

The Patriot



*Latest News from the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York and Fraunces Tavern®
Museum*

Vol. 5 No. 5 (May 2011)

May Lectures: Two Books, Two Authors, And Two Great Evenings!

The Archaeology of Home
Presented by Katharine Greider†
Thursday April 5th at 6:30pm

When author Katharine Greider was told to leave her house or risk it falling down on top of her and her family, she started to investigate. Beginning with contractors' diagnoses and lawsuits, it then veered into the archaeology and urban history of 239 East 7th Street. Very similar to the buildings surrounding Fraunces Tavern that have thankfully survived to both honor and protect New York City's past, in one small house is written the history of a young country, the much longer story of mankind, and the places we choose to call home.

The Great Divorce
Presented by Ilyon Woo
Thursday, May 19th at 6:30pm *Rescheduled from Winter Lecture Date

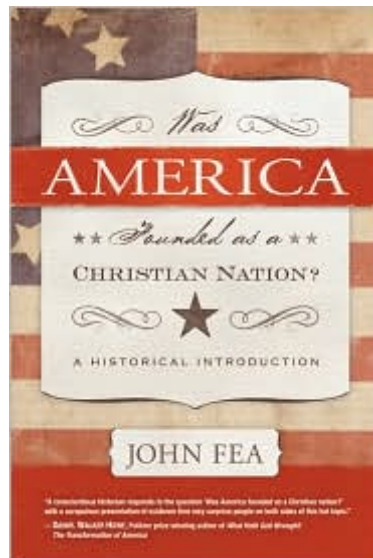
In 1814, Eunice Chapman came home to discover that her three children had been carried off by her estranged husband. He had taken them, she learned, to live among celibate, religious people known as the Shakers.

Defying all expectations, this famously petite woman mounts an epic campaign against her husband, the Shakers, and the law. By confronting the nation's most fundamental disputes regarding religious freedom, feminine virtue, & the sanctity of marriage, her case struck a nerve with the uncertain new republic. As a moving story about the power of a mother's love, it is also a memorable portrait of a rousing challenge to the values of a young nation.

All lectures take place in Fraunces Tavern Museum's Flag Gallery. \$10 admission at the door only-first come, first served. (Museum members are admitted free of charge. Please join today!). Light refreshments will be available before and after the lecture.

†Books will be available for purchase -discounts apply for Museum members.

Recap of April's Lecture: Was America Founded As a Christian Nation?





Above: John Fea's *Was America Founded As a Christian Nation?* cover & John Fea speaking at Lecture Event

Around 6:30pm on April 14th, a tall tweed jacketed professor, John Fea from Messiah College approached the podium in the Flag Gallery to face the forty three people who had come to hear him answer the question: Was America founded as a Christian nation?

Tackling this rather controversial and politically-charged issue in present day American culture, Fea offered the audience an even-handed primer on whether America was founded to be a Christian nation or a secular state. With no need for a microphone, Fea's strong projection captured his audience attention in addition to the laughs he received with clever retort about Early American social groups.

Staying diplomatic with the use of primary sources not passions, Fea was able to approach the question from a historical perspective. In using the Constitution and other primary sources Mr. Fea opined the founding fathers were concerned with the 18th century's political and masculine idea of virtue and personal sacrifice for the greater good of the county. The founders would have considered Christianity in regards to how it related to the founding of the country: how can Christians serve the state via virtue?

Several audience members were left feeling the issue was still unresolved. Fea obliged those who were still intrigued to an additional fort-five minute question and answer session. John Fea's well received lecture was a great success. Please, come join Fraunces Tavern® Museum for the May lectures on the 5th and the 19th!

Annual Family Night & the 2011 Fraunces Tavern® Museum Book Awards



Above: Pauline Maier



Above: Cocktail Hour

More than sixty members of the SRNY, their friends, family members, and honored guests gathered for the Family Night Stated Meeting, held on Monday April 25th in Fraunces Tavern Restaurant; commemorating the 235th Anniversary of the Historic Battles of Lexington and Concord (April 19, 1775). The evening's event started with cocktails in the Davis Gallery and proceeded to a welcoming family style dinner, akin to those served at the Tavern in the 1770s, in the Bissell Hall.

SR Chaplain, Reverend Christopher Cullen delivered a meaningful invocation. Following the invocation, Captain of the Color Guard, Jonathan Ridgeway led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance. In following with tradition, members of the Sons of the Revolution who have attained 40 year and 50 year membership were honored. SRNY President and the evenings Master of Ceremonies, Don Westervelt introduced the Museum's new Curator, Jessica Baldwin, as well as, several honored guests, including the visiting Book Award winners.

During dinner, Book Award Committee member and SRNY Vice President James Grayshaw presented this year's awards to Pauline Maier for *Ratification: The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788* (Simon & Schuster) and to Ron Chernow for *Washington: A Life* (Penguin Press). Judge Grayshaw also presented an Honorable Mention to Barnet Schecter for *George Washington's America: A Biography Through His Maps* (Walker Publishing).

Ms. Maier was the keynote speaker for the event. She created a room full of laughter with a speech full of quips about the joys and challenges in writing a "thriller" about the ratification of the Constitution. Overall it was a successful event and a good time was to be had by all.

Tickets for Annual Nighttime July 4th Walking Tour on Sale Now!

For the ninth year in a row, join veteran walking tour guide James S. Kaplan in learn important details regarding prominent Revolutionary War heroes buried in Lower Manhattan. Watching the early morning sun, rise from Trinity Church you will be fascinated to discover just how pivotal New York City was throughout the war for independence. The tour starts at 2:00 am on July 4th and will end at 6:00 am.

***Tickets in advance are required & may be purchased through PayPal on our [website](#). Admission \$20 /\$15 for Museum members**

Once your tickets have been purchased, you will be emailed a confirmation receipt and the starting location for the walking tour.

Flag Day Commemorated with a Colorfully Grand Parade

On Tuesday, June 14th, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York will sponsor the 2011 Flag Day Parade.

This year marks the 234th anniversary of the adoption of the American Flag by the Second Continental Congress in June 1777. The parade commences at 12 noon from City Hall Park and concludes with a ceremony in front of Fraunces Tavern® Museum.

For further details and information, please email: 2administrator@sonsoftherevolution.org or visit our [events page](#).

Meet New Curator, Jessica Baldwin



Above: Jessica Baldwin

Meet Jessica Baldwin, new Curator at Fraunces Tavern Museum. Growing up in the Hudson Valley she spent her time at historical sites like the General Montgomery House and Constitution Island. She received her Master's degree in Public History from the State University at Albany, where she was able to utilize the state's capital vast primary resources in early American and Revolutionary history.

After graduation Ms. Baldwin moved to New York City to start work at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum. During her two and half years at Intrepid she spearheaded successful program development, growing the volunteer department from twenty members to over 100. Also, she spend many hours with Intrepid's Collection Manager, Britta Arendt (currently Collection Manager for the House of Representatives) cataloging and researching the in-depth WWII artifact collection.

She is excited to once again work with Colonial, early American, and Revolutionary War time periods and hopes to support and forward the great mission of Fraunces Tavern Museum!

But don't take my word for it...[Meet Jessica Baldwin](#)

New Exhibit Opening September 1st 2011: “Youth Remembers 9/11”



High School & College Students Invited to Submit Art for Exhibit: “Youth Remembers 9/11”

To recognize the passing of a decade since September 11, 2001, a special exhibit is planned at Fraunces Tavern Museum to run from September 1 – 30, 2011 entitled, “Youth Remembers 9/11.” High school and college students are invited to submit a remembrance in the form of art, essay or poetry depicting their memories of 9/11 for possible display at the Museum from September 1 to September 30, 2011. Please note there is a Friday, May 20 deadline for submissions. This is not a contest. Any form of art including paintings, sculpture or quilts using any medium including oil, watercolor, ink, paper, canvas, clay or fabric will be accepted. Poems and essays are not to exceed 500 words and must be a Word file.

Further details including submission guidelines and contact information will be found in the application materials that may be downloaded at the Fraunces Tavern Museum website: [Application, "Youth Remembers 9/11"](#)

Students whose work has been confirmed for exhibition will be informed by return email no later than June 1, 2011. The exhibit is under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the Revolution of the State of New York.

Please be sure to logon to [Facebook](#) for the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York and Fraunces Tavern® Museum and click "Like." It will help keep you in the touch with the latest news and items of interest!

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54 Pearl Street
New York, NY 1004
212-425-1776

2administrator@sonsoftherevoltuion.org

Editor: Jessica Baldwin

Contributors: Jessica Baldwin, Anthony Wellman

Photographs: Jessica Baldwin, Anthony Wellman

Layout and HTML: Jessica Baldwin

Distribution: Jessica Baldwin

Previous newsletters can be found at
<http://www.sonsoftherevolution.org/Reports.html>

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