

117th ANNUAL CONGRESS
OF THE
DESCENDANTS OF THE SIGNERS
OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

JULY 3-4, 2024

PROGRAM

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

2:00 PM **Board Meeting** in the Adams Room, Wyndham Hotel, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia. 1-877-999-3223.

5:00 PM **DSDI Tour of the Museum of the American Revolution.**
The private tour will focus on the history of the Revolution and include a sound and light show presenting George Washington's original camp tent.

Those going to the Museum of the American Revolution should meet by the registration desk in the lobby of the Wyndham Hotel by 4:30pm to walk to the museum together.

The United States Army Field Band featuring LeAnn Rimes will host a concert on Independence Mall at 6:00 PM. Free admission, two blocks from the Wyndham Hotel.

The pool at the Wyndham Hotel is open from 10am to 9 pm.

Thursday, July 4, 2024

7:30 AM Tappers and their Parents will meet in the lobby of the Wyndham Hotel to walk to the Liberty Bell Pavilion for practice. Only Tappers and their Parents can enter the Pavilion during the morning practice. The National Park Service no longer allows posed photos following the Tapping Ceremony. Pictures are allowed during the Ceremony, but there is no time for formal photos of the Tappers in front of the bell after the tapping. However, there is time for photos during the morning practice. Security badges for Tappers and Parents will be distributed at this time.

9:30 AM **Celebration Breakfast Buffet** in honor of the Bell Tappers at the Wyndham Hotel.

11:00 AM Salute to America Independence Day Parade - East Market Street between 2nd and City Hall. (The Wyndham Hotel is 1/2 block off of Market Street) .

12:30 PM Tappers and their Parents reconvene in the lobby of the Wyndham Hotel to walk to the Liberty Bell Pavilion for the Let Freedom Ring Ceremony. Security badges are required. ***Time is approximate and a final meeting time will be determined that morning, as dictated by the National Parks Service.***

2:00 PM Junior Members of the DSDI will symbolically tap the Liberty Bell, at the Liberty Bell Pavilion, Independence Park. **DSDI members may join the public in the Pavilion (entrance at 6th & Market Street).**

We are very proud of our Junior Members who will be tapping the Liberty Bell:

Junior Member:	Descended from:
Bennett Moon Adams	Matthew Thornton
Sloane Elizabeth Adams	Matthew Thornton
Thatcher Gregory Adams	Matthew Thornton
Isadorya Grace Ariail	John Witherspoon
Steven Chase Belman	Samuel Chase, William Ellery, Oliver Wolcott
Noah Lyle Breitenfeld	John Hart
Elise Braxton Cruz	Carter Braxton
Sophia Rose Cruz	Carter Braxton
Alexander George Gemeinhardt	Benjamin Franklin
Marin Ashby Gemeinhardt	Benjamin Franklin
Finley Margaret Williams	Benjamin Franklin

2:30 PM **Gather for the DSDI Annual Meeting**
Members and family and guests should come to 6th and Chestnut Streets in front of Congress Hall to pass through the security check.
Please make sure you include on the registration form the name of each person who will be coming to the Annual Meeting, or they may not be admitted. The names will be listed with the Park Service to be checked off upon arrival. Please note that the Long Gallery at Independence Hall is NOT handicap accessible. While the Long Gallery is not open to the public, we have been privileged to have our meetings there for over 100 years.

- 3:00 PM** **Annual Meeting** in the Long Gallery, second floor of Independence Hall.
- 5:00 PM** **Informal "4th of July style" picnic buffet** with nonalcoholic beverages served in the dining room of the Wyndham Hotel. Buffet includes green salad with assorted dressings, grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, fried chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, corn on the cob, watermelon and fresh baked cookies. Cash bar service will be available at Coin's Pub in the lobby. Casual dress.
- 7:00 PM** **An Evening with Betsy.** Experience a unique evening tour of the Betsy Ross House with Betsy Ross. Betsy tells her own story, sharing little-known details about her life on your private, self-guided tour of the house, including an interactive visit in her upholstery shop, where you will learn more about Betsy's life as a working woman, upholsterer, and flag maker, and her contribution to what would later become the American Flag.

Those going to the Betsy Ross House should meet by the registration desk in the lobby of the Wyndham Hotel by 6:45pm to walk to the historical site together.

The City of Philadelphia's celebration is from 7 pm to 10 pm. Entertainment and fireworks on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 20th and Eakins Oval. It will also be televised on local TV.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

PLEASE NOTE THE CUT-OFF DATE

Wyndham Hotel, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 1-877-999-3223 (Two blocks from the Liberty bell). Ask for Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence Group Rate of \$184 per night, double room, plus taxes.

Check-in time is 4pm. Check out time is 11am.

**The cutoff date for hotel reservation is Monday, June 3, 2024.
Self-parking is \$25 per night at the Wyndham Hotel.**

This [link](#) will allow you to make your reservation under the group rate.

If you have any problems with your hotel reservation, call Stacie Pagano at 1-717-330-7458.

DSDI Board of Governors for 2023-2024	
Position	Name
President General	Mrs Nancy McBride Wark
1st Vice President	John Hamilton Works Jr.
2nd Vice President & 250 Chair	Barbara Teter Greeley
Registrar General	Wendy Leah Davis-Bushey
Assistant Registrar General	Jamie Marie Singer
Historian General	Stephanie Lynn Nelson
Assistant Historian General	Donald C. Ward, Jr.
Treasurer General	Scott Richard Lewis
Assistant Treasurer General	Arthur M. Ramsey
Secretary General & VA Gov.	Leroy Anderson Keller
Assistant Secretary General	Marianne M. Brinker
Chancellor General	James Steven Bainbridge
Chaplain General	Daphne Wolcott Parker Hawkes
NH Governor	Lt Col Erin P. Hayde
MA Governor	Ellen L. Brinker
CT Governor	Henry G. Beecher
RI Governor	Elizabeth DiCenso
NY Governor	Elaine D. Livingston
NJ Governor	Philip Robert Livingston, Jr.
PA Governor	Jeffery Adams Ward, Jr.
DE Gov	Luther Dreher Shank, IV
MD Governor	Mrs Madelyn Chenault Brinker Sturgeon
NC Governor	Sheryll Pope Albert
SC Governor	Robin L. Rawl
GA Governor & Finance Manager	Stevenson Weston Croft
DC Governor	Mrs Laura Haines Belman

At Large Governor	Deborah Jill Schmidt Haimes
At Large Governor & Webmaster	Stacey Marie Bohning
At Large Governor	Shirley Diana Hunter Smith
At Large Governor	Stacie C. Pagano
Editor	Hunter Thompson George
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Past President General	Dr Richard Howell Corson
Past President General	John Curtiss Glynn Jr
Past President General	Lawrence M. Croft
Past President General	Hope Middleton Wood
Past President General	Robert Bruce Warden Laubach
Immediate Past President General	Lucy Duke Tonacci