

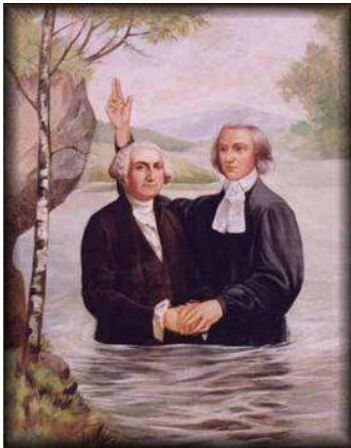
Heritage Baptist College

July Update

A Revolutionary War Chaplain

During the Revolutionary War, George Washington requested that chaplains be assigned to each brigade of fighting men in the Continental Army. In total, 21 Brigade Chaplains were appointed. Amazingly, though there were few Baptist churches in the American Colonies, the Baptists had 6 Brigade Chaplains, the most of any denomination in America. Probably the most famous of those chaplains was John Gano. Joel T. Headley in his 1864 work, *The Chaplains and Clergy of the Revolution*, wrote 23 pages concerning this Baptist chaplain.

John Gano was born in Hopewell, New Jersey on July 22, 1727. He was saved and called to preach, and in 1762 he founded the First Baptist Church of New York City. Pastor Gano was deeply interested in two areas: Training young preachers (he helped found the first Baptist College in America – Brown University), and freedom (especially religious freedom) through the American Revolution.



At the outset of the Revolutionary War, John Gano offered his services as a chaplain and continued until after the surrender of General Cornwallis.

Chaplain Gano was a dear friend of George Washington. He was appointed to give the prayer at the close of the war in 1783. After the war, and in a private ceremony with 42 officers, George Washington was baptized by this same chaplain. After the baptismal service, and with symbolic significance, George Washington gave John Gano a sword. Over a hundred years ago a painting was commissioned that portrayed the event. Both the picture and the sword are on display at William Jewel College, near Kansas City, Missouri.

After the war, Rev. Gano returned to New York City to find only 37 of the 200 former church members, and his church building in shambles having been used by the British Army as a stable for their horses.

After 26 years as pastor in New York City, John Gano moved to Kentucky in 1788 and pastored near Lexington. A fall from a horse in 1798 disabled him, but he continued to preach until the Lord called him home on August 10, 1804. Knowing that he was on his deathbed, a friend asked him if wanted to go home and be with Christ. His last word said faintly and sweetly was “Yes.”

This article is the third in a yearly July series on the Baptist Chaplains of the Revolution. The articles on Chaplains David Jones and William Rogers can be found in the July 2008 & 2009 Update. I had planned to save John Gano for the final article, but a recent trip near his burial ground in Frankfort, KY encouraged me to write on him. I am seen at the grave of John Gano and his wife Sarah in back of the beautiful new marker placed there by Pastor Jeff Faggart and the good folks of the Baptist History Preservation Society (www.baptisthistorypreservation.com).



A Smile Won the Day



Harvey R. Ball was born on July 10, 1921 in Massachusetts. He was a veteran of WWII, received the Bronze Star for heroism in the Battle of Okinawa, and after 27 years in the military, he retired as a Brigadier General. Yet for all of those patriotic actions, he is little remembered.

Harvey Ball was also a trained artist.

Almost two decades after WWII, employee bickering and lack of warmth plagued the State Mutual Life Assurance Company in Massachusetts. The Vice President asked free lance artist Harvey Ball to come up with a graphic for a "Friendship Campaign." His \$45 design on that day in 1963 quickly grew into an international icon, the "Smiley Face."

The original order for 100 buttons was within weeks selling in the thousands, and soon into the millions.

Yet Harvey Ball never copyrighted his logo, and only received the original artwork fee. In his obituary (April 12, 2001), he was quoted as stating concerning the copyright fees - that he had no regrets. As he liked to put it: "Hey, I can only eat one steak at a time, drive one car at a time."

Harvey Ball's philosophy of the Smiley was more than just a "feel good" symbol. The Smiley was an inspiration to help others. His phrase was: "Do an act of kindness – help one person smile!"

Why not put a smile on someone's face for eternity, and point them to Jesus.



His Work Ended & Home to Heaven

Norwood Hodge passed on to heaven on Saturday, June 19, 2010. Although he never pastored a church, after his life changing conversion on August 12, 1956, he helped in the funding and construction of eight different churches.

The Lord blessed Brother Hodge with talent and success in the demolition business. As a Christian businessman, he had a great love for pastors, churches, schools, camps, and Bible colleges, and his generous giving reflected that commitment.

In the 1990's he was twice elected as the President of the International Fellowship of Fundamental Baptists. This position had always been held by a preacher, and it was a great honor bestowed by the preachers of the IFFB.

In 2002, Heritage conferred upon Brother Hodge a Doctorate of Humanities for his selfless giving for the cause of Christ. Dr. Hodge loved the students and staff at Heritage, and gave the largest one time gift in the history of Heritage Baptist University. He would chuckle and tell how his company tore down a large building at a secular college, and donated those profits for the building of the Russell Dennis, Sr. Student Center.

Three preachers conducted the funeral services for our dear brother: His pastor Terry Tuttle, and two of Brother Norwood's close preacher friends, Evangelist J. Bennett Collins (Oliver B. Greene's brother-in-law) and Dr. Tommy Willis (pastor from Graham, NC).

Our condolences go out to his wife and Christian helpmeet, Faye Hodge.



Changing Horses

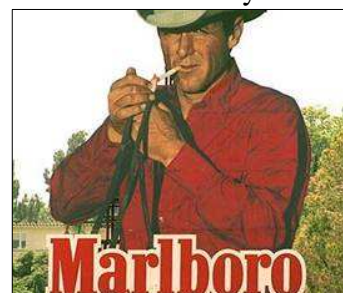


Yet in 1990, when McLaren was diagnosed with lung cancer at 49 years old, he became a one man crusader against tobacco use. He declared: “Smoking caught up with me.”

His mother stated that Wayne McLaren’s last words were: “Take care of the children. Tobacco will kill you. I’m living proof of it.”

In the Lake Charles Cemetery in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana is the grave of Wayne McLaren. McLaren made a name for himself as a Hollywood stuntman in the 1960’s, and he also was a rodeo rider.

His rugged and independent looks attracted the eye of the advertising agents, and he was cast in the 1970’s as the famous “Marlboro Man.”



Sometimes it has to get Hot

Did you ever chase after a butterfly? Anyone who has done so knows that they can easily put themselves “out of reach.”

Father’s Day was extremely hot as we ministered at the Main Cross Baptist Church in Charlestown, Indiana. After Sunday School, my wife excitedly told me that she wanted to take a picture of a beautiful butterfly that she had seen in the church parking lot.

I arrived to see a lovely Yellow Swallowtail butterfly struggling on the hot asphalt parking lot. Out of instinct, I laid my hand beside the butterfly, and it immediately climbed to safety. Rhonda took her picture, and I released the butterfly to perch in the green hedges.

When I got back to the auditorium, the happenings of the last few moments brought a strong message to my mind.

How often have we tried to help people, but they seemed little interested and were ready to flee in any direction away from Jesus Christ. But let the troubles of this life wound them and things get difficult, and they more readily look for the Savior.

Let us be there with the Truth, to help and rescue their souls for eternity.



Visit Heritage at the Sword of the Lord Convention

On July 26 – July 30, 2010, Vice President Dr. David Halcomb and several representatives from the college will be attending the Sword of the Lord National Conference in Walkerton, NC. For the third year in a row, we have secured a booth for Heritage Baptist College in the Exhibition Hall. Please stop by and visit us at **H-7** or look for the colorful Heritage Baptist College banner.



He Started a “Lively Experiment”

Over ten years of his life was spent in England striving to obtain a charter with religious liberty for the fledgling Baptist colony of Rhode Island. Rev. John Clarke started the first Baptist church in America in 1638, and he along with Roger Williams sought for their little colony to have freedom of worship.

The persecution from their larger neighbor, the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and the threat of Rhode Island being absorbed, caused John Clarke to sail from America to England. He hoped to obtain a Royal Charter that contained something that had never been authorized by any English king – Religious Freedom.



God intervened, and on July 8, 1663, King Charles II of England signed the Rhode Island Charter of 1663. Most of the wording appears to have been written by the Baptist preacher, including the paragraph stating “*to hold forth a lively experiment, that a most flourishing civil state may stand and best be maintained, and that among our English subjects, with a full liberty in religious concernments...*” That phrase promoting religious freedom is inscribed above the entrance to the Rhode Island State House.

The beginning of religious freedom in America was a struggle. Charles II, King of England, was the sovereign who regularly had Baptist preachers thrown into jail. The most famous of those preachers was John Bunyan, the author of *Pilgrim’s Progress*, who spent over 12 years in prison. Daniel Defoe, the writer of *Robinson Crusoe* and a friend of Baptists, stated that 70,000 people suffered for religion and 8,000 died in the prisons during King Charles II’s reign. Yet, this king gave his consent for the Baptist to enjoy a colony with freedom of conscience in worship.

How prophetic that the same charter would contain these lasting words: “*There may, in time, by the blessing of God upon their endeavors be laid a sure foundation of happiness to all America.*”

Promoting Heritage Baptist College

On Thursday, June 24th Heritage Baptist College had the first of several planned preacher’s breakfasts. Focused on preachers on the Westside of Indianapolis, 11 preachers gathered that morning at Flap Jacks Restaurant and had a time of good fellowship with a short challenge about Heritage Baptist College.

Introducing preachers to the goals, quality of learning, and the vision of Heritage Baptist College only helps in building a better school. Your assistance in referrals of both students and interested pastors are a great blessing and fill an important need.



Leaving you with a Thought



Most people heard about the recent headlines out of Wimbledon, England – The Match That Would Not End. American John Isner and Nicolas Mahut of France played the longest tennis match in the history of the sport. The match lasted 11 hours and 5 minutes, and play covered parts of three days. On Thursday, June 24th the game finally ended with John Isner winning the match 70 – 68.

What is interesting is that the Frenchman had more points (502-478), but Isner won the most important point of all...the last one.

When I saw the publicized photo of Isner rejoicing on his victory, my eyes were first drawn to the celebrating tennis player. Then I looked at the crowd, and out of 17 people I saw different reactions, but only one fan that appeared to have the same enthusiasm as the man in the spotlight. I had to smile at the picture, and close by thinking of ministry.

You may endure a lot, and many will be glad when you succeed. But there is usually one who will be a kindred spirit - one who will let everyone know that he is with you. Those are often known by the title of true friends.

“Remember we’re pulling for you. We’re all in this together.”