



ONLINE EXTRA

Star Spangled Banner

*"Oh, say can you see,
By the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed
At the Twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
Through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched
Were so gallantly streaming?
And the Rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there."*

*"Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"
- Francis Scott Key, Aboard the USS Minden,
Chesapeake Bay, MD, 1814*

In context

Now for the rest of the story
of our National Anthem

By **RICHARD S. EBERHARDT**
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Every kid who ever attended school in the United States learned the National Anthem by heart, and will to the end of their lives, attest to the loyalty to their native land by singing this song. However, if there are many more like me, some of the phrases – and the history of the song – require a little more concentration than we had as elementary school students.

While doing research on another project, I stumbled onto the entire history behind the song. I discovered some facts that describe the phrasing done by author-lawyer Francis Scott Key and the complete history of the flag, in the early 1800s. This essay, then, is the result of my research:

In the spring of 1814, the British fleet, led by Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane and Rear Admiral George Cockburn, was raging along the shores of Chesapeake Bay, burning and pillaging towns along the shoreline. Major General Robert Ross was in command of the British ground forces.

The trio had already completed the burning of Washington, the nation's capitol, in restitution for the Americans' laying waste to the Canadian town of York (present-day Toronto). As they left Washington, Ross captured an elderly physician, Dr. William Beanes, and brought him down the river as a prisoner of war, aboard Cochran's flagship, the HMS Tonnant.

Beanes' neighbors in Washington rallied to his defense, and called up a Washington area lawyer, Francis Scott Key, to gain Beanes' release.

Key and another lawyer, John Skinner, approached Cochrane's flagship under a flag of truce on the USS

Minden as he was anchored in Chesapeake Bay, well out of range of Ft. McHenry's 200 cannons. The two met with Cochrane, Cockburn and Ross to negotiate the release of Dr. Beanes. Ross concluded that since the Army captured him, it was the Army who could also let him go. Because Key had obtained documents from wounded British prisoners attesting to the fine treatment they

received from Dr. Beanes when they were wounded, Ross decided to release the good doctor – but not before Cochrane finished his attack on Ft. McHenry. Key and Skinner both were detained with Dr. Beanes on the decks of the USS Minden, where they were able to watch the whole "show."

Previously, before the beginning of the war when Fort McHenry was undergoing a

refurbishing program, the Fort Commander, Major George Armistead, had requested approval to contract someone to prepare a flag large enough "that the British would have no trouble in finding the fort." He found Mrs. Mary Young Pickersgill, a flag-maker in Baltimore to make the flag.

Her final product, with the help of her daughter Christine, had 15 red and white

stripes, each of which were 2 feet wide, and 15 stars, which were 2 feet from tip to tip (the two extra stars were for Vermont and Kentucky, admitted to the Union in 1791 and 1792, respectively). The total size of the monster, which took 400 yards of cloth, was a whopping 30 feet high and 43 feet

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTION VOTES AT 2011 ELKS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Please note: The official results will be published in the Proceedings as there were some amendments made on the floor

1. To eliminate the requirement that Lodge officers memorize the Ritual. Yes 1836 No 1363	19. To allow Subordinate Lodges to have only one meeting per month. Yes 1624 No 1572 If 20 & 21 fail-this is void
2. To allow the use of alternate Rituals approved by Grand Lodge. Yes 1894 No 1302	20. To conform the statute to one meeting per month. Yes 1593 No 1603 If 15 or 21 fail – this is void
3. To allow the posting of candidates' names prior to voting. Yes 2702 No 490	21. To conform the statute to one meeting per month. Yes 1591 No 1603 If 19 or 20 fail – this is void
4. To transfer the duties of the Grand Treasurer to the Grand Secretary. Yes 2503 No 691	22. To allow Homes, Clubs, Club Rooms, and Social Parlors to be open during Lodge meetings. Yes 1119 No 2079
5. To allow a reward for recruiting and retaining members. Yes 2348 No 847	23. To allow the assets of defunct Lodges to be split between a state major project and a state association. Yes 2446 No 746
6. To remove references to the Communist Party and include all organizations advocating the violent or forcible overthrow of the government. Yes 2400 No 799	24. To eliminate mandatory funding for the Elks National Home. Yes 1653 No 1545 51.59%
7. To delete Grand Lodge committees and create a new Activities Committee. Yes 1825 No 1372	25. To allow guest access cards for military personnel. Yes 0 No 0 out of order.
8. To delete Grand Lodge committees and create a new Fraternal Committee. Yes 1902 No 1293	26. To clarify that "charge" means a formal complaint in a Subordinate Forum. Yes 2934 No 261
9. To conform the subordinate lodges' committees and programs to those of the Grand Lodge. Yes 2058 No 1132	27. To allow Subordinate Lodges to recognize affiliated organizations. Yes 2226 No 970 69.48%
10. To replace the word "Subordinate" with the word "Local" throughout the Constitution and the Laws of the Order. Yes 2408 No 788 75.16%	28. To establish provisions relating to affiliated organizations. Yes 2134 No 1066 If 27 fails – this is void
11. To delete the requirement of a January District Deputy clinic. Yes 2385 No 808	29. To increase the fee for replacing lost or destroyed Lodge Charters. Yes 2532 No 666
12. To provide for lowest coach fares rather than first class for travel. Yes 2950 No 246	30. To establish a uniform master Lodge auditing and accounting program. Yes 1119 No 2076
13. To delete the requirement that District Deputies attend the Grand Lodge session. Yes 795 No 2399	31. To allow the State Sponsor to waive the requirements for an audit, review, or compilation. Yes 1994 No 1206
14. To delete the requirement that District Deputies witness and report on the lodges' exemplification of the initiatory Ritual. Yes 1868 No 1328	32. To allow the State Sponsor to waive professional preparation of Lodge tax returns. Yes 2018 No 1174
15. To replace the word "Grand" with the word "National" throughout the Constitution and the statutes enacted by Grand Lodge. Yes 1040 No 2154 32.46%	33. To clarify that a Board of Directors, made up of the Chair Officers and Trustees, shall govern incorporated Lodges. Yes 2508 No 688
16. To delete positions, add two new positions, and provide for a new method of selecting the Grand Exalted Ruler. Yes 1053 No 2141 32.87%	34. To modify the duties of the Grand Secretary in making disbursements. Yes 2547 No 645
17. To provide for the Grand Vice-President to become the Grand Exalted Ruler automatically. Yes 1398 No 1796 If 16 fails this void	35. To permit the Committee on Judiciary to make non-substantive, conforming changes to the Laws of the Order. Yes 2347 No 838
18. To streamline and re-structure the committees of the Grand Lodge. Yes 1994 No 1202 If 7 & 8 fail-this is void	36. To permit the electronic transmittal of The Elks Magazine. Yes 2598 No 588

LODGE

Anthem from Page 1

long. It's hard to imagine the size of the flagpole it took to raise that flag and keep it in the air!

General Ross was killed in a skirmish during the march from North Point to Baltimore and was replaced by Colonel Arthur Brooke. Not only did the British lose one of their top generals but it also took the momentum out of the soldiers in the march. The 4,500 British soldiers had no chance against a defending force of 15,000 American troops – regulars, militias from the surrounding states and “any elderly man who could still aim and fire a flintlock.” The American defense force was organized by Samuel Smith, who, “ff not the most ingratiating of men, was a capable and energetic officer, who soon had most of the inhabitants of the city laboring on its fortifications.” When Brooke had a chance to view the defense position for himself, he wisely decided to call off the offense and to return to Cochrane's ships.

Cochrane began bombarding the fort at 5 a.m. on Sept. 12 and continued through Sept. 13. Five gunboats and one rocket ship, the Erebus, lobbed from “800-1,200 shells, and at least 700-800 rockets” into the fort. The only recorded damage to the fort occurred at two in the afternoon of the first day when a bomb did land on the southwest bastion, dismounting a cannon and killing its crew.

Cochrane's gunboats were too far away from Fort McHenry for Armistead to use his cannon to return the fire; all he could do was to order his troops to “hunker down” wherever they found a safe place.

On the afternoon of the second day of shelling, Major Armistead noticed that the gunboats were inching forward toward the fort, falsely thinking that the compound was completely destroyed. He waited until the gunboats came into range of his cannons, then ordered a broadside onto them. The result was that three of the gunboats were hit and put out of action. Cochrane recalled the remaining gunboats to their mother ships, loaded them up and headed down the bay with his flotilla, abandoning his goal of destroying the Fort and the city of Baltimore altogether.

The bombs used by Cochrane were similar to a mortar shell but with a fuse. The armorer would cut the fuse to a length he thought would explode the bomb at the fort when it landed inside it – but all fell short of the mark – hence “the bombs bursting in air.” Rocketry was evidently a new state-of-the-art development; historians refer to a Congreve rocket which, when fired, left in its wake a flaming red tail – hence “the rockets' red glare.”

During the entire attack, the three Americans watched the “fireworks display” from their ship, still attached to Cochrane's flagship. Dr. Beanes kept asking Key, who watched the entire attack using an eyeglass, “Can you see the flag? Is the flag still there?” In the morning of the 13th, Key extracted an envelope from his pocket and started writing the poem.

The poem became a resounding success and a rallying point for all Americans. It was first published as “The Star-Spangled Banner” and was adapted to an old English drinking song, “To Anacreon in Heaven.” It gained popularity until 1931, when Congress finally adopted it as the “National Anthem.” The flag that we see today, with 50 stars, one for each state, and 13 stripes, one for each of the original states, was authorized by Congress in 1818.

Lessons learned from this war taught our elected representatives, both in the state and national congresses, that the United States cannot exist as such until each state commits itself to working with other states, and that the National Congress be given the authority to govern on behalf of the people in each of the states. Basically, it shows that “in unity there is strength” and “United we stand; divided we fall.”

– Eberhardt also is a World War II veteran who served under Gen. Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines and Occupied Japan. Material for this piece was gleaned from Walter R. Borman's book titled “1812” and Dr. Page Smith's “A Peoples' History of the Young Republic,” Vol. III, and “The Shaping of America.”

PRINCETON LODGE 1461**Members host veterans twice a year with chicken and beer**

Veterans from the LaSalle Veterans Home, Golda McCauley, Leland Caldwell, Richard Koerner, Ron Twardowski and Joe Postula participate in Fried Chicken Night for Veterans in June. In back are veterans George Johnson and Brad Oeder from American Legion Post 125. They came to help the veterans and enjoy dinner with them. Attendees from the Veterans Home, who helped get the veterans to the lodge, were Susan Scully and Hanna Daugherty. Princeton Elks entertain the veterans twice a year with chicken and beer.

**Legion, VFW honor Princeton Elks for remembering vets**

Princeton Elks Lodge was honored by American Legion Post 125 and the Bureau County VFW in June for its involvement with veterans programs. From left are: Legion Quartermaster George Johnson, Legion Commander Bob Doyle, VFW Commander Kevin Bengtson, lodge Exalted Ruler Penny Best and VFW Quartermaster Hector Gomez.

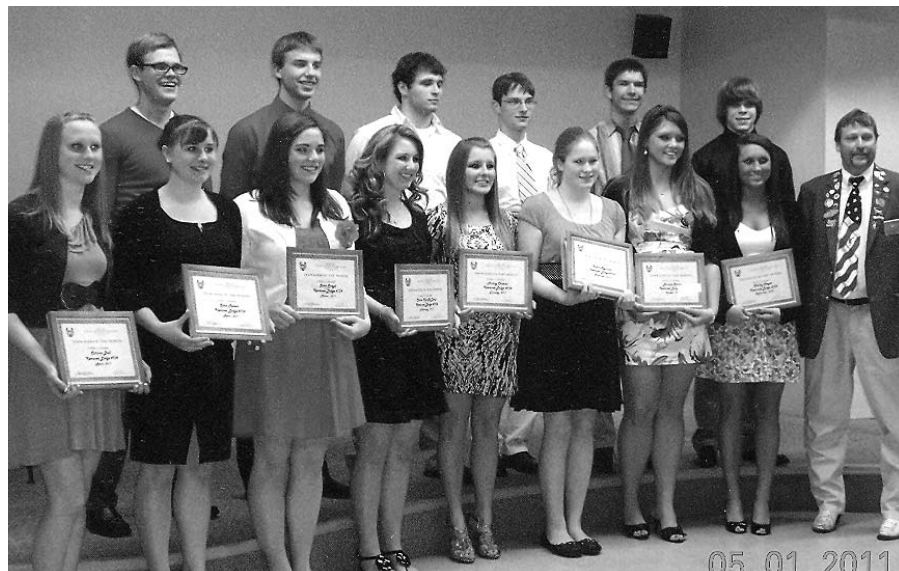
**Princeton Elks recognize scholarship winners**

Princeton Elks recognized area scholarship winners in June. From left are second-year scholarship winner Koltan Rewerts, Exalted Ruler and scholarship chairperson Penny Best and first-year winner Colton Pate. The Illinois Elks' Children's Care Program awarded 178 scholarships to 54 lodges, totaling \$239,875 to students studying physical and occupational therapy in Illinois. Unavailable for the photo was Melissa Zehr, a second-year scholarship winner.

LODGE



Kewanee Elks honor achievement at annual Youth Appreciation dinner as part of Elks National Youth Week



Kewanee Lodge 724 held its annual Youth Appreciation dinner in May in conjunction with Elks National Youth Week. Honored were lodge Hoop Shoot contestants, scholarship recipients, participants in scouting and students of the month and year. TOP LEFT: Hoop Shoot chairman Jeff Wakefield, Kody Brackett and Kirstie Ramsey, both lodge winners, and Youth Activities chairman Doc Gerleman.

TOP MIDDLE: Eagle Scouts Curtis Nelson, Ethan Halsall, Wesleyan Diebner and program chairman Doc Gerleman. TOP RIGHT: Girl Scout Silver Award winner Eva Dynes and program chairman Doc Gerleman. BOTTOM LEFT: Teens of the month, front from left, are Carissa Ball, Sara Reeves, Sara Sneyd, Chloe VanOpDorp, Hilary Charlet, Katie Reynolds, Lauren Spivey, Shelby Steger and

Youth Activities chairman Doc Gerleman. Back: George Daniel, Daniel Reyburn, Philip Pryzbyla, Ethan Halsall, Curtis Nelson and Noah Moraski. BOTTOM LEFT: Youth Activities chairman Doc Gerleman, along with Teens of the Year honorees Katie Reynolds of Wethersfield and Ethan Halsall of Glava.



Kewanee Lodge 724 recently sent its farm league team to the Quad Cities for a night of minor league baseball. The kids were to be on the field for introductions, get player autographs, tour the locker room, sit in the dugout and see the game. Front from left are: Bailey Weir, Trenton Terry, Trevor Swanson and Coleman Sturtevant. Middle: Noland Stout, Willie Terry, Carson Sauer, Caden Gillespie, Austin Pickering and Ethan Jewell. Back: coach Tate Sturtevant, Lodge Secretary Karen Ream, coach Aaron Stout and coach Tim Willage.

Spirit of patriotism unflagging



Kewanee Elks Lodge 724 recently donated an American flag to the Kewanee Park District. Pictured are Brian Johnson, Kewanee Park District director, and Dallas McCleery, Lodge 724 Americanism chairman.