



# THE BELLRINGER



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## SAVE THE DATE 37th ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



### George Washington Honor Medal

Mark your calendar for March 16, 2021 as we join together to honor the National George Washington Medal recipients for 2020.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the unknown community situation, more details will be forthcoming as the situation improves. The banquet is planned for the Pensacola Yacht Club at 6:00 PM.

Freedoms Foundation National Awards have been presented to Americans from all walks of life honoring their efforts to make America a better place for everyone.

This program is intended as a way to say thank you to those whose efforts reflect the best of the American spirit of volunteerism by offering constructive solutions to contemporary problems.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower presented the first National Awards in 1949. Since then, nearly 56,000 awards have been presented.



## New Members

Glenn Conrad

Zenani Johnson

**Happy Birthday Wishes to**  
**FFVF Award Recipients:**  
**Frank Emond - 102 years young**  
**William Braddock - 98**

## Did You Know ... ?

**What is a Natural Born Citizen?** A person who is either born to parents who are already citizens of the United States of America (citizenship by blood), or a person who is born within the legal borders of our nation (citizenship by soil).

**What is a Naturalized Citizen?** A person who becomes a member of a governed community through applying for and meeting specific requirements for citizenship. To become a naturalized American citizen, one must have satisfied residency requirements, have a valid immigration visa, and demonstrate understanding of the English language. An applicant must also pass the American Citizenship Test which reflects proficient knowledge of how our United States government works as well as knowledge of basic American history. If the applicant passes the test and interview, he/she takes the Oath of Citizenship.

### The Oath of Citizenship

*“I hereby declare, on oath,*

- That I absolutely and obtusely **renounce** and **abjure** all Allegiance and **fidelity** to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen;
- That I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic;
- That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same;
- That I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by law;
- That I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by law;
- That I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by law;
- And that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.

In acknowledgement whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.”

## In Memoriam - John Appleyard Pensacola's Beloved Storyteller



Pensacola said “goodbye” to its biggest historical fan. John Appleyard passed away Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at the age of 97. A resident since 1950, he had a lifelong fascination with the history of Pensacola. He was author of more than 120 books and monographs on local history, including mystery stories, family histories and novels. His work in patriotic causes earned him a multitude of Freedoms Foundation awards.

In 2016, Freedoms Foundation Pensacola Chapter honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award. But he continued to work and received a 2019 award along with Deborah Dunlap for the book celebrating the history of Pensacola's Palafox Street.

Many local leaders eulogized him in the Pensacola News Journal. Entrepreneur and philanthropist, Quint Studer: “When you both love the same stuff, age doesn't matter, it's about the passion. Mr Appleyard just loved the community. He was so excited about things that were happening in the community.”

“When I met John, it was interesting,” said University of West Florida President Emeritus, Judy Bense. “John was not a historian, he was a business man who was interested in local history. I didn't really listen to John until I began to do public archaeology. I began to realize that people listen to John and cherish John. He had taught Pensacola residents more about history than anyone else, so I began to hang out with him.”

John was an important part of the growth of UWF's Historic Trust. Executive Director Robert Overton worked with him to publish many of John's works. “John was a historian and also a storyteller,” said Overton. “He was not a trained professional, but he had done more to promote the history of this community than all the rest of us put together, and we all have benefited from that. History is that story of people who are just like us but in another time, and John was able to make that connection so we could identify with people of the past. That's a talent that a few people have and it's what brings people into the museums to learn more.”

“Without him, we would have lost a major portion of the history of this area,” said long-time friend Dick Baker. “This is something that Pensacola will have for generations to come.”

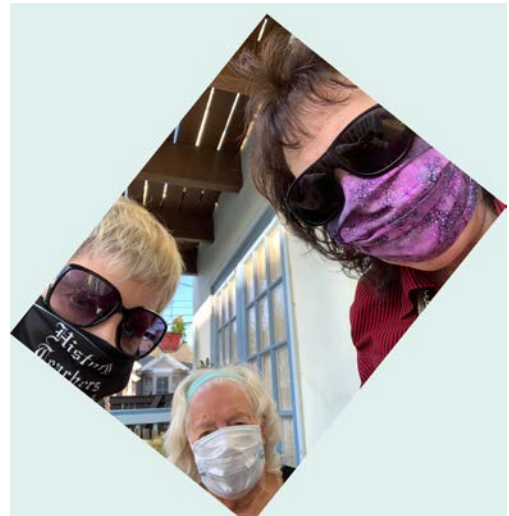
“Pensacola will miss John Appleyard,” Bense said, “He is the last of the grand ol' men.”

## Out and About - Members Active in Our Community



**Election News - Lynn Mott** - worked early voting at UWF and it was a great experience to see all the college students that were so excited about voting for the first time and the five 90+ year-olds proudly voting. That made the long hours worth while. As for election day, I was in Perdido and had a good turn out and most everyone was in really good spirits. It was good to see all the different ages and people bringing their young kids to teach them how it is done. We had a small piece of paper with dots to fill in for the kids and they got to keep it and get an "I Voted" sticker, resulting in lots of smiles.

**Breaking Barriers** - One of our Directors, **Dr. Jacqueline Young** has been sequestered for nearly nine months, first with health issues and then with the confinement brought on by Covid-19. So, armed with masks and a latte, Board Members, **Cherie Arnette and Melinda Beckett** has a fun visit with her on the front porch of her home in downtown Pensacola. They reported that Jackie was in good spirits and full of ideas, as usual.



**Hurricane Sally Recovery** - In September, Pensacola environs were inundated with over 30 inches of rain from Hurricane Sally. All this water had to go somewhere and it found its way into all kinds of cracks and crevasses, flooding many homes and vehicles. High winds damaged buildings all around, leaving debris and power outages. Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints set up a command center in north Pensacola and brought in tools, supplies and over 4,000 volunteers from all over the south east. They provided over 88,000 man-hours of volunteer cleanup, cutting down trees, clearing debris, mucking out flooded homes and tarping roofs. As Director of Communications for the Pensacola region, **Billie Nicholson** and **Robert Nicholson** were in the thick of it, collecting photos and touching stories, keeping the local media and government officials informed on the recovery progress.



## The Story of Nathan Hale - Martyred Hero of the American Revolution



Born in 1755 in Coventry, Connecticut, Nathan Hale, gained fame as a martyred spy for George Washington's Continental Army. His parents were devout Puritans who believed in the value of hard work, the virtue of religion, and the importance of a good education. When he was 14, he was sent with his brother to Yale College. Upon graduation at age 18, he became a teacher. After the Revolutionary War began in 1775, he joined the Connecticut militia as a first lieutenant in response to a letter from fellow student, Benjamin Tallmadge.

He did not participate in the siege of Boston because his teaching contract did not expire until months later, in July of 1775. Following the battles in Boston, the British moved troops to the next largest city, New York, in their quest to quell the colonists' insurrection. General Washington had anticipated this battle plan and moved his troops south to defend the city at the direction of Congress. He did what he was told, but it nearly resulted in the army's destruction. New York had no geographic features to use to build a defense system.

In the summer of 1776, the British launched the largest amphibious expedition in North America's history, landing over 20,000 troops on Long Island. British General William Howe easily captured Staten Island. Washington's army tried to fight, but Washington was badly out-maneuvered, and his army was nearly cut off from escape. Troops scattered, some deserted, others were sick of dysentery and smallpox, proving the worst defeat of the Revolution.

Washington needed information about the British troops and Nathan Hale volunteered to be a spy. Moving from Connecticut to New York under the guise of being a teacher, which was just what he was, Hale set about asking questions and collecting information on British troop size and positions. He was recognized as a member of the Connecticut militia by Robert Rogers, an Indian fighter well known for his daring exploits as commander of Rogers Rangers, who had joined the British's Queens Rangers, after George Washington rejected him. He was a master of deceptions and ambushes.

Rogers pretended to be a patriot and engaged Hale in conversation, saying that he wanted to spy on British troop movements. Hale believed him and while they dined at a tavern, British troops surrounded it and seized Hale. Some say he denied his identity, others say that he confessed, but either way, he was hanged immediately without trial. While awaiting execution overnight, Hale requested a Bible and a visit from a clergyman, but both requests were denied. Records indicate he also requested writing materials and penned two personal letters, which were destroyed after his death.

Washington learned a painful lesson from Hale, but continued to develop his spy system into what was called the Culper Ring. It was so secure, proof of its existence was not discovered until the 1930s.

Historians conclude it was a mistake to send Hale to Long Island on a spy mission. He only lasted a week. He knew nothing about espionage, had no training, but Nathan Hale had in his possession maps, drawings of fortifications, and lists of enemy troop numbers when captured. At the gallows, this 21 year old made a speech in which he is credited with saying, "I regret that I have but one life to give for my country."

Hale did not participate in many military actions during his brief military tenure, but willingness to take on a dangerous mission and his bravery in the face of execution earned him a place in American history as a martyred hero of the American Revolution.

## Introduction to the Constitution Lesson #9 - the Necessity of Virtue

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Larry P. Arnn, PhD

People think that the founding of the American government is kind of crass. That it understands that people are selfish and it sets them off against each other, so that they can't hurt each other. And there's some color of truth to that. It means that if people are going to be self governing and run the government and hold the sovereignty they need to be good people.

Well, how does the Constitution help produce such people? It's an interesting thing. The purpose of the government of the United States is to protect our rights, our freedom, all of that's surely true and powerful, but also it's interested in our character, in building our character and helping us to be better. George Washington claims speaking words that were actually written by James Madison, in his first inaugural, that if we become better people, we will be happier people.

So now, what does James Madison say is the most important thing about the Constitution and the chief way it will protect our liberties? He says it makes ambition counteract ambition as a safeguard. How does it do that? Then he says, it puts reason, instead of passion. That's very important and how does it do that, what feature of the Constitution best achieved these things? He says, it is the structure of the Constitution. In other words, there's no one provision. It's the whole thing. The structure is where it will channel, the way we do politics to make the results healthier. The whole structure, and the structure is separation of powers. That's how it's laid out. And when he gets ready to justify that, that's where he talks about the order of the human soul, which has to do with the arrangement of right rationality and passions. It's worth adding that Madison didn't think, and the great philosophers don't think, that passions are to be banished. What you want is terribly important. And it's terribly important that you want the right thing. And every choice you make is a combination of thinking and desiring. And if you practice making choices well, you will come, not only to think better about how to get the right thing, but you will want the right thing.

And so the Constitution and its structure is devised to engender the correct cooperation between reason and passion, and that in your own lives, you very much need to do that. A little short lecture. There are two kinds of virtues. In the greatest book, in my opinion, ever written about ethics, Aristotle's **Ethics**, and he says that there's two kinds of virtues, doing virtues and thinking virtues. Doing Virtues have to do with what you want. The Doing Virtues are three: the prime ones are courage and moderation and justice. We will take courage and moderation. Courage has to do with pain and moderation has to do with pleasure. And the virtue is the right disposition towards those things. You have to want to do the brave thing, if you want to do, what Aristotle says is the beautiful thing. The action that is beautiful, to behold. If you want to do that, then you're courageous. But if you do something, like charge the enemy when there's no hope and no advantage to it, then you're a fool. You're imprudent. And it's not really a beautiful act then. it means that it takes thinking too. You have to be able to figure out what to do.

Pleasure is the same way. To attempt to forego all pleasure would be foolishness, you'd be giving up friendship, starve yourself to death or something. Right? What we're talking about here is a structure that channels the public control of the government, in a way that encourages good character in the people. And the person they pick to be the chief executive is the person everybody thought had the greatest character.

<https://online.hillsdale.edu/courses/intro-to-the-constitution>

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**Fillable Form: Membership Application**



**APPLICATION FOR  
PENSACOLA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**

Effective 2020  
Please Print Clearly

Name (Mr./ Mrs./ Ms./ Dr.) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Desired**

Patriot (Basic)	\$30.00 - Membership + newsletter
Dual Patriot	\$45.00 - Membership + newsletter
Family Patriot	\$60.00 - Membership + newsletter
Patriot Academic (Full time student)	\$15.00 - Membership + newsletter
Patriot Military (Active Duty)	\$25.00 - Membership + newsletter

Scholarship Fund Donation: Will be used exclusively for sending students to Valley Forge Youth Conference. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Freedom Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible

[www.FreedomFoundationPensacola.org](http://www.FreedomFoundationPensacola.org)

Please join today - send check to FFVF Pensacola Chapter, P. O. Box 1012 Pensacola, FL 32591