

# ***Patriots' UniversiTea***

## **Class Summaries:**

### **Why History is Important**

The subject of the title may seem self-evident, but millions of Americans think history is boring at best and useless or irrelevant at worst. The educationists have increasingly agreed with that assessment and reduced history-learning requirements at every educational level. On top of that, the interpretations of the past are often used merely as tools to further social and political agendas that are scornful of patriotism and antithetical to the republican virtues so valued by the Founders of the Republic. This class will show what wise men and women of the past thought about the importance of studying their forbearers and why it is important for individuals and nations today to know and understand the providential trials and dangers, tragedies and triumphs of the past which, if heeded provide guidance and hope for the future.

### **Liberty's Belles**

Recent historical studies have revealed hitherto unknown or underappreciated stories of some of the influential ladies of American history. Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Rachel Jackson, and others had profound effects upon their famous husbands, so much so, that their marriage partnerships now seem vitally central to their great achievements. The ladies made a difference in the prosperity of America, from the anonymous and faithful wives who bore every generation to the same women who stood by their soldier sons and husbands in the building and defense of the Republic.

### **Common People/Uncommon Patriots**

Millions of Americans served in the Second World War. Almost all of them were just regular working people who left their homes, classrooms, offices, factories, and crews to defend the country against a combination of vicious enemies. The stories of heroism in combat abound. Most of the stories will never be known, but some of them are. We will look at a few incidents of the war which mattered little to the grand strategies, but added together, brought about the great victory of the allies.

Joining us for the second class will be an unassuming country girl from the Dakotas who was plucked from a secretarial school in Minnesota to serve on the staff of Supreme Allied Commander, Dwight D. Eisenhower. Just pursuing her duty with all her abilities, Helen Denton helped bring about the greatest combined operations campaign in all of history. She is pretty, modest, and unassuming but serves as the paragon of a regular person brought by providential paths to intersect with a mighty and indispensable endeavor of history.

### **The Declaration of Independence**

The men who signed that document pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to bring about the blessings of Liberty to their generation and to all those coming after. Some lost their lives, many their fortunes, none their sacred honor. We will look at the salient features of The Declaration and the price paid for its endurance.

### **The Power of the Symbols of Liberty**

What will men die for? What price are people willing to pay for their liberty from government tyranny and oppression? There are symbols of our freedom that illumine the emotions and commitment to maintaining the heritage bequeathed by Americans of centuries past. These symbols are becoming more and more obsolete in the self-centered, fast-paced world that calls for internationalism in law, amalgamation of culture, and the end of Judeo-Christian civilization and American *exceptionalism*. What should the American flag, the Liberty Bell, and the Statue of Liberty say to us today? Should they still evoke patriotism, equal opportunity, and a Judeo-Christian civilization on the North American continent?

### **The Constitution of the United States**

The Founders crafted the Constitution to be an instrument to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to their posterity. We will break down the meaning of each of those tenets and examine the Bill of Rights as understood by the framers. Every politician talks about the Constitution but their understanding of what it means is as different as George Washington and George III.

### **The Wall of Misunderstanding**

Did the founders intend to drive the Christian faith from the halls of Congress or the precincts of the Supreme Court? Did Thomas Jefferson intend to make the United States Government a religion-free zone? No and no. We will examine the arguments that have become almost axiomatic in recent years as the howling defenders of multiculturalism and anti-religious extremism have insinuated themselves into decision-making strongholds of the federal bureaucracy. We will have honest discussion of the issue.

### **The Adams House**

The proprietor of The Circa History Guild lives in what is believed to be the oldest house in metro Atlanta. The storied history of the house can be seen on the walls, in the floors, and by the architectural uniqueness of its splendid comfort. John and Ellen Adams will host the final class at their 1804 dwelling, offering a tour of their landmark home and serving appropriate refreshments. Historian Bill Potter will teach the class at the Adams house, regaling them with stories of 1804. Thomas Jefferson was President, Alexander Hamilton was killed in a duel, Napoleon was tearing through Europe, and our young republic was embroiled in a war with the Barbary Pirates.

**To reserve your seat email: [BPotter@CircaHistory.com](mailto:BPotter@CircaHistory.com)**

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