that left no room for negation. You were either with the royal authorities or against them. And, if you were against them, the full weight of the law would be brought to bear. Arguably the most noteworthy element of this document was Lord Dunmore's offer to indentured servants and enslaved men within Virginia, that they, whether black or white, could earn their freedom if they fought under the British flag. This was the first document in the colonies to speak to mass emancipation. Lord Dunmore was not taking a moral stance with this proclamation, however, the issuing of this quid pro quo arrangement inspired—according to some estimates over the duration of the Revolutionary War—more than eighty thousand enslaved persons across the thirteen American colonies to flee for areas under British control.

Education



Become an ARI Master Teacher

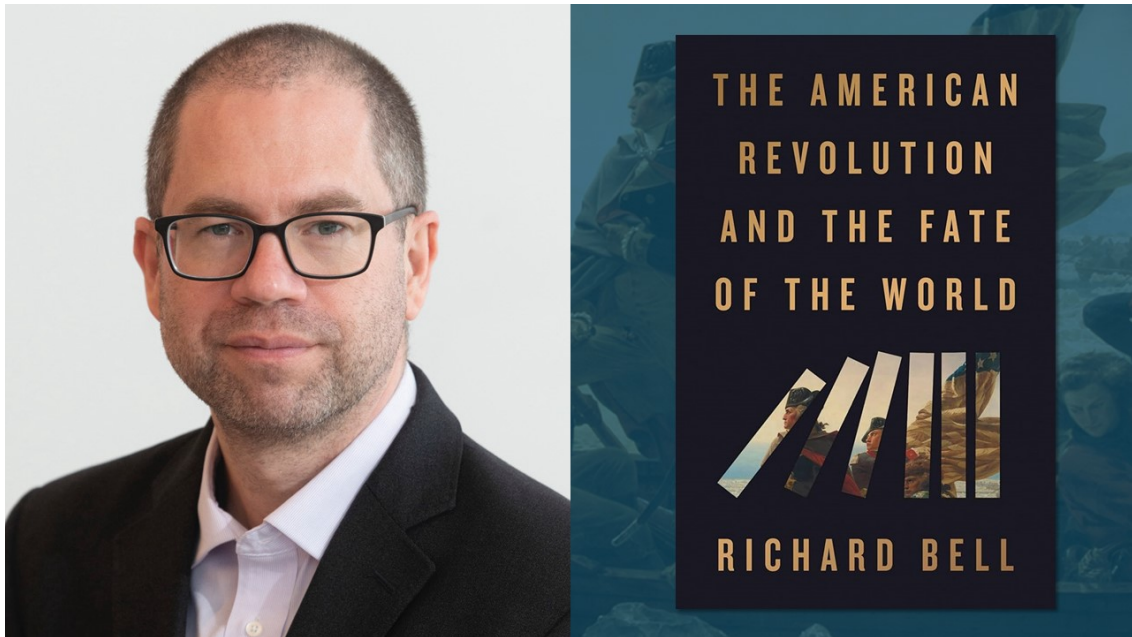
Applications open November 22, 2025 – February 22, 2026

Are you a K-12 educator interested in creating unique teaching content about the revolutionary generation? Do you use primary source materials in the classroom? Mark your calendars for November 22 and apply for our 2026 Master Teacher Seminar!

As we continue celebrating the semiquincentennial of the American Revolution, the Institute is excited to welcome a select group of teachers to our headquarters at Anderson House in Washington, D.C., **July 12-18, 2026**, for a week of learning from our team of experts and lesson plan research using our primary source collection materials.

[Learn more about the Master Teacher Seminar](#)

Events



The American Revolution at Home and Abroad Tuesday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an author's talk featuring historian Richard Bell, Ph.D., professor of history at the University of Maryland and the recipient of the 2025 Maryland Society of the Cincinnati Fellowship, discussing his new book, *The American Revolution and the Fate of the World*.

The American Revolution was a cataclysm that pulled in participants from around the globe and fundamentally transformed how the world worked, disrupting trade, restructuring penal systems, stirring famine, and creating the first global refugee crisis. Drawing from his new book that repositions the Revolution at the center of an international web, Richard Bell discusses the impact of the Revolution at home and abroad by grounding the narrative in the gripping stories of individuals that include, among others, women, minorities, and other disenfranchised people.

[Register here](#)



From the Vault: Military Training in the 18th Century

Tuesday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m., registration required

Join historian Steven Elliott, Ph.D., and our library staff for our next installment of From the Vault that explores rare books from our collections related to military training and education during the American Revolution. This exclusive viewing offers a unique opportunity to examine original eighteenth-century training manuals and military handbooks up close, while exploring the tactics, techniques, and instructional methods that shaped military thought in the revolutionary era. Special attention will be given to how the Continental Army was trained, disciplined, and prepared for war.

This program will be held in-person and tickets are \$25 per person. Registration is limited and will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis.

[Purchase tickets](#)

Collections

8 Inch 2 Cask — 7 Inch 8 Cask	Spikes
24 pdr 1 — 18 pdr 6 — 12 pdr 2 — 9 pdr 2	Plane Sledge &
6 pdr 16 — 4 pdr 16	Hammer heads
2 pair	Brass Scales & Weights
40	Thread
13	Junk
10 Inch 2 — 8 Inch 2	Mortar Beds
41	Hand

Unfurled History

Recent Conservation on a Return of Ordnance Stores

The Institute is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of our collections to stabilize and make them accessible to researchers.

Conservation was recently completed on Nathaniel Barber, Jr.'s "Return of Ordnance Stores." Barber, as the deputy commissary of military stores in Boston, carefully recorded supplies that had been distributed by the end of 1776 on the roll of joined cartridge paper. The return was rolled into a scroll—meant to be unfurled on a table—and stored for over two hundred years in that manner. Conservation treatment flattened the four-foot-long return to allow for its detailed accounting of cannons, carriages, powder, and military stores to be closely studied in the research library.

[Read more about this extraordinary manuscript](#)

Historical Programs This Month

All programs are held in-person at Anderson House unless otherwise specified. Virtual options are available. Admission is free unless otherwise specified and registration is requested. Click the images below to learn more and register, or [click here to view our full calendar of upcoming programs](#).

Author's Talk

The American Revolution and the Fate of the World

Richard Bell, Ph.D.

Tuesday, November 4, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House

Panel Discussion

The Archaeology of the American Revolution

Moderated by Richard Veit, Ph.D.

Panelists include:
Wade Catts, Jennifer Janofsky, Joel Bohy, and Matthew Kalos

Wednesday, November 12, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House

Special Program

From the Vault: Military Training in the 18th Century

Steven Elliott, Ph.D.

Tuesday, November 18, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House

Tickets: \$25 per person

[Click Here to Explore All Our Upcoming Historical Programs](#)



Read Past Issues

Calendar of Events

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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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