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## August 2016 Newsletter



### **Featured Artifact: Silver Cream Pitcher Bearing mark of Charles A. Burnett ca. 1790-1810**

This small silver cream pitcher measures four and a quarter inches high, with a diameter of three and a half inches. Pitchers like these were used to serve milk or cream for tea. Engraved with the initials "JM," it bears the mark of silversmith Charles A. Burnett (1769-1849), who worked in Alexandria from 1793 to 1796. Burnett was in partnership with Georgetown silversmith John E. Rigden from 1796 to 1806, and continued in the Georgetown location alone until 1840.

The Museum's pitcher may have been made by Burnett, or was possibly the work of another craftsman that was resold by Burnett. It is not known when the Monroe family acquired the piece, though the periods of his service as secretary of state and president are strong possibilities.

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### **Upcoming**



## Events

### **Friday, August 5: First Friday History Trivia Night.**

Trivia, cash bar, light refreshments, & 50/50 raffle. 6-8 p.m. Free.

### **Friday, September 2: First Friday History Trivia Night**

Saturday,  
September 17: 27th  
Annual  
Fredericksburg  
Welsh Festival

### **27th Annual Fredericksburg Welsh Festival Saturday, September 17 11:00 AM- 5:00 PM**



The [27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fredericksburg Welsh Festival](#) is just around the corner! What started out in 1989 as the "Little Welsh Festival" has become a fixture of September in downtown Fredericksburg. It remains one of the few festivals in the United States dedicated specifically to the culture and history of Wales. The Festival, which honors the Welsh ancestry of James Monroe (through his mother, Elizabeth Jones) will be held this year on Saturday, September 17, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Highlights include traditional music, dancing, arts, and crafts. The event is co-sponsored by the Welsh Society of Fredericksburg and takes place in the 900 block of Charles Street in front of the museum. A suggested donation of \$5/adult or \$1/child helps defray expenses. A free trolley service connecting the Festival to [UMW Family Weekend](#) activities will run continuously during the day from 9:30 AM until 9:00 PM.

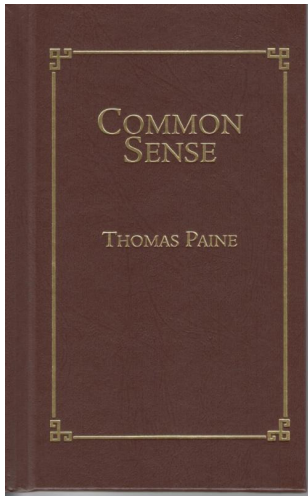


### What's in Store?

Escape the heat and enjoy a refreshing dose of history at the James Monroe Museum!

As the presidential election approaches, it is the perfect time to come by the Museum Store and pick up our featured book for August, ***Common Sense*** by Thomas Paine, which was an influential pamphlet in the life of James Monroe.

***Common Sense (\$9.95 hardcover)*** was one of the key literary expressions of the political forces that shaped the American Revolution. It helped explain the conflict as more than simply a squabble between colonies and Mother Country, but as a larger struggle to establish representative government. This philosophy greatly influenced and inspired James Monroe not only to serve in the Revolutionary War, but also to dedicate his public service career to fulfilment of the promise of the Revolution. As Minister to France in 1794, Monroe arranged for the release of Thomas Paine from imprisonment by French Revolutionary authorities, likely saving the writer and activist's life.

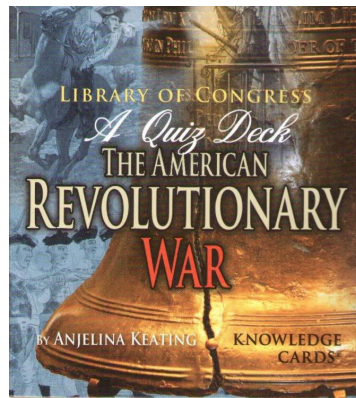
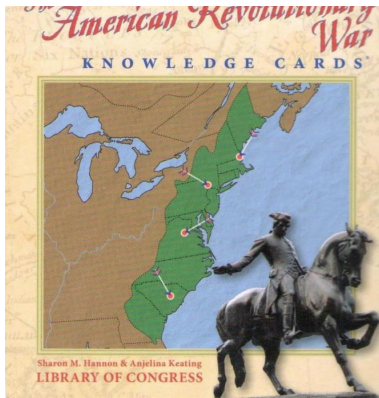


Add some educational fun to the last of your summer travels. Brush up on history during long drives with a themed quiz deck: ***What Happened Here? The American Revolutionary War Knowledge Cards***

***The American Revolutionary War Quiz Deck***

***Women in the White House: A Quiz Deck of America's First Ladies*** (not pictured). Each deck is **\$9.95** and includes 48 fact filled cards.





We look forward to seeing you in the Museum Store!

Melissa B. Webb  
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The James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, located in historic downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia, is the largest repository in the country for artifacts and documents related to the fifth president of the United States. The museum was first opened in 1927 by Monroe descendants as a place to house their own personal collections, which had been handed down through generations of the family. Eventually, the museum and its extensive collections were turned over to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the museum is now administered by the University of Mary Washington.

The museum belongs to the American Association of Museums, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Virginia Association of Museums. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.



James Monroe Museum, 908 Charles Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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