December 2009

Republic Reporter

The Oregon Replica Liberty Bell

In the August *Republic Reporter*, I had a picture of the replica Liberty Bell located on the west side of the State Capitol. How did Oregon receive the bell?

In 1950, the United States Department of the Treasury assisted by several private companies selected Paccard Foundry in Annecy-le-Vieux, France, to cast 55 full-sized replicas of the Liberty Bell.

The bells were shipped as gifts to states and territories of the United States and the District of Columbia to be displayed and rung on patriotic occasions. This was part of a savings bond drive held from May 15 to July 4, 1950 with the slogan "Save for Your Independence."

Oregon received the 16th bell cast.

Source: http://www.libertybellmuseum.com/exhibits/statebells/index

Continued page 2

Republic Chapter Officers

- President Compatriot Ken Betterton
- Vice President Compatriot Bennett Wight
- Secretary/ Treasurer Compatriot Archie Mustard
- Registrar Compatriot Willis Meisenheimer
- Editor Compatriot Johnny Alexander

Individual Highlights:

The Oregon Replica

Liberty Bell 1

Important Dates 2

Chapter Information 3

Future Meeting Dates 3

Chapter Web address 3

Information Form 4

December 19 Republic Chapter Meeting

This is an important meeting for the Chapter. Elections will be conducted and the 2010 Officer's will be installed. Please make sure to attend this special meeting.

2010 Nominees

President – Ken Betterton
Vice President – David Devin
Secretary/Treasurer – Archie Mustard
Registrar – Willis Meisenheimer
Chaplin – Colin Armstrong
Trustee – Dick Duer

Important December dates in 1776

Dec 1, 1776 Battle of Brunswick NJ

Dec 2, 1776 Lee's troops cross the Hudson River (NY) on their way to winter quarters at Morristown NJ.

Dec 7, 1776 Benjamin Franklin reaches France.

Dec 8, 1776 British fleet takes possession of Newport RI.

Dec 12, 1776 Washington writes Congress begging for reinforcements. This becomes a constant series of such pleas.

Dec 13, 1776 English-born U.S. General Charles Lee is captured by a British patrol who had previously been his prisoners.

Dec 17, 1776 Battle of Springfield NJ. Dec 21, 1776 Benjamin Franklin is in Paris, scouring France for loans for the new cause of independence. Dec 25, 1776 Washington and his troops cross an icestrewn Delaware River and march all night to surprise and capture the Hessian outpost at Trenton NJ the next morning.

Dec 27, 1776 Militia units near Trenton round up more Hessians from outposts around the town.

Dec 28, 1776 Washington declares if the New Jersey militia would help we could rescue this colony from the British.

Dec 29, 1776 Washington advances again into New Jersey.

Dec 30, 1776 British Gen. Howe offers the rebels a pardon if they will turn in their weapons and promise to go home.

Dec 30, 1776 Commissioners sent to France.

Continued from page 1

A plaque like the one below is on each replica bell.

Dedicated to you, a free citizen in a free land.

This reproduction of the Liberty Bell was presented to the people of Oregon at the direction of The Honorable John W. Snyder, Secretary of the Treasury.

As the inspirational symbol of the United States Savings Bond Independence drive from May 15 to July 4, 1950, the Liberty Bell was displayed in every part of the state.

The dimensions and tone are identical with those of the original Liberty Bell when it rang out our independence in 1776.

In standing before this symbol, you have the opportunity to dedicate yourselves as, did our founding fathers, to the principles of the individual freedom for which our nation stands.

This bell is one of three cast in France in 1950 and given to the United States government by:

American Smelting and Refining Company

Anaconda Copper Mining Company

Kennecott Copper Corporation

Miami Copper Company

Phelps Dodge Corporation

The American Metal Company, Limited

Steel Supports By U.S. Steel Corporation's American Bridge Company

This plaque donated by Revere Copper and Brass, Inc.

The Republic Chapter of the National Sons of the American Revolution

Our meetings are generally the third Saturday of the month. We meet at the Sizzler Restaurant located at 1151 Lancaster Drive NE in Salem, OR. We start our meetings at Noon. We have a variety of interesting speakers and our own members give presentations on their Patriot Ancestors.

Upcoming meetings: **December 19, 2009**

We're on the Web!

See us at:

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~orrcsar/