

Pledge It Forward—From Self to Service:

A Challenge from The Patriot Papers — F. A. PULLES, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When studying George Washington, I was struck by his reluctance to accept the presidential nomination. In this age of costly campaigns, hanging chads, and fights to the bitter end, it's hard to imagine. But perhaps Washington's hesitancy was understandable. In 1788 he was fifty-six years old and had already sacrificed many years in service to his country. In 1783, after eight-and-a-half years as commander in chief of the Continental army, he had resigned his commission. His own affairs and the management of Mount Vernon absorbed his energies, and he had stressed the finality of his retirement. But when unanimously elected, he served. His formal notification of nomination to the presidency praised him for "the proof given of patriotism, of his readiness to sacrifice domestic separation and private enjoyment to preserve the liberty and promote the happiness of the country." Washington was far more reluctant to consider serving a second term. Historian Marcus Cunliffe writes: *He celebrated his sixtieth birthday in February 1792, and felt older than his years. He had survived serious illnesses in 1790 and 1791. He was, he complained, growing deaf; his eyesight was deteriorating; and his memory was beginning to be defective. Yet the detailed, and far from absent-minded, letters that he wrote on Sundays and sent to his agents at Mount Vernon on points of farm management, reveal that he was not so much tired of life as tired of being President.*

But his colleagues felt that only he could lead at this difficult time. Thomas Jefferson's plea, "I cannot but hope that you can resolve to add one or two more to the many years you have already sacrificed to the good of mankind," and Hamilton's request to make "a further sacrifice, trusting that it need not continue above a year or two more," helped press him to service. In a letter to his friend Henry Lee dated 1793, Washington confided that he had decided to accept a second term of office

only "after a long and painful conflict in my own breast." He was reelected unanimously. Again, he served the whole term.

Washington's life was one of service and sacrifice. And it came at a great cost—to his health, to his marriage, to the productiveness of Mount Vernon. Throughout our country's history, Americans have been asked to serve and sacrifice for the good of country and community. On September 11, we were called once again and America answered. Many sacrificed; many served.

As the 2001 film *Pay It Forward* suggests, it is often difficult to pay back those who have influenced our lives—our forefathers, our mentors, our heroes, our friends. But we can pay it forward. We can give to the next generation. We can care about community. The National Portrait Gallery's Office of Education would like to recognize those who continue to care about community. We challenge you to *Pledge It Forward*—pledge time to your schools, youth organizations, senior centers. Pick a project, pledge your time, and make a difference. If a high-school student tutors one child, once a week, if a 6th grader reads to an elderly shut-in, if kids in South Texas start a small library by collecting used books, if senior citizens plant flowers on Main Street, if teens answer a hotline, volunteer at a shelter, or simply read to a child, we would all be stronger. E-mail us your pledges; write to us about your projects. We'd like to recognize Americans working for America and will feature your pictures and stories on our website at www.georgewashington.si.edu. Projects of particular merit will be published in *The Patriot Papers*. Get creative; get busy. And together, we can build a community of caring.

Write to us at PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu

Together, Museums Create Wall of Expression

On the morning of September 11, 2001 Americans watched in horror as we witnessed the sheer force of hatred. As a nation we mourned, and as a nation we must heal.

Voicing our collective sorrow, we used art as our medium and created the Wall of Expression, seeking to heal ourselves and support a grieving nation. This wall stands as a memorial to those who sacrificed, a tribute to those who served, and as an expression of hope for the future.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY EMILY MCDONOUGH

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

THOMAS PAINE, FROM *The American Crisis*, DECEMBER 1776



Dedicated to those who sacrificed and served on September 11, 2001, and the weeks following, the Wall of Expression surrounds the Old Patent Office Building at 8th and F Streets in Washington, D.C. The building, home of the National Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, is currently undergoing extensive renovation while its collections tour the world.



Ismael Rosas, Charlie Rinehart, and Marielly Garza (left to right) from Sparks Elementary School in Pasadena, Texas, catch the spirit and contribute to the "By George We've Got It" campaign, hoping to help save the treasured Lansdowne portrait of George Washington.

Students in Pasadena, Texas Help Fund The Patriot Papers

*Their Campaign—
"By George We've Got It, Help Us Keep It"*

When the National Portrait Gallery announced in the fall of 2000 that it needed \$20 million to keep the Lansdowne portrait of George Washington, the children of the Pasadena Independent School District decided to do something about it. They wanted to save *George* from the auction block.

They developed the "By George, We've Got It, Help Us Keep It" campaign to raise funds for the famous Gilbert Stuart painting. The school district set a goal of one dollar for every student in PISD, and the children raised an inspiring \$4,200 before the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation donated the needed \$20 million. The monies raised by Pasadena students helped to fund *The Patriot Papers*.

As a Texas Recognized District for outstanding student achievement, the Pasadena District has been involved in local fundraising projects before. They contributed to the saving of the Alamo, the San Jacinto Monument, and the renovation of the battleship *Texas*. The Lansdowne portrait, like these other American treasures, is one that the children of Pasadena hoped to save.

Although most of the children had never seen the Lansdowne portrait in person, their enthusiasm for saving the national treasure was high. District spokesman Kirk Lewis also saw great potential in the project: "This is a teachable moment in terms of our national art history and national American history. It's a great way to energize our kids to learn about our country."

The "By George" campaign began as a local project, but gained national attention with its call to raise money. The school district challenged other school districts in the area to join the campaign. Ultimately, the Pasadena fundraisers hoped to relay the challenge across the nation. Fortunately for all Americans, the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation contributed the needed funds in March 2001.

Just as George Washington sacrificed his time and energy for the good of the nation, so too have the children of the Pasadena Independent School District. They have shown the country that national spirit is alive in our nation's youth. The National Portrait Gallery thanks those in Pasadena who contributed to the Lansdowne portrait campaign. We also encourage all Americans to continue the spirit of giving in their own communities, school districts, and neighborhoods by joining our current campaign "Pledge It Forward—Self to Service." Take your lead from Pasadena and take time to make a difference.



GEORGE WASHINGTON
A NATIONAL TREASURE

Patriot Papers

PATRIOT n. [Fr. patriote < LL. patriota, fellow countryman < Gr. patriotes < patris, fatherland < pater, EATHER]

"George Washington: A National Treasure" on Tour National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Opens Exhibition

On February 15, 2002, the National Portrait Gallery's iconic image of the father of our country begins a national tour at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas. For the first time in history, this prized image—the life-sized portrait of George Washington by artist Gilbert Stuart—is going on the road. An artifact whose historical and cultural significance has been compared to that of the Liberty Bell and the Declaration of Independence, the painting is one of the most important visual documents of the founding of our nation.

Senator and Mrs. William Bingham of Philadelphia commissioned the portrait from Stuart in 1796 as a gift for the British Marquis of Lansdowne, who sympathized with colonial grievances before the Revolutionary War. Thus the painting is often referred to as the "Lansdowne" portrait to differentiate it from Stuart's other images of Washington.

For more than 200 years, the painting remained in private hands in England; it was incorporated into the collection of the 5th Earl of Rosebery in the 1880s. It later hung in a castle in Scotland.

"George Washington: A National Treasure" on Tour

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston:

February 15 - June 16, 2002

Las Vegas Art Museum:

June 28 - October 27, 2002

Los Angeles County Museum of Art:

November 7, 2002 - March 9, 2003

Seattle Art Museum: March 21 - July 20, 2003

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts:

August 1 - November 30, 2003

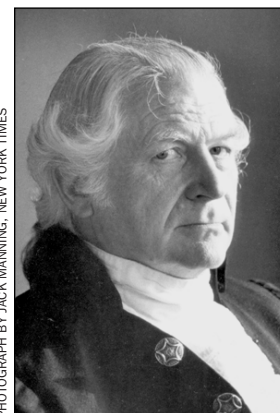
Oklahoma City Museum of Art:

December 12, 2003 - April 11, 2004

Arkansas Arts Center: April 23 - August 22, 2004

The Metropolitan Museum of Art: Fall 2004

Will the Real George W. Please Stand Up?



Actor William Sommerfield brings George Washington to your community for a 3-day trip back in time.

"For thousands of Americans, William Sommerfield is George Washington."

—RICHARD BROOKHISER, WASHINGTON BIOGRAPHER

Hailed by historians and politicians as the definitive dramatic portrayal of George Washington, William Arthur Sommerfield fascinates audiences with the insights, warmth, and humor of our first President. Sommerfield strips away the marble image of the ideal man and replaces it with a portrayal of George Washington, the intensely human being—a man of humor, anger, sorrow, failure, sacrifice, and love.

In 1968 the Lansdowne portrait was loaned to the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., where it served as the cornerstone of the museum's opening exhibition. For thirty-two years, it graced the Gallery's rotunda, greeting visitors as they ascended the building's grand staircase to the second floor. But in the fall of 2000, its British owner notified the Gallery of his decision to sell it at auction if the Gallery could not meet his asking price of \$20 million. The search for a benefactor to the Gallery—and to the nation—began.

In March 2001, a \$30 million gift from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation of Las Vegas, Nevada, assured that the painting would remain in the United States. Of that amount, \$20 million went to purchase the painting, \$4 million to renovate a gallery space dedicated exclusively to the portrait, and \$6 million to ensure that the portrait would be shared with the American people. After the tour opens in Houston, it continues to seven other cities, concluding with the portrait's return to its permanent home in the National Portrait Gallery.

Originally, the portrait hung in Lord Lansdowne's London house on Berkeley Square, accompanied by other artworks, including a sculpture of the Roman general Cincinnatus, with whom Washington is often compared. Reportedly, Cincinnatus left his plow to save the Roman republic, then relinquished his public role and returned to private life. The parallel between Cincinnatus and Washington as men of service is striking.

This "man of service" is the George Washington that the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation wanted America to see. Here was a man who served as commander in chief of the Continental army, who shaped the American presidency, who guided the country through the "fragile experiment" of democracy. Certainly others had greater intellect and were better educated, more articulate, and of



The National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, acquired Gilbert Stuart's 1796 Lansdowne portrait of George Washington in 2001 as a gift to the nation through the generosity of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.

calmer disposition. But Washington was chosen. Unanimously elected to the presidency, he served two terms and then retired from office. Here was a man who refused to be king.

Join the tour at one of its eight locations as the National Portrait Gallery explores this man of character, self-sacrifice, and patriotism. Or follow the tour online, through the Gallery's Lansdowne website at www.georgewashington.si.edu.

The only man ever to interpret Washington at the general's home, Mount Vernon in Virginia, Sommerfield draws on more than 10 years of research and performance when creating his character. Every detail, from costume to powdered hair and dress sword, is historically accurate; he even captures the flourish of Washington's signature.

In 1989 the Bicentennial Commission on the Constitution selected Sommerfield to portray Washington for the eight-day journey from Mount Vernon to New York in a re-creation of the inaugural ride, culminating in the swearing-in of the first President. He has continued to captivate audiences on NBC's *EyeWitness to History*, the DC Bicentennial Celebration, the National Bill of Rights Tour, *Good Morning America*, the *Today Show*, and A&E's *The Crossing*. He has appeared in *Time* magazine and the *New Yorker*, and on the covers of *USA Today*, the *New York Times*, and the *Times* of London.

As artistic director and chief writer of the American Historical Theatre in Philadelphia, Sommerfield re-creates history, bringing a piece of the past to life. Favorite performances include "The Glorious Burden," which explores the presidency, and "The Love Letters of George and Martha." Join George for an 18th-century news conference or a lesson in the minuet. Don't miss this trip back in time! Check local venues for details.

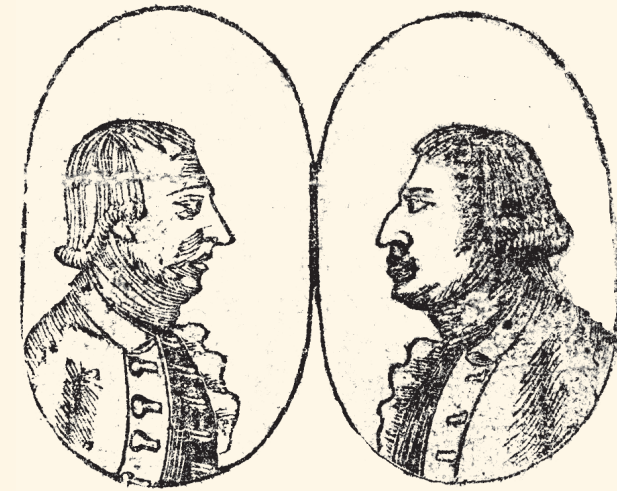
"George Washington: A National Treasure" is organized by the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, and made possible through the generosity of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.

Washington Wins Election to House from Fort Cumberland!

FREDERICKSBURG, 1758—George Washington, son of Augustine and Mary Ball Washington, has been elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses while serving with the British regulars at Fort Cumberland. Although urged by friends to return to the colony of Virginia and “show his face,” Washington opted to remain with his men and was successful in winning a seat in the House from Frederick County.

General Washington Rallies Troops at Valley Forge

VALLEY FORGE, 1777–1778—General Washington struggles to keep his troops alive and well in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, this winter. Inadequate shipments of food, clothing, and supplies have left the regiments in shambles; poor hygiene and rampant disease threaten the lives of all the soldiers camped there. General Washington has made repeated appeals for increased supplies, but the mismanagement of the supply trade has yet to be resolved. In the meantime, General Washington struggles alongside his men while political rivals threaten to remove his power. Military and civilian critics, particularly Thomas Conway and Dr. Benjamin Rush, feel that there are several men who are better suited to lead the Continental army.



The Glorious Washington and Gates, detail from Bickerstaff's Boston Almanack, 1778

Martha Washington Buries Fourth Child, John P. Custis

YORKTOWN, 1781—After losing two children in infancy and her daughter Patsy to epilepsy, Martha Washington lost her last child to camp fever. John Parke Custis, known as Jacky to family and friends, passed away on November 5 at Yorktown, merely seventeen days after the surrender of Britain's General Cornwallis. Jacky leaves behind a wife and four children. General and Mrs. Washington will raise the younger two children, Eleanor “Nelly” Custis and George Washington Parke Custis, at Mount Vernon, their home in Virginia.

Washington Unanimous Pick for President at Convention!

NEW YORK, 1789 (AP)—After many months of debate to establish our new American government, the first official election was held on February 4, 1789. George Washington has received all 69 electoral votes! Washington, who will be inaugurated on April 30 of this year, accepted his new office, despite his overwhelming desire to return to his estate at Mount Vernon: “I was summoned by my country . . . from a retreat which I had chosen with the fondest predilection, and . . . with an immutable decision, as the asylum of my declining years.” Washington and his wife Martha will move to the country's capital, New York City.

Washington Graciously Delays Retirement for a Second Term

PHILADELPHIA, 1793 (AP)—President George Washington has won his second election to the presidency of the United States! The inauguration will take place on March 4 in Philadelphia, the new capital of the United States. However, the prospect of returning to the stress of presidential life has left Washington doubtful. Washington wrote to his friend Henry Lee, “that it was after a long and painful conflict in my own breast, that I was withheld from requesting, in time, that no votes might be thrown away upon me; it being my fixed determination to return to the walks of private life.” The next four years do in fact promise to be difficult; factionalism has already begun to sprout in government over constitutional interpretation. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, who was the driving force behind the creation of the National Bank and National Mint, will remain in the service of the President. Edmund Randolph will replace Thomas Jefferson as secretary of state.

The Patriot Papers

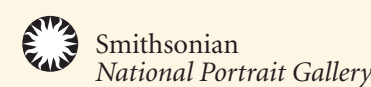
The Patriot Papers serves students of all ages. It is published quarterly by the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, 750 Ninth Street, NW, Suite 8300, Washington, DC 20560

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The opinions expressed in *The Patriot Papers* are not necessarily those of the Smithsonian Institution or the National Portrait Gallery.

Teaching materials to accompany the exhibition “George Washington: A National Treasure” are available to educators at no cost by visiting www.georgewashington.si.edu or by calling 1-866-NPG-KITS.



Whiskey Rebellion Shakes Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA, 1794—Western Pennsylvanians have turned their resentment over recent taxes on whiskey into a violent opposition. They are launching the first major civil disturbance of President Washington's term in office. Last week, U.S. Marshal David Lenox met with resistance in Westmoreland County while trying to collect taxes on locally distilled liquor. Military action will be taken, much to the regret of the President: “I have accordingly determined to do so, feeling the deepest regret for the occasion, but withal, the most solemn conviction, that the essential interests of the Union demand it.” The army is being organized from other northern states, and it will advance into Pennsylvania shortly.

Wanted Immediately

A PERSON to attend in a Store who will be constant and assiduous, understands Accounts, and can write a good Hand. Also, a Youth about fourteen or fifteen Years of Age, who can read well, and write tolerably. Inquire at the Post Office.



On Tuesday next, being the 14th Instant, A new COMEDY, called

FALSE DELICACY

By the author of A WORD TO THE WISE

(It may not be improper to give Notice that the Theatre in Williamsburg will be closed at the End of the April Court, the American Company's Engagements calling them to the Northward, from whence, it is probable, they will not return for several years.)

KING & QUEEN, MARCH 31, 1772

WHEREAS MY APPRENTICE,

Christopher Lewis, has absented himself from my Service, I therefore forewarn all Persons from employing or entertaining him under any Pretence whatever.

THOMAS HILL



MISS FAITH PROCTOR

18th-Century Paradise Lost

Faith's Fashion Frenzy

—BY J. K. PULLES

Hi! My name is Faith Proctor. I was raised in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts by Abigail and John Proctor, two very sensible people who believe in a life of simplicity and purity. For more than 200 years, we Proctors have preserved the ideals set forth by George Washington, our nation's first President. It was not until my recent 18th birthday that I learned of the existence of my distant cousins in Washington, D.C. My parents decided it was time that one of us ventured into “big-city America” to see what advances had been made.

Meeting my aunt, uncle, and cousins was enormously exciting, and I was simply awestruck by all of the amazing inventions of the 21st century outside world. First and foremost in my thoughts, however, is my trip with my cousin Melody to the “mall.” At Melody's first mention of the

mall, my heart pounded with fear. Mistaking the word for “maul,” I feared they planned to leave me in the forest to be attacked by wolves. Melody carefully explained that the mall was like a large market where tradesmen gathered to sell their wares. My fears allayed, we entered the maze. I was shocked to see all the women in pants! The most popular pants seemed to be a very low-slung pair of dungarees called “hipsters.” I think they should be called “come hither misters,” for this will most certainly be the effect of wearing such pants. Looking down at my own ankle-length skirt and quilted petticoat, I reminded myself of the prudence of keeping some details hidden from young gentlemen.

Our next came upon a shoe seller called Painless. Over the door hung a sign that read “Buy One, Get One Free.” Well obviously! One wouldn't get very far with only one shoe and no mate. This seemed to me a most unscrupulous vendor. Upon entering the store, I found none of the sturdy leather lace-up boots to which I am accustomed, but instead found boxes and boxes of large wedges of cork and wood with small straps of leather attached to the top. How uncomfortable and impractical! However would one walk to the well?

Leaving the shoe-seller, we entered a very large vendor called Gracy's, with many varied wares to sell. In the clothing area, my eyes fell upon a one-armed shirt! I asked Melody if this was another “buy one get one free” swindle, wherein the other sleeve would be supplied only after pur-

Rule 79: Be not apt to relate news if you know not the truth thereof. In discoursing of things that you have heard, name not your author. Always, a secret discover not [that is, do not reveal].

In other words . . . don't pass rumors if you're not sure they're true. Best to keep a secret a secret and not tell at all, unless her actions are such that they may do harm to her person or to that of another. Then 'tis kind and quite your duty to reveal the truth to your superiors or loved ones.

Mistress Goody,
At the lunch table most everyone eats and talks at the same time. I think that's pretty gross. What do you think?

The rules of dining etiquette are quite clear; let them guide your acquaintances in all their culinary endeavors:

Rule 90: Being set at meat, scratch not neither spit, cough nor blow your nose, except when there is a necessity for it.

Rule 100: Cleanse not your teeth with the tablecloth, napkin, fork, knife; but if others do it, let it be done with a pick tooth [i.e., a toothpick].

Mistress Goody,
My very best friend just broke up with her boyfriend. But now he asked me out, and she'll just die when she finds out. Should I go? What should I do? He's awfully cute.

My, my, this is a distressing dilemma. Mistress Goody recalls a situation of her own. It was 1796 at the George Town Ball. I cut quite a stunning figure that evening in my green taffeta gown and brocaded mules. Miss Prudence Petticoat of Philadelphia was pursued by a most evocative gentleman, but when her dance card was full, he pursued me! I'm afraid that a most unladylike tiff ensued in the ladies' powder room shortly thereafter . . . but I digress. My advice to you, my dear, is found in

Rule 22: Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another.

To join the gentleman in frivolity so soon after her heart-break is unconscionable, not to mention terribly tacky. It cer-

tainly shows little regard for your intimate friend and calls into question your upbringing. Heed also

Rule 110: Labour to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience. Have you misplaced yours, my dear?

Mistress Goody,
I am a high school girl. I suppose the guys think I'm cute, because I get asked out on dates a lot. I go and have a nice time, but eventually they are ready to get “serious.” They all want to be my only boyfriend. My problem is I don't know how to pick a good boyfriend. And that means I won't know how to pick a good husband! I mean, what does a girl look for in a guy? Can you help me?

Mistress Goody has contemplated this very question many, many times. I've always found the male point of view regarding love and marriage most helpful. As a matter of fact, the most sage advice comes from George Washington in a letter he wrote to Martha's granddaughter, Nelly Custis. I will share a portion of it with you here. I do hope this “checklist” of sorts helps to settle your quandary.

When the fire is beginning to kindle, and your heart growing warm, propound these questions to it. Who is the invader? Have I competent knowledge of him? Is he a man of good character? A man of sense? For be assured a sensible woman can never be bappy with a fool. What has been his walk in life? Is he a gambler? A spendthrift?, a drunkard? Is his fortune sufficient to maintain me in a manner I have been accustomed to live? And is he one to whom my friends have no reasonable objection? If these interrogations can be satisfactorily answered, there will remain but one more to be asked; that, however, is an important one. Have I sufficient ground to conclude that his affections are enjoyed on me? Without this the heart of sensibility will struggle against a passion that is not reciprocated.”

—Go. Washington



MISTRESS GOODY