



the

executive

diary

*a publication of
the hereditary order of
families of
the presidents and first ladies
of america*

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April 2021 – April 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, GAYLE MAST COAN

It is so exciting to know that in several months time our members will again be together at the Willard Hotel enjoying an English tea and wonderful company. It's hard to believe it has been three years since our last gathering.

The minutes of our April meeting and reports appear in this new publication of our Order. In the future, this newsletter will include the normal business of the Order, along with articles of interest, names of new members, and all of the “goodies” we have come to enjoy. I know the editors will try to include a puzzle and a pun or two for a laugh, whenever possible. *The Executive Diary* will be compiled by Christopher Smithson (with final editing by Alex Bannerman). Chris is a fine genealogist in his own right. Generally, there will be no genealogy, charts, or research in this publication, as that will all be left to the *Executive Papers*, future issues of which will be published as new Presidential Couples take up residence in the White House.

This past year our Order made a large donation to the White House Association. Along with the donation, I wrote a letter encouraging them to continue to preserve the history of our Nation's living museum by replacing the furniture, paintings, and objects that were in the White House during each President's term and to further apply our donation to helping with the upkeep of the building. As a result, the Order received a beautiful thank you letter along with a gift of appreciation for our donation. At our April meeting, I will share these things with you.

We will again be meeting at Washington's Willard Intercontinental Hotel, but this time in the Ballroom located on the main floor. Joining us will be the Hereditary Society of Teachers and *The IX*. I hope to see as many of you as possible. Precautions will be taken to have a safe environment for all.

Please continue to stay safe and healthy by living simply, loving truly, and laughing freely.

Yours in patriotism,

Gayle Coan

Gayle Coan, President

From the Desk of ...
CHRISTOPHER T. SMITHSON
Assistant Postmaster General
(Editor, The Executive Diary)

October 1, 2022

Dear Members:

Welcome to the first issue of *The Executive Diary*. This issue provides both the reports of our officers and interesting tidbits about the Presidents and First Ladies.

Did you know James Madison played the flute? A fun feature for this first issue appears at right. This brief squib about Grammy Award winner Lizzo playing Madison's crystal flute provides a link to a much longer article on the internet version of *The Guardian* and is well worth reading.

Don't forget to save the date for our next Annual Meeting on April 16, 2023, at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Washington, DC. The Order will meet jointly with its sister society, *The IX*, as well as the Hereditary Society of Teachers.

A special thank you to our Postmaster General Alex Bannerman for his assistance.

I hope you enjoy this first issue. We look forward to the next issue coming out in February 2023.

Chris



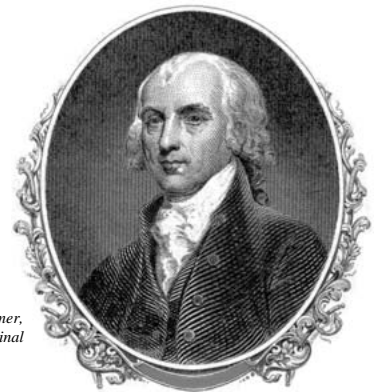
James Madison's 200-Year-Old Crystal Flute

Recently, Grammy Award winner and flautist Lizzo, born Melissa Jefferson, was invited to visit the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, to explore its flute collection. Among nearly 2,000 flutes in their collection is a crystal flute made for James Madison's second inauguration by Claude Laurent, a French watchmaker and mechanic. The instrument is engraved with Madison's name, title, and the year 1813, when the flute was made. Recent press coverage has suggested First Lady Dolley Madison saved the flute, along with George Washington's portrait, when the British burned the White House in 1814. Visit the link below to see one of many articles found on the internet in recent weeks.



Lizzo plays James Madison's crystal flute at the Library of Congress, flute vault.

Photo credit: Shawn Miller/Library of Congress



James Madison

*Steel Engraving from W. A. Wilmer,
print by Mr. Edwin, after original
portrait by Gilbert Stuart
Credit: Library of Congress*

[www.theguardian.com/music/2022/sep/29/
lizzo-flute-james-madison-historical-
instrument](https://www.theguardian.com/music/2022/sep/29/lizzo-flute-james-madison-historical-instrument)

Our genealogical publication, *Executive Papers*, is available either by Issue or as a complete set. Following are the Issues broken down by contents. Be sure to review all of them, as a few lineages were updated in their entirety for publication a second time.

Pricing is: \$18.00 per Issue; \$275 for the full set. Prices include US postage.

Checks should be made payable to “**Presidents and First Ladies**” and sent to Alexander Bannerman, who has the stock and fills the Orders.

Genealogical Contents of *Executive Papers*, by Issue[£]

Issues 1 and 2 – No longer available.

Issue 3 – Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and John Quincy Adams, and their qualifying First Ladies; *but see* Issue 12, below, which presents a revised AT for Mrs. Madison. Also included are all Presidents and First Ladies of the Republics of Florida, California, Texas and the Confederacy; *but see* Issue 17, below, which presents a revised AT for Mrs. John Quincy Adams.

Issue 4 – Jackson, Van Buren, W. Harrison, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore and Pierce, and their qualifying First Ladies; *but see* Issue 11, below, which presents a revised AT for Mrs. Fillmore.

Issue 5 – Buchanan, Lincoln, A. Johnson, Grant and Hayes, and their qualifying First Ladies. Also included are all Presidents and First Ladies of the Republics of Hawaii and Vermont.

Issue 6 – Obama, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, B. Harrison and McKinley, and their qualifying First Ladies, *but see* Issue 14, below, which presents a revised AT for Mrs. Obama.

Issue 7 – “The Roosevelt Issue” – Theodore and Edith, Franklin and Eleanor.

Issue 8 – Taft and Wilson, and their qualifying First Ladies.

Issue 9 – Harding and Hoover, and their qualifying First Ladies.

Issue 10 – “The Coolidge Issue” – Calvin and Grace.

Issue 11 – “The Hollywood Issue” – Nixon and Reagan, and their qualifying First Ladies, plus a revised AT for Mrs. Fillmore.

Issue 12 – Truman and Eisenhower, and their qualifying First Ladies, plus a revised AT for Mrs. Madison.

Issue 13 – Kennedy and Ford, and their qualifying First Ladies.

Issue 14 – L. Johnson, Clinton and Trump, and their qualifying First Ladies, plus a revised AT for Mrs. Obama.

Issue 15 – “The Bush Issue” – George Herbert Walker, Barbara and Laura (and George Walker via both of his parents).

Issue 16 – “The Carter Issue” – Jimmy and Rosalynn.

Issue 17 – Non-First Lady Presidential Wives – Part I, plus a revised AT for First Lady Louisa Catherine (Johnson) Adams.

Issue 18 – The Bidens – Joseph and Jill; Non-First Lady Presidential Wives, Part II – Neilia (Hunter) Biden; plus a revised AT for Anne (Gaskins) Pinckard Lee, wife of Continental Congress President Richard Henry Lee.[§]

Issue 19 – Non-First Lady Presidential Wives – Part III (the divorced wives of Presidents) – the 1st Mrs. Reagan; the first 2 Mrs. Trumps

£ In addition to the ancestor tables of those listed, each issue contains diagrams showing how Presidents and First Ladies are related to each other through a common ancestor. An index to the most up-to-date diagrams appears at the end of this Issue.

§ Our Order recognizes the contributions of the Presidents of the Continental Congress as Chief Executive Officers of our Government at its birth, and of their wives (if they were married while holding office). The ancestry of these individuals was addressed in Issue 2 and has been much improved over time. The ahnentafels of all of these people are the subject of a separate work to be published in the future and made available to the general public. We also recognize the Presidents and their wives (if they were married while holding office) of the six Republics that existed on American soil *after* the United States of America became an independent nation. All issues from 7 to the present contain fewer ahnentafels due to the number of generations required to reach the immigrant generation.

The Mayflower 500

by

Gary Boyd Roberts



Released in March 2020 by NEHGS in Boston, this important “rapid resource” contains lines of descent of more than 550 (chiefly American) Notables from the *Mayflower* Pilgrims. Among many other things, it provides insight to American culture and illustrates how diverse migration across the Nation has evolved over the course of four centuries. More, it illustrates how, colonial immigrant couples may have scores of notables among their thousands of descendants. No home genealogical library should be without this source – especially if you are a *Mayflower* descendant, yourself! Visit *AmericanAncestors.org* to purchase a copy.



**THE ORDER OF
AMERICAN COUSINS OF THE
PRESENT AND FUTURE
SOVEREIGNS
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

is a Lineage Society dedicated to recognizing kinship to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth (the late Queen Mother), the late Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales, and Catherine Middleton, Duchess of Cambridge, each of whom have American ancestors or are nearly related to American immigrants. If you have an *American Ancestor* in common with any of these women, you have a closer kinship to the British Royal family than merely via a connection to medieval English royal descent. For a list of qualifying ancestors and a Propositus Form, contact

Alexander Bannerman

e-mail: BritishSovereigns@gmail.com

www.BritishSovereigns.org

Founded 2015



Founders Fellowship

Founders Fellowship was created to provide information resources for Founders, Co-founders, and Reorganizers of newly forming lineage and heritage organizations. Our volunteers (when sought out) can offer guidance about all aspects of organization to help insure a proper foundation is laid for success! Our mission includes promotion (on its website and in its publications) of new societies that may not yet have the means to advertise elsewhere or are ineligible for inclusion in other listings of like organizations.

For more information, including the opportunity to familiarize yourself with many new societies recently formed, visit our website at

[www.FOUNDERSFELLOWSHIP.weebly.com](http://wwwFOUNDERSFELLOWSHIP.weebly.com)

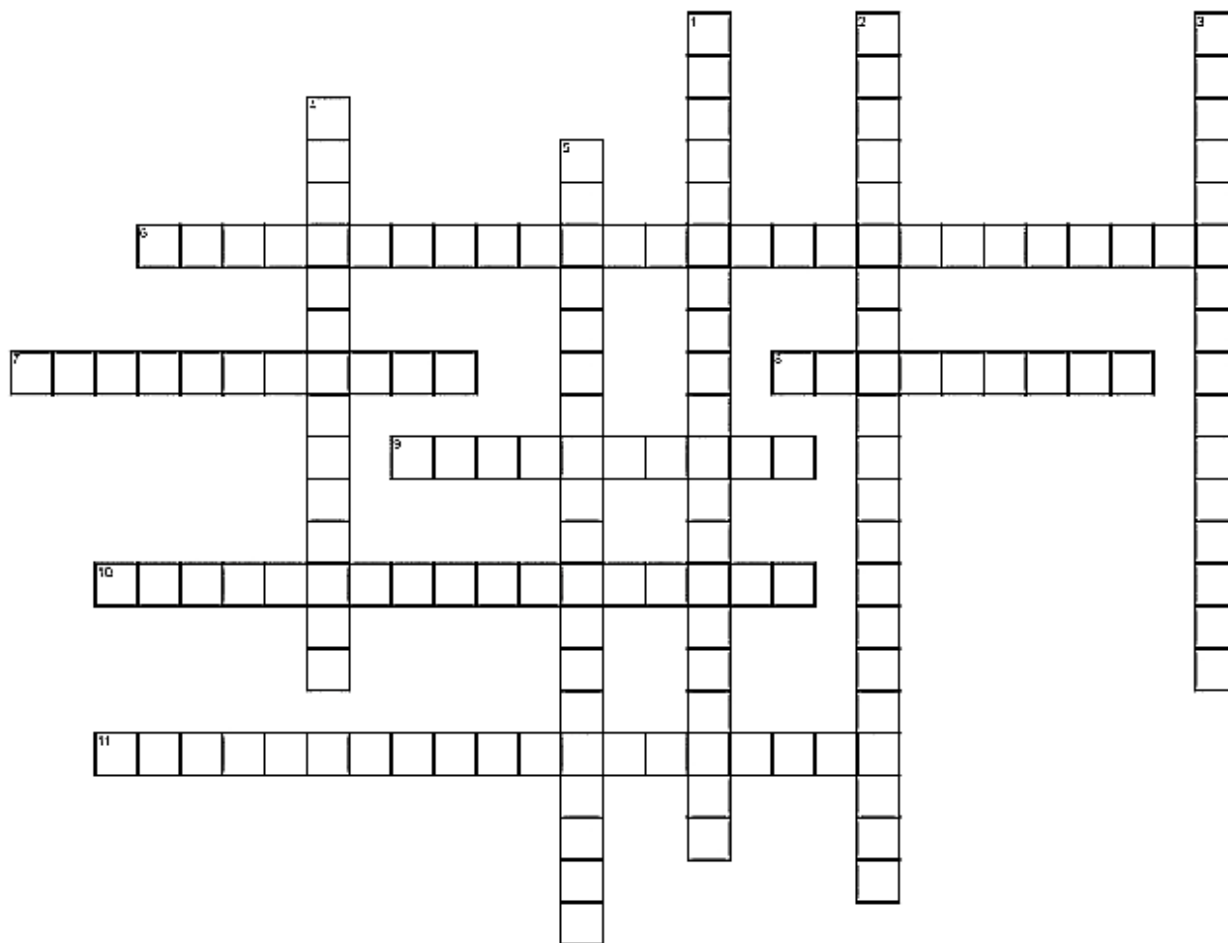
or visit our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/groups/760987411508289

Founded 2016

The Non-First Lady Presidential Wives

Let's recap the contents of the last three issues (17, 18, 19) of *Executive Papers* by focusing a bit more on the wives who were never First Lady. How well do you know their names and events surrounding their lives? If any were previously married, use all of their names. Let's test your skill. NO PEEKING AT THE ANSWERS found elsewhere in this Issue.



Across

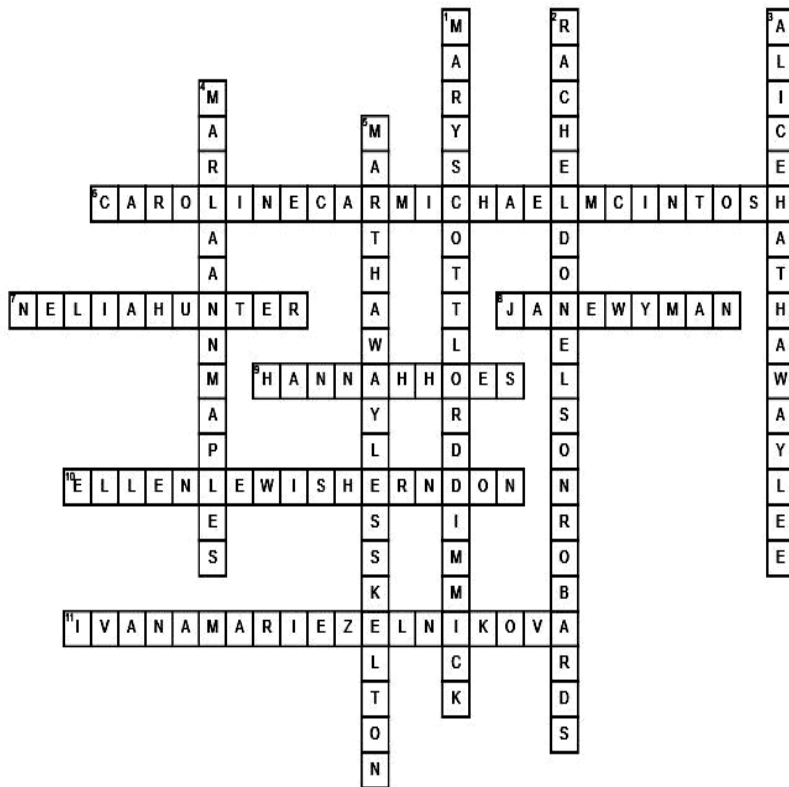
6. Considering Mencken's war-time hoax, she missed out on a White House cleaning apparatus
7. Skaneateles's loss
8. "Pretender" first
9. His first-cousin, once removed
10. Commodore's girl
11. Advisor to the *First Wives Club*

Down

1. Mrs. 23's niece
2. Maiden same as niece's maiden and married
3. Post-natal casualty of nephritis
4. Had his million-dollar baby
5. The lover was her half-sister

Bonus Trivia Question: What US Presidents are not buried in the United States?

Crossword Answers



Answer to bonus question:

The living ones.

Notable Anniversaries

Two former Presidents have bicentennial birthdays this year: Ulysses Simpson Grant on April 27, and his successor, Rutherford Birchard Hayes on October 4.

We note also: Jimmy Carter reached the age of 98 on October 1, being the longest lived former President in our Nation's history – a distinction he achieved in March 2019, months after the previous titleholder, George Herbert Walker Bush, who died at the age of 94 in November 2018. President and Mrs. Carter have been married for 74 years.



SAVE THE DATE!

The next Annual Meeting of The Hereditary Order of the Families of the Presidents and First Ladies of America will be held on April 16, 2023 at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel in Washington, DC. As noted elsewhere, the Order will partner with *The IX* and the Hereditary Society of Teachers. Details will be forthcoming in our next issue coming in February.