



Clubhouse Chronicles

Mini Issue- July 2018

Remembering Thomas Jefferson By J.P.

Editors: Daniel Maes and JKB



Image by Wise Won Media

I. Facts about Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was born April 13, 1743, in Shadwell, Colony of Virginia, British America. He graduated from the College of William & Mary and briefly practiced law and was a proponent of democracy, republicanism, and individual rights. Motivating American colonists to break from Great Britain and form a new nation, he was an American Founding Father. He was also a founding member of the Democratic-Republican political party, along with James Madison. Jefferson became the 3rd President of the United States, in office from 1801 to 1809. Before that, he was the nation's first Secretary of State, from 1790 to 1793, under President George Washington. Before that, Jefferson was the 2nd Governor of Virginia, in office from 1779 to 1781.

He died on **July 4, 1826**, (aged 83) and his final resting place is in Monticello, Charlottesville, Virginia.

II. His Library, Knowledge & Wisdom

Throughout his life, books were vital to Thomas Jefferson's education and well-being. When his family home, 'Shadwell' burned in 1770, he most lamented the loss of his books. In the midst of the American Revolution and while United States minister to France in the 1780s, Jefferson acquired

thousands of books for his library at Monticello.

Jefferson's library went through several stages, but it was always critically important to him. Books provided the little-traveled Jefferson with a broader knowledge of the contemporary and ancient worlds than most of his contemporaries of broader personal experience.

During the War of 1812, the British burned the nation's Capitol and the Library of Congress. By 1814, Jefferson had acquired the most extensive personal collection of books in the country. He offered to sell this to Congress as a replacement for the destroyed collection. Congress purchased Jefferson's library for \$23,950 in 1815.

A second fire on Christmas Eve of 1851, destroyed nearly

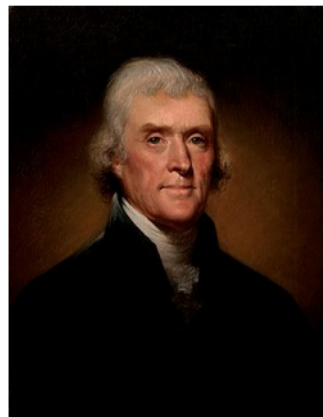
two-thirds of the 6,487 volumes Congress had purchased from Jefferson. He once wrote to John Adams, "I cannot live without books."

Jefferson, while primarily a planter, lawyer, and politician, mastered many disciplines, which ranged from surveying and mathematics to horticulture and mechanics. He was an architect in the classical tradition. Jefferson's keen interest in religion and philosophy led to his presidency of the American Philosophical Society; he shunned organized religion, but both Christianity and deism influenced him. A philologist, Jefferson knew several languages. He was a prolific letter writer and corresponded with many prominent people. He also cultivated a love of playing the violin.

III. Accomplishments

Jefferson is an icon of individual liberty, democracy, and republicanism. He is hailed as the author of *The Declaration of Independence*, an architect of the American Revolution, and a renaissance man who promoted science and scholarship. He organized the Louisiana Purchase, almost doubling the country's territory.

As a result of peace negotiations with France, his administration reduced military forces. Altogether, Jefferson wrote more than 18,000 letters of political and philosophical substance during his life.



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 ★ Image of Thomas Jefferson ★
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"Good morning! In less than an hour, aircraft from here will join others from around the world. And you will be launching the largest aerial battle in the history of mankind. 'Mankind.' That word should have new meaning for all of us today. We can't be consumed by our petty differences anymore. We will be united in our common interests. Perhaps it's fate that today is the Fourth of July, and you will once again be fighting for our freedom... Not from tyranny, oppression, or persecution... but from annihilation. We are fighting for our right to live. To exist! And should we win the day, the Fourth of July will no longer be known as an American Holiday, but as the day when the world declared in one voice: 'We will not go quietly into the night! We will not vanish without a fight!' We're going to live on! We're going to survive! Today we celebrate our Independence Day!" (President Thomas J. Whitmore, in the 1996 film *Independence Day*).

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In 1768, Jefferson began constructing his primary residence, 'Monticello' (Italian for "Little Mountain") on a hilltop overlooking his 5,000-acre plantation. The work continued throughout most of his presidency; he finished it in 1809.

IV. Legacy

His only full-length book is, "Notes on the state of Virginia" (1785), considered perhaps the most important American book published before 1800. After retiring from public office, Jefferson founded the University of Virginia. The Siena Research Institute poll of presidential scholars has consistently ranked Jefferson as one of the five best US presidents. Although regarded as a leading spokesman for democracy and republicanism in the era of the Enlightenment, Jefferson's historical legacy is mixed. When John Adams died on

July 4, 1826, his last words included an acknowledgment of his longtime friend and rival: "Thomas Jefferson survives," unaware that Jefferson had died several hours before.

On our nation's day of independence let us reflect upon our roots, our common humanity and our nation's past as we move forward, remembering Jefferson's most famous words from The Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."



Submissions?

Images, articles, recipes, quotations, and other ideas welcome.

To celebrate Recovery Month (Sept.), we are making *recovery* our Aug-Sept. theme.

Due July 13th for Aug-Sept. Issue.

July 4 Word Search

E K C O C N A H N H O J Y U E B Y
 Q E C O N N E C T I C U T E E R A
 E P L W V V K R O Y W E N N A O D
 V E Y Y I X A D E Z W R J T G E E
 N O N S R E F F E J S A M O H T C
 O N A G G N W D Y X M W G E Q N N
 R S I V I S E L E I K A W R V E E
 T Y G T N E Z H N M H L F E A W D
 H L R N I F F F D W F E T Y Y J N
 C V O Q A V R X U R E D C Q A E E
 A A E E S A M U E L A D A M S R P
 R N G A N I L O R A C H T U O S E
 O I K K M A R Y L A N D C G W E D
 L A L S M A D A N H O J X I O Y N
 I I D N A L S I E D O H R W R C I
 N M A S S A C H U S E T T S D I U
 A N E W H A M P S H I R E G K Q O

New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, John Hancock, Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Richard Henry Lee, Independence Day

Butterfly Time, By Mary Strong Jackson

six and a half days
 to make memories
 to rub wings against another
 to flatten your silhouette
 then open your wings wide to what awaits

thousands of seconds
 to sit with friends on orange and black Echinacea
 flowers
 to lay your head into the gusts and become the
 morning's kite

a half day to carry the memories made
 to settle in a bush that steals shadows without
 maliceto sit with your many legs still as Buddha
 and feel breath pulse your wings

then listen
 to the sound
 of your six feet clapping

In observance of 4th of July-
 Clubhouse will be having a BBQ
 on Friday, July 6th, from 12-2.
 Please join us for FUN!

"If you're walking
 down the right path
 and you're willing to
 keep walking,
 eventually you'll make
 progress." - President
 Barack Obama

the
 future
 belongs to
 those who believe
 in the
 beauty
 of their
 dreams.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT