

THE PUBLICATION OF JAMES MADISON'S MONTPELIER

PEOPLE

WE
THE

SPRING 2014

 *James Madison's*
MONTPELIER



THE RESTORATION OF
JAMES MADISON'S LIBRARY

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



At long last, spring has arrived and with it enthusiasm for an exciting 2014 agenda.

We began the year with another important milestone: the opening of James Madison's library on Presidents' Day. After Madison's death, his books were widely disbursed, and in recent years, our curatorial staff has been conducting groundbreaking research to understand and reassemble this important American library more than 160 years later. We hope you will enjoy learning more about this project and invite you to visit us to experience the library firsthand.

Later this year, we will mark the 200th anniversary of the burning of Washington during the War of 1812 and commemorate James and Dolley Madison's leadership during this early national crisis. In collaboration with the White House Historical Association and the U.S. Capitol Historical Society, The Montpelier Foundation will host "America Under Fire," a two-day symposium at historic Decatur House in Washington on September 3-4, 2014, with leading scholars from across the nation to further explore and consider how the war helped forge American identity.

Montpelier has an impressive track record and a mission that extends far beyond Virginia. Now is a transformative moment in our history. As I move into my second year as president of this important cultural treasure, I feel a tremendous sense of urgency to accelerate Montpelier's increasing trajectory and further secure the Madison legacy, expand Montpelier as an educational resource, and protect this historic national asset for current and future generations. Your ideas and involvement are welcome.

Thank you for your support, and please come see us soon. Spring in Virginia is glorious.

Best regards,

Kat Imhoff
President and CEO



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A LIFETIME DEDICATED TO KNOW

On Presidents' Day, February 17, 2014, The Montpelier Foundation celebrated the opening of James Madison's refurbished library, another fascinating chapter in Montpelier's "Presidential Detective Story" and the ongoing restoration of Madison's home.

With more than 4,000 volumes by the time of his death, Madison's library was widely recognized as one of the most significant in America. This collection represented and encompassed his education, values, and vocation as a public-spirited revolutionary and nation-builder.

Fluent in seven languages, there was no book available in the western world that was off-limits to James Madison. His collection included diverse volumes on law, religion, science, architecture, language, and politics. These books reflected the world's greatest intellectual accomplishments, from the writings of ancient Greek and Roman philosophers, Plato, Aristotle, and Cicero, to the great moderns of his time, Locke, Newton, and Montesquieu.

The library began as his father's, a collection of approximately 400 volumes. From a young age, Madison was an avid student and had likely read every volume the Montpelier library had to offer by the time he was 11 and sent off to study at the boarding school of the Rev. Donald Robertson, one of several well-educated Scots who had come to the colonies to preach, teach, and spread the flourishing lessons of the "Scottish Enlightenment."

The ideas of the Enlightenment continued to resonate with the rising student as he continued his education at the College of New Jersey at Princeton. Along with work in "science, geography, rhetoric, logic, and mathematics," Madison studied moral philosophy, Greek and Latin classics, as well as the Hebrew Bible. College president John Witherspoon, also a Scot, helped deepen Madison's understanding of the "great books" of the day, but he also schooled Madison in philosophies Witherspoon considered wrong ideas, with the conviction that one must be able to think critically and deal with contrary views rather than suppress them.

Upon his return to Montpelier, the young graduate Madison immediately began expanding his father's library. His closest college friend, William Bradford, whose family ran perhaps the best printing and book shop in Philadelphia, aided his literary



LEDGE

pursuits while Madison continued his studies determined to settle on a vocation for his life. He studied for the Bar, but his passion was not for case law. His true interests, perhaps the result of his “enlightened” studies, led him to more bold passions and pursuits, including restructuring the fundamental rules of society, particularly those concerning religious persecution.

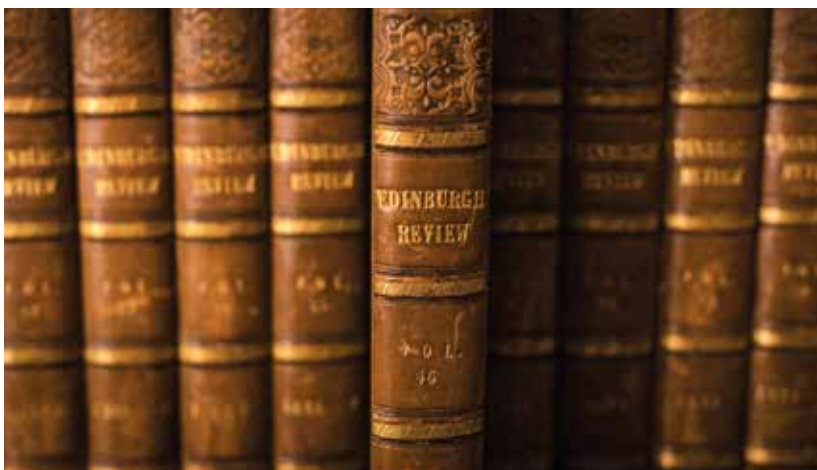
In keeping with the writings of John Locke and the other Enlightenment-era scholars whose books were among the most influential in his library, Madison in 1774 came to the defense of a group of Virginia Baptist preachers in nearby Culpeper County who had become the prey of the Anglican establishment and were being jailed for “Sedition & Stirring up Strife amongst his Majestie’s Liege People.” Throughout his life, Madison remained dedicated to the idea of freedom of conscience as a natural right of man. He championed religious freedom during his political career, first in the Virginia legislature and later in Congress through the passage of the First Amendment.

By 1786, Madison, then 35 years old, had established a fine library reflecting the thoughts and values of a committed patriot and prominent political leader dedicated to the ideals of the Revolution. However, his thirst for knowledge was not satiated, nor was his greatest work yet accomplished. The Revolution was won, but under the Articles of Confederation, the young American nation was being torn apart as the states were increasingly in dispute with each other. Madison understood what was at stake and retreated to his Montpelier library where for six months he spent countless hours reading more than 400 books in an effort to better understand ancient republics and confederacies, why they failed, and what America could do differently to succeed.

He enlisted the help of his friend and colleague Thomas Jefferson, then in Paris, and asked Jefferson to send him the additional literature he needed to prepare for his coming efforts to draft and ratify a constitution for the Union. Jefferson sent back boxes of the latest books on history, politics, science, and economics gathered from the bookstalls of Paris. Madison gratefully received this “literary cargo” from Europe, telling Jefferson the books were entirely suited to his needs.

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Tiffany Cole, Assistant Curator for Research & Documentation, displays illustrations from the *Comte de Buffon's Oeuvres Complètes: Oiseaux*.



Catastrophic Rotunda Fire at the University of Virginia in 1895.

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Looking west towards the Blue Ridge Mountains with the books shelved and stacked about him in his library at Montpelier, Madison developed some of his most profound ideas, resulting in the signal papers “Vices of the Political System of the United States” and “Of Ancient and Modern Confederacies.” While these essays were not published during Madison’s lifetime, the papers were basic to Madison’s role in drafting the Constitution, in writing his contributions to *The Federalist*, and in defending the Constitution at the Virginia Ratifying Convention. It was this work that earned Madison the title of Father of the Constitution, a moniker attached to him by his contemporaries, not by historians.

Though often in legislative or executive office in Philadelphia, New York, Richmond, or Washington, Madison most preferred working in his Montpelier library with access to his cherished collection of books. In his retirement, as books and pamphlets came to Montpelier in a steady stream, the tables and shelves of the “Old Library” became overcrowded, and Madison expanded his collection into a new first-floor library located in the mansion’s north wing. This adjustment offered him a view to his beloved Temple, a symbol of the American republic, and did not require the aging and less mobile Madison to climb the stairs to second floor. He carefully acquired titles to fill out his shelves with useful material, writing in his retirement, “I buy Books now only as I am able to read them & am already much in arrears as to those on hand.”

Nearing the end of his life, Madison planned for the dispersal of his books to friends, family, and institutions. In particular, he outlined a gift of what ultimately numbered 431 books and a financial bequest to benefit the University of Virginia’s growing library. Madison was instrumental in the University’s founding and served as its second rector following Jefferson’s death. Fulfilling her husband’s wishes, Dolley thoughtfully selected volumes from Madison’s shelves, careful not to duplicate titles already in the University’s collection.

Unfortunately, the University’s collection of Madison books was destroyed during the catastrophic Rotunda fire on October 27, 1895. Despite efforts to save the structure and library within, the books fed the flames; when the fire was eventually extinguished, all that remained was the brick shell of the University’s central building. The remaining volumes in Madison’s collection were sold in June 1854 on the steps of the Orange County Court House to settle stepson John Payne Todd’s outstanding debts.

Through careful research, the Montpelier curatorial team has identified nearly half of the 4,000 titles that were in Madison's library. See this growing inventory of books at www.montpelier.org/madisons-book-list.



Thus 160 years later, The Montpelier Foundation is faced with the challenge of recreating Madison's library. No complete inventory of Madison's books survives, and while the Library of Congress has undertaken recreating the Jefferson library, no one has attempted to research and understand Madison's until now! While the task is daunting, the monumental effort is underway.

Through the "Presidential Detective Story," an extensive research initiative begun in 2008, Montpelier research staff have combed through more than 30,000 letters, news articles, bills of sale, inventories, wills, and other documents looking for clues to aid in understanding the use of different rooms in the mansion, the appearance of these rooms, and where the Madison's furnishings and personal affects might be today. With recognition of the significance of Madison's library to the founding of the United States, creating an inventory of his books has been a top priority.

During the past five years, The Montpelier Foundation has identified nearly half of the titles in Madison's library and continues to study his manuscripts and collaborate with scholars to better understand the range of titles with which he was familiar. This resulting research informs the titles exhibited in the newly restored library and aids in the perpetual search for his books. But, more importantly, it helps us better understand Madison's political philosophy and brings to life the character of one of our most indispensable founders.

Madison's life was dedicated to acquiring knowledge and, perhaps more importantly, to applying knowledge to solve America's problems. His reconstituted library will stand as a legacy essential to understanding the ideas, political structures, and values that characterize our nation and resulted in the first and longest-standing representative government on earth.

Special thanks to Ralph Ketcham, Ph.D., for his invaluable contributions to this article and his participation in the ongoing research to understand and recreate Madison's library. Dr. Ketcham is a professor at Syracuse University and one of the foremost biographers of James Madison. He is a founding member of The Montpelier Foundation board and has contributed his professional library to Montpelier's archives. To read Dr. Ketcham's additional insights about Madison's library, visit the Montpelier blog at www.montpelier.org/blog.

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BE A PART OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DETECTIVE STORY

Learn more about our hunt for James Madison's books and the challenge of putting back together a presidential library 160 years after it was dispersed. Visit Montpelier's website to see our growing list of titles from Madison's library. Maybe you can help.



A PRESIDENTIAL CELEBRATION

Hundreds of visitors and supporters joined the Foundation for the grand opening of Madison's library during Presidents' Day Weekend. Events included a preview event for Montpelier supporters, specialty tours, and a book signing and lecture with prizewinning author Myron Magnet, Ph.D., who discussed his newest publication *The Founders at Home*.

SPECIAL THANKS

The restoration of Madison's library has been made possible by the generous support of the Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation, and as well as several families and individuals who have provided significant assistance by locating, donating, or lending rare eighteenth and nineteenth-century books to Montpelier, including:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lucy B. Robertson Alexander | The Levine Family |
| George Blow | John Macon |
| Nancy Campbell | Dickie and Louise Tayloe |
| Michael Dickens | Peter Belfield and Ann |
| Bryan Hagen | Thornton |
| John Douglas Hall | Lee Wouters |



MEET ELLIE PUGH

Though some adults "don't get" James Madison, the most cerebral of the founders, a little girl named Ellie Pugh does. During a recent trip to Montpelier with her family, Ellie learned the story of Madison's work at Montpelier in preparation for the Constitutional Convention, which inspired her to read 400 books in six month, just like Mr. Madison.

She inspired us, and we hope she inspires you, too. Thank you, Mr. Madison, and thank you, Ellie!

Dear President Imhoff,

Montpelier is my favorite place in the WORLD (so far). I don't think I will ever know a place that I like better.

Whenever I hear about the late 1700s to the mid 1800s I think of James Madison. I have a celestial globe just like James Madison. If I had seen that globe before learning about James Madison I would have thought, "Oh, that's just an old globe." But I knew about James Madison so I got it.

I bet you're thinking I'm just an old kid who has a celestial globe but I'm not. I read 400 books. Not only that, I did it in six months. Not only that, I did it because at Montpelier's Constitution Day, I learned that James Madison read 400 books in six months to get ready to write the Constitution.

We most recently came to Montpelier for my half birthday. I took the wagon ride and played in the garden. Maybe sometime I could show you my booklist and story about reading 400 books.

Sincerely,

Ellie Pugh

*Eleanor H. S. Pugh
(call me Ellie)
8 years old, going into 3rd grade*

PAUL JENNINGS

TELLING A MORE COMPLETE AMERICAN STORY

Montpelier celebrated Black History Month with the addition of an online, annotated version of Paul Jennings' personal memoir, *A Colored Man's Reminiscences of James Madison*, the first "insider's memoir" of life in the White House.

Born a slave at Montpelier in 1799, Jennings served as Madison's personal manservant and traveled to Washington with James and Dolley during Madison's presidential years (1809-1817). Jennings' work illuminates a watershed period in American history, encompassing slavery, abolition, Reconstruction, and segregation.

Originally published in 1865 but long out of print, Jennings' extraordinary



narrative is now free and available online at ConText, Montpelier's groundbreaking digital library that provides a platform for historians, politicians, theorists, educators, and the public to crowdsource notes on the history, philosophy, and interpretation of America's most important founding documents.

The Jennings' project has been made possible with the support of the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation, which has been instrumental in The Montpelier Foundation's research efforts to bring voice and name to the individual slaves who lived and worked at Montpelier.

After Jennings, depicted in this ca. 1850 daguerreotype, became a free man, he worked in the U.S. Department of Treasury and produced his memoir about life in the President's house. (*The Montpelier Foundation, courtesy of the Sylvia Jennings Alexander Estate.*)

"A BEACON OF LIGHT" CELEBRATING MADISON

On March 16, The Montpelier Foundation celebrated the 263rd anniversary of James Madison's birth with its annual service in the Madison Family Cemetery. The United States Marine Corps presented a 21-gun salute and honored Madison's memory by laying a ceremonial wreath on behalf of President Obama. Marine Colonel David Maxwell reflected that Madison thought like a man of action and acted like a man of thought. In recognition of Madison's distinguished service to our nation, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe issued a proclamation. Michael Signer, J.D., Lecturer at the University of Virginia and Visiting Professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, delivered a keynote address and shared a preview of his upcoming book, *Becoming Madison: The Making of an American Statesman*, which will be published in 2015.



Read these speeches on the Montpelier blog at www.montpelier.org/blog.

CONTEXT

Read Paul Jennings' memoir online at [ConText.org](http://Context.org), Montpelier's groundbreaking tool that brings together political theorists, historians, educators, and the public to crowdsource America's founding documents including the U.S. Constitution and Madison's Notes on the 1787 Federal Convention. Start your immersion today at <http://context.montpelier.org/>.

250 CONSTITUTION

THE FUTURE OF AMERICA

In 23 short years—less than a generation—the U.S. Constitution will be 250 years old. America’s democracy depends on an active, engaged citizenry. Thus, now is the time to ask where we want to see America in 2037. What can we do to better secure our nation’s future and our way of life?

In recent months, Montpelier’s Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution has hosted two significant events with the next generation of American leaders in mind.

ENGAGING TOMORROW’S CIVIC LEADERS TODAY

Each year, thousands of American students from across the nation gather in Washington, D.C. for a nationally acclaimed constitutional competition known as *We The People*.

Students serve as expert witnesses on topics from the Bill of Rights to citizenship, and testify in small groups before a panel of judges acting as U.S. congressional representatives.

Montpelier makes this experience possible for students from Virginia and Washington, D.C. In the past 18 months, Montpelier has served nearly 2,500 middle school and high school students, including 8th grade student Madison Boone from Kemps Landing Magnet School in Virginia Beach.

“*We The People* helps me to learn more about the Constitution, which I believe is the most important part of our nation—it is the supreme law of the land. I feel that *We The People* helps me become a better citizen and helps me be more informed about today’s current issues.” Madison has ambitions to attend law school and become a Supreme Court justice like her role model, Sandra Day O’Connor. With a name like Madison, we believe she will reach her goals.



Students from Brunswick High School team congratulate each other over a win at the 2013 *We The People* state finals.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SUMMIT WITH JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

On November 3 and 4, 2013, the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier hosted a strategic planning summit with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, her iCivics organization, university presidents, and thought leaders from across the nation. Participants discussed how technology can be used to reach both young and adult learners with the goal of inspiring them to be active, engaged citizens.

Justice O'Connor reminded the group that civic knowledge is not something you are born with. It must be taught to each generation. Through iCivics, an organization Justice O'Connor founded in 2009 to reverse Americans' declining civic knowledge and participation, she has been a committed leader and advocate dedicated to teaching the next generation to understand and respect our system of governance.

Montpelier, working in collaboration with non-profit, for-profit, and government partners, plans to take a prominent role in refining the summit's vision in the years to come. Montpelier's Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution has demonstrated its handle on web-based technology with its online courses for adult professionals. *The Constitutional Foundations* and *Constitutional Amendment: the Bill of Rights* online courses are free and open to the public. The Center has worked with over 18,000 people from all 50 states and more than 65 countries in the last decade to explore James Madison's role as prominent founder and Father of the United States Constitution. To learn more, visit www.montpelier.org/center.



Justice Sandra Day O'Connor with Montpelier President Kat Imhoff

Quoting James Madison, Justice O'Connor remarked, "A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will for ever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

— James Madison to William T. Barry, August 4, 1822

BUILDING DEMOCRACY

Over the past decade, hundreds of international leaders from more than 65 countries have come to Montpelier's Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution to study the constitution-making process and consider how to strengthen self-government in their own nations. Several partners, including

DEMOCRATIC GROWING PAINS

In January, Montpelier's Executive Vice President and COO Sean O'Brien participated as a member of a short-term election observation team for Egypt's constitutional referendum. Organized by Democracy International and funded by USAID, O'Brien was one of nearly 90 observers from around the globe deployed in the country to monitor voting procedures during the two-day election. O'Brien visited nearly 80 polling stations in rural Egypt with the aim of documenting and reporting potential election abuses.

Election Day itself came and went largely conflict-free; however, Democracy International's post-analysis determined that the pre-election climate was potentially disenfranchising, as evidenced by the disproportionate vote in favor of the new constitution—38 percent of eligible voters turned out at polling booths and 98 percent voted in favor of ratification. With ratification of the constitution, Egypt is now planning presidential and parliamentary elections for later this year.



Montpelier COO Sean O'Brien participated as an election monitor during Egypt's recent constitutional referendum.



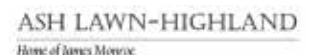
PRESIDENTIAL PRECINCT

POWER OF PLACE: POWER OF IDEAS

Montpelier has joined forces with the University of Virginia, Morven, the College of William and Mary, Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, and James Monroe's Ash Lawn-Highland to form the Presidential Precinct, an alliance that unites the historic homes of the three Founding Fathers and two of America's leading universities to create a forum for global conversation about how to sustain democracy.

This summer, the Precinct will host a six-week academic and leadership institute for the Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, a flagship program of President Obama's commitment to Africa. The program brings promising young leaders from a wide variety of backgrounds including aspiring entrepreneurs, business and non-governmental organizational professionals, and government officials who seek to develop stronger civil societies in their home countries. Montpelier's Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution will work with participants for one of these weeks, focusing on cultures of constitutionalism and the arc of citizenship found at Montpelier. Participants will join President Obama in Washington, D.C., for a leadership summit at the conclusion of the program in late July.

The Young African Leaders Initiative is supported by funding from the U.S. State Department and AECOM, a Fortune 500 company and one of the world's largest design and engineering firms, serving clients in more than 150 countries including 30 in Africa.



AT HOME AND ABROAD

the U.S. Department of State and the Presidential Precinct, Montpelier's collaboration with the University of Virginia, the College of William and Mary, Monticello, Morven, and Ash Lawn-Highland, have contributed to this success and helped make possible recent programs.



NATION AT A CROSSROADS

In December, eight Burmese (Myanmar) delegates came to Montpelier for a two-day discussion about the ideas of federalism and constitutional reform processes. The lead legal advisor to Aung San Suu Kyi (presidential candidate and opposition leader), a journalist, and members of the upper and lower Parliament representing several parties were in attendance.

Meeting behind closed doors, the group exchanged views about the current constitution and the need for reform in a frank discussion led by Dr. David S. Law, Professor of Law and Political Science at Washington University in St. Louis. While the future of Burma (Myanmar) is yet to be determined, our hope is that their aspirations for constitutional changes later this year are on firmer ground thanks to their work at Montpelier.

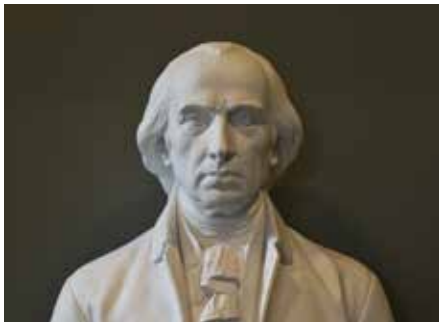


CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NEW IN-DEPTH TOURS

To enhance the Montpelier experience and offer visitors more in-depth tour options, The Montpelier Foundation is offering three new special tours. These thematic tours will be offered daily and include visits to the mansion, as well as to less traveled locations such as mansion cellars, Mr. Madison's Temple, and Montpelier's special collection galleries.



MADISON AND THE CONSTITUTION

Freedom, democracy, and the ideas that inspired a nation and changed the world come alive in this tour featuring the life and career of James Madison, Father of the Constitution, as well as the political philosophies and debates embodied in the U.S. Constitution. Gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the "spirit" not just the "letter" of America's greatest document.



SLAVERY AT MONTPELIER

Long considered a taboo subject, slavery is a great paradox of America, a slave-holding nation that declared to the world that "all men are created equal." Learn about the historical establishment of slavery in America, the enslaved individuals who lived at Montpelier, and James Madison's personal struggles over the institution itself.



THE WOMEN OF MONTPELIER

From Montpelier's first matron Francis Madison to the dynamic Dolley and the indomitable Marion duPont Scott, this tour introduces the diverse and strong women—enslaved and free—who founded, farmed, managed, and maintained the Montpelier estate during the last 300 years while pushing the boundaries of their circumscribed lives.

Montpelier's Signature Tours, providing an overview of the Madisons and life at Montpelier, will continue to be offered throughout the day. Montpelier also offers private tours to individuals or groups looking for more intimate tour experiences. For more information, please call 540-672-2728 ext. 442.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SPRING WINE FESTIVAL

May 3-4
 Gather round friends and family for this premier spring event showcasing distinctive arts and crafts, specialty food vendors, live music, children's entertainment, and tastings all day long!

DOLLEY MADISON LEGACY LUNCHEON


May 20
 Enjoy a tented luncheon on the mansion's back lawn in support of refurbishing James and Dolley Madison's beloved home. William B. Bushong of the White House Historical Association will give a talk titled "Forged by Fire: Dolley Madison, the President's House, and the War of 1812," and discuss Dolley Madison's leadership and courage during the British invasion of Washington, including her heroic role in rescuing Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington, which still hangs in the White House today. For information, contact Karen Costello at 540-672-4370, or kcostello@montpelier.org

STATE OF THE CONSTITUTION LECTURE

September 17
 Join us on Constitution Day at the National Archives in Washington D.C. for the annual State of the Constitution Lecture, sponsored by the Claude Moore Foundation. Akhil Reed Amar, J.D., and special guests will join us to discuss America's continuing evolution living as a constitutional democracy.

CONSTITUTION DAY

September 21
 Celebrate the 227th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution with your family at Montpelier for a day of music, tours, and fun, including the Second Annual Taste of Freedom Wine Festival.



AMERICA UNDER FIRE
Mr. Madison's War & The Burning of Washington City
 1814 • A BICENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM • 2014

“AMERICAN UNDER FIRE: MR. MADISON’S WAR & THE BURNING OF WASHINGTON CITY”
 September 3-4
 Learn about the leadership of James and Dolley Madison during the War of 1812 and how the war helped forge American identity at this two-day bicentennial symposium hosted by The Montpelier Foundation in collaboration with The White House Historical Association and The United States Capitol Historical Society at historic Decatur House in Washington. Leading scholars from across the nation will share their insights and research.

FALL FIBER FESTIVAL

October 4-5
 Enjoy Virginia's fall foliage accompanied with sheep shearing, hands-on crafts, workshops for children and adults, sheep dog trials, craft vendors, food, and music.

MONTPELIER HUNT RACES

November 1
 Celebrate the 80th running of the historic Hunt Races, a premier event in the American Steeplechase Circuit with the perfect touch of Virginia hospitality.





PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS

MUD CAMP I & II

June 16-20 & June 23-27

Daily hikes, outdoor activities, and wilderness exploration are designed to teach your young camper about local ecology, conservation, and the legacy of James and Dolley Madison.

COOKING TENT

April-May, September-October:
Saturday & Sunday; June-August:
Thursday-Sunday

Visit this demonstration tent in the North Yard of the mansion and learn

about the culinary traditions and the work of Montpelier's enslaved community who made possible Dolley's backyard BBQs and stately dinners.

TOOL TENT

April-May, September-October:
Saturday & Sunday; June-August:
Thursday - Sunday

Montpelier was once home to many skilled enslaved craftspeople. Come by the Tool Tent to see the tools of their trade, learn how they built barns, houses, and furniture, and test your own handiwork!

GILMORE CABIN

April-October, Saturday & Sunday

Learn about the lives of George and Polly Gilmore, former Montpelier slaves emancipated by the Civil War who established this freedman's cabin and farm. See their garden and learn about the 19th century life of this American family.

*Special thanks to The Farkas Family Foundation and **Plow & Hearth** for their support of Montpelier's children and family programs.*

CONSTITUTIONAL SEMINARS

Improve your understanding of the founding principles of the U.S. Constitution and James Madison's role as Father of the Constitution by enrolling in a seminar at the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution with leading scholars from across the nation. Participants are provided housing on the historic grounds at Montpelier, estate tours, and meals. For more information, please contact Susan Simpson, Program Manager, at ssimpson@montpelier.org.

July 18-20 – The Presidency and the Constitution - Ben Kleinerman, Ph.D., Michigan State University

July 23-25 – Suffrage in America - Alex Keyssar, Ph.D., Harvard Kennedy School

October 3-5 – The Federal Judiciary: Idea to Institution - Sue Leeson, J.D., Ph.D., Senior Justice Oregon Supreme Court

November 14-16 – Slavery and the Constitution - Holt Merchant, Ph.D., Washington & Lee University, and Lynn Uzzell, Ph.D., The Robert. H. Smith Center for the Constitution

ARCHAEOLOGY



CABIN FEVER!

RECONSTRUCTING THE PLANTATION LANDSCAPE

In February, Montpelier hosted a log cabin workshop where volunteer participants worked hand-in-glove with Montpelier archaeologists and a team of restoration carpenters to reconstruct “Granny Milly’s Cabin,” a 19th century slave cabin located during a 2010 archaeology excavation. The workshop was the first of its kind and drew together archaeological research, architectural analysis, and authentic log cabin construction techniques to recreate a historic building that was part of the early Montpelier landscape, better represent the experiences and contributions of Montpelier’s enslaved community, and give visitors a sense of plantation life during the Madison-era.

Among the participants was Joseph McGill, Jr., a slave descendant who has made it his life’s mission to sleep in as many American slave quarters he can find. In the past four years, he has slept in 51 slave dwellings across the United States and has recently founded “The Slave Dwelling Project,” a non-profit organization with a mission to preserve slave dwellings and raise awareness about early-American slave culture. “My goal is to save dwellings on the verge of collapse and to save them from demolition and neglect. It’s a source of inspiration for me. For an institution like Montpelier to be taking such ownership of this story is a good thing,” reflected Mr. McGill. You can follow McGill around the country in 2014 through his website www.slavedwellingproject.org.



Joseph McGill of the Slave Dwelling Project.

CAN YOU DIG IT? YES, YOU CAN!

Join Montpelier Archaeology’s LEARN Program and help discover the Montpelier plantation. This year’s expeditions will focus on excavating the historic core with the goal of better understanding Mr. Madison’s Temple and the work areas south of the mansion—possible location of the Madison dairy barn. Weeklong sessions are offered late summer through fall and include accommodations on the grounds of Montpelier in historic Arlington House.



2014 SCHEDULE

- August 3-9
- August 10-16
- August 17-23
- September 7-13
- September 21-27
(alumni participants only)
- October 5-11
(alumni participants only)
- October 19-25

No previous experience required. Open to participants of all ages. For more information, contact the Director of Archaeology, Matt Reeves at mreeves@montpelier.org.

SPIRIT OF PHILANTHROPY

DONOR TRIBUTE:
LOU & AL POTTER



Imagine it's 1985 and Montpelier has just become a property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. What do you do?

Well, if you are Louise and Alan Potter, you jump in to help. The Potters are among Montpelier's longest and most generous supporters. As entrepreneurs dedicated to architecture, engineering, and building, perhaps it is no surprise that they gravitated to a site that has been completely transformed during the past 20 years, in large part thanks to Lou and Al's leadership.

Lou became a member of the Montpelier Advisory Council, appointed by the National Trust, before becoming a founding director of The Montpelier Foundation board when it was established in 1998. The Potters were instrumental during Montpelier's American Legacy Campaign (2002-2008), providing not only leadership support as campaign benefactors, but also as key members of Montpelier's Development Committee, which led the \$65 million fundraising effort, and members of the Site Committee that oversaw the construction of Montpelier's Visitor Center and entrance. The Louise B. and Alan L. Potter Theater located in the Visitor Center is a fitting reminder of their tireless dedication and lasting generosity.

On January 31, 2014, Al Potter passed away. While his presence will be missed, the enthusiasm encompassed in his spirit and the continued dedication of Lou and the Potter family will continue to guide us.

THANK YOU, FRIENDS!

From the restoration of Madison's library, to understanding the Montpelier plantation through archaeology, introducing a first-generation American to the Constitution, or helping Burmese leaders chart the future of their country, your support has made a tremendous difference and created a lasting impact for current and future generations.

In 2013, gifts to Montpelier totaled nearly \$4.5 million. This generosity makes it possible for children and adults from around the world to experience Montpelier and gain insight into James Madison's ideas, explore the legacy of the U.S. Constitution, learn more about life in the young American nation, and so much more. A quick glance at this magazine shows just how many people The Montpelier Foundation reaches.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to you, and we hope to see you soon (in person or virtually) in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Kimberly P. Skelly
Executive Vice President for Advancement

WAYS YOU CAN GIVE TODAY



By check: please use the enclosed Business Reply Envelope



Online: please visit <http://www.montpelier.org/donate>



For more information on how to make a gift, please contact Gillian Kane, Director of Annual Giving, at (540) 661-0259 or email at gkane@montpelier.org

MONTPELIER WELCOMES NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

The Montpelier Foundation is pleased to welcome three new members to the Board of Directors.

ROBERT A. LEATH

Winston-Salem, NC
Chief Curator and VP of Collections and Research at Old Salem Museums and Gardens, he previously served as Curator of Historic Interiors at Colonial Williamsburg, Curator of Collections and Restoration for George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation, and Assistant Curator for Historic Charleston Foundation. Leath is an active member of Montpelier's interiors and interpretation advisory committee.

JOHN F. MACON, II

Palm Springs, CA
Retired from First Interstate Bank (now Wells Fargo Bank), he served in numerous leadership positions in the banking and finance industry, including as an officer of the American Banking Association. Macon is a 13th generation Virginian and former President of The National Society of Madison Family Descendants.

FRANK QIU

Goochland, VA
Qiu is President of Evergreen Enterprises, which was founded in 1993. In less than 10 years the company has become a global enterprise offering decorative products for home and garden and the parent company of Plow & Hearth. Qiu has worked to facilitate business partnerships between the US and China, and was named the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year for Virginia in 2000.



MADISON LEFT A GREAT LEGACY. WHAT WILL YOU LEAVE BEHIND?

Making a bequest to The Montpelier Foundation is a simple, meaningful way to protect and pass on to the next generation your values and our American way of life. You can name The Montpelier Foundation as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or financial accounts. Anyone can make a bequest and no amount is too small.

For more information, contact Kimberly Skelly at 540-308-2076 or kskelly@montpelier.org.

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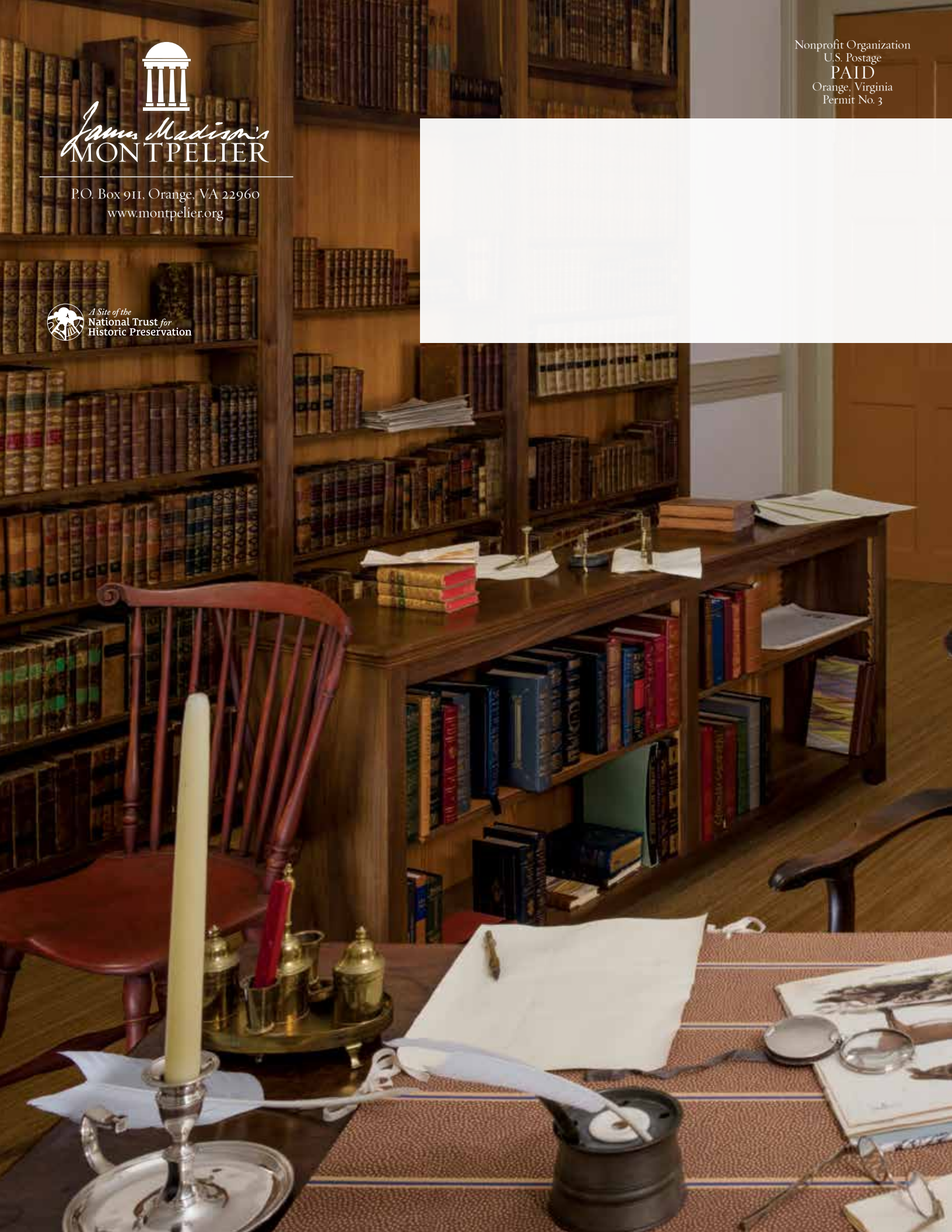
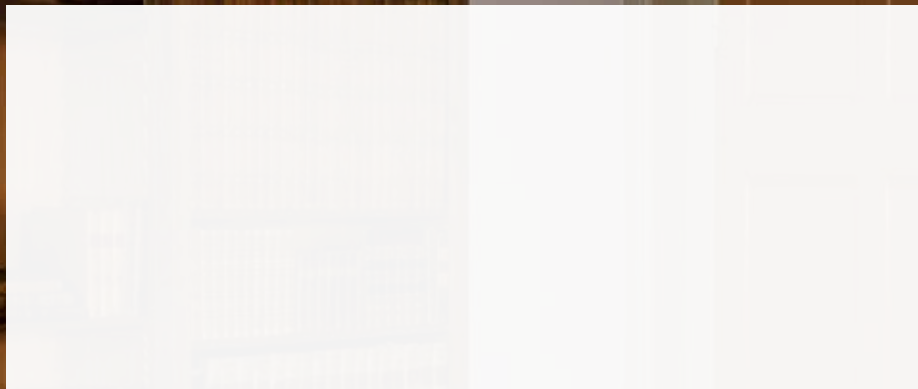


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