



Colonial Day at the Capitol- January 16, 2009

Directed By: Teresa Potter & Jan Morris

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It all began yesterday-

The wars that created nations,

The heroes that gave us new dreams,

The events that changed the world.

Experience firsthand the power of history.

Visit the past and discover

Who we are today; We are Americans!



Colonial Day Beginnings

In 1987, Catherine Wooten of Chickasha, hosted a Bill of Rights Day educational program at her home to build character and provide citizenship training, as founding father George Mason said, "by frequent recurrence to fundamental principles." Wooten, who had been named a regent of George Mason's Gunston Hall that year, began the educational event as part of Gunston Hall's educational outreach to students in Oklahoma. The program quickly grew and was moved to Enterprise Square in Oklahoma City in 1991. The event included an essay contest and a banquet. In 1995, Bill of Rights Day was moved to the State Capitol, and received support from the State Department of Education.

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence be-

came a participant in Bill of Rights Day in 1999, the same year that Wooten completed her term as a Gunston Hall Regent. Working together with the Foundation for Excellence, Wooten sought the assistance of Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute alumni to assume leadership of the Colonial history event. In 2001, Teresa Potter, a Moore Public Schools teacher and Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute alumna, became project director for the newly named Colonial Day at the Capitol.

In 2005-06, as part of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence 20th anniversary, Colonial Day at the Capitol partnered with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the Colonial Dames of Oklahoma and the State Department of Educa-

tion Fine Arts and Social Studies Conference to bring Williamsburg's renowned Thomas Jefferson historical interpreter Bill Barker to Oklahoma. The partnership was so successful that it has continued, with slave interpreter Sheila Arnold as Oney Judge in 2007, and interpreter Richard Schuman as Patrick Henry in 2008.

In 2008, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate joined in the partnership to bring interpreter Ron Carnegie as George Washington to Colonial Day 2009. He will be joined by popular Williamsburg interpreter Willie Balderson as explorer Christopher Gist.



George Washington *portrayed by Ron Carnegie*

George Washington has long been a role model and legend for Americans. His father, Augustine, died when he was eleven and this ended George's plans to go to England to be educated. He was a hard worker even as a youth. He began a journal at age 16 and through practice he developed excellent handwriting. George was also good in math. He learned surveying on the job and started his own business, as a surveyor, at age 17.

George was physically strong and active. His physical stamina helped him on expeditions to the frontier and as a leader in the military.

As a commander of Virginia's militia in the French and Indian War (1755-58), he learned how to organize an army of about 1,000 men. Although he made some mistakes, he learned a great deal, particularly about recruiting and training men and supplying

them with food, clothing, guns and ammunition.

George Washington, as portrayed by Ron Carnegie, will share what he has learned from these experiences and how he applied and further developed these skills in organizing and leading the revolutionary army.

Christopher Gist Portrayed by Willie Balderson

Christopher Gist was one of the first white explorers of the Ohio Country in what would become the United States. He is credited for providing Great Britain and the colonists with the first detailed description of the Ohio Country. He also accompanied George Washington on missions in the Ohio Country at the outset of the French and Indian War.

Born in 1706 in Baltimore, Maryland, Gist is thought to have had little formal education, though it is believed that he received train-

ing as a surveyor, probably from his father Richard Gist.

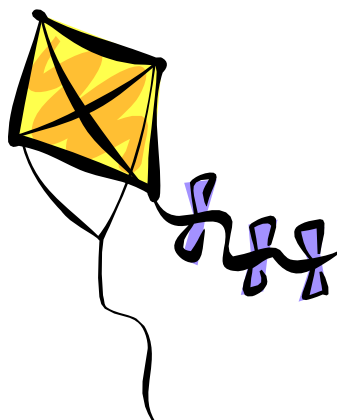
He married Sarah Howard and by 1750 Gist had settled in northern North Carolina, near the Yadkin River, where one of his neighbors was the noted frontiersman Daniel Boone. During that same year the Ohio Company chose Gist to explore the country of the Ohio River. That winter Gist mapped the Ohio countryside and returned home to his family.

In 1753 Gist would once again

return to the Ohio Country, this time accompanied by George Washington. Washington was sent to Fort Le Boeuf in order to deliver a message to the French demanding that they leave the Ohio Country. Washington took Gist along as a guide. Gist earned his place in history by saving young Washington's life. In 1754, Washington, Gist, and a detachment of militia attempted to drive out the French. The French and Indian War had begun.

Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

Benjamin Franklin



Benjamin Franklin *portrayed by Stephen Smith*

As an inventor, Ben was very practical. If he needed something that was not available, he invented it. He invented a better stove, so he did not have to chop so much wood. He loved his rocking chair, so he made it do chores while he rocked. He also invented bifocals for his chang-

ing eyes. Proving that lightning and static electricity are the same was the discovery that made Ben the only internationally known scientist in the colonies.

History comes alive as you talk with Ben Franklin, (portrayed by Stephen Smith)

printer, inventor, statesman, and our oldest founding father. Learn of his travels to England and France, his involvement in the Revolutionary War, and his work on the Constitution.

A Big Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!

- * The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence
- * The Oklahoma Humanities Council
- * The Oklahoma State Department of Education
- * Colonial Williamsburg
- * The Residence Inn by Marriott
- * Mount Vernon
- * Mr. Charles L. Oppenheim
- * The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Oklahoma



- * George Washington-Ron Carnegie
- * Christopher Gist-Willie Balderson
- * Benjamin Franklin-Stephen Smith
- * Colonial Soldier-Whit Edwards, The Oklahoma History Center
- * The Patriot Loyalist Debate-Mr. Charles Oppenheim
- * The Bill of Rights-Mrs. Rita Geiger
- * Mount Vernon-Mrs. Jan McClaren

Presenters

- * Tea Time Tales-Brooke Potter & Robyn Wheelock
- * Archaeology-Kitty Hart
- * Revolutionary Spies-Deji Dugger
- * Colonial Ghost Stories-Alona Anderson
- * Games-Katie Buckley
- * Dancing-Donna Collier
- * Archaeology-Randy Utt & Ellen Stiles

- * Slavery-Kayleen Browning
- * A Day in the Life-Debbie Venable
- * African Songs-Dessa Weber
- * Colonial Crafts- Steph Stevens & Jill Clark
- * Jeanne Pennington-Military Maneuvers
- * Teresa Potter-Penelope Barker

Children learn by doing. And play is their work.

Author Unknown



Follow the footsteps of our Founding Fathers as we learn about our colonial past...

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|--------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 9:30-9:45 | Dennis(50) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Skyview (100) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Kendall Whittier (36) Wilson (25) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) Whittier-Bill of Rights (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Fairview (75) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) Fairview/Wilson- Debate (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Oakdale (54) Fisher (17) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Mustang Creek(115) Opening Ceremony (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) |
| 9:55-10:30 | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Whittier-Bill of Rights (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Fairview/Wilson- Debate (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) |
| 10:35-11:10 | Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Debate (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) | Bill of Rights (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) |
| 11:15-11:50 | Debate (Senate) | Bill of Rights (Senate) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) Benjamin Franklin (Supreme Court) | Debate (Senate) George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) | George Washington Christopher Gist (House Chambers) |
| 11:50-12:20 | Lunch | Lunch | T-6 A Day in the Life-419A (Venable) T-7 African Music-419B (Weber) | T-8 Ghost Stories-419C (Alona Anderson) T-9 Dancing-Sup. Ct. Hall (Donna Collier) T-10 Games-434 Hall | T-1 Tea Time Tales-Blue Room (Brooke & Robyn) T-2 Revolutionary Soldier-434 (Whit Edwards) | T-3 Mount Vernon-412A (Jan McClaren) T-4 Archaeology-412B (Kitty Hart) T-5 Rev. Spies-Gov. Conf. Rm. (Deji Dugger) |
| 12:25-12:55 | T-1 Tea Time Tales-Blue Room (Brooke & Robyn) T-2 Revolutionary Soldier-434 (Whit Edwards) | T-3 Mount Vernon-412A (Jan McClaren) T-4 Archaeology-412B (Kitty Hart) T-5 Rev. Spies-Gov. Conf. Rm. (Deji Dugger) | Lunch | Lunch | T-6 Crafts-419 A/B (Clark & Stevens) T-7 Military-Gov. Conf. Room (Pennington) | T-8 Ghost Stories-419C (Alona Anderson) T-9 Dancing-Sup. Ct. Hall (Donna Collier) T-10 Games-434 Hall (Katie Buckley) |
| 1:00-1:30 | T-6 Archaeology 412C (Utt) T-7 Slavery or Social Graces-419A/B (Browning) | T-8 Ghost Stories-419C (Alona Anderson) T-9 Dancing - Sup. Ct. Hall (Donna Collier) T-10 Games-434 Hall (Katie Buckley) | T-1 Tea Time Tales-Blue Rm. (Brooke & Robyn) T-2 Revolutionary Soldier-434 (Whit Edwards) | T-3 Mount Vernon-412A (Jan McClaren) T-4 Archaeology-412B (Kitty Hart) T-5 Penelope Barker-Gov. Conf. Rm. (Potter) | Lunch | Lunch |