Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association
and
The Alumnae Association
of Sweet Briar College
invite you to spend the day exploring
“George Washington’s Legacy of Leadership”
Monday, March 9, 2009
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens
The Robert H. and Clarice Smith Auditorium
General Information

REGISTRATION
You may register online at http://www.sbc.edu/alumnae/register _ mt _ vernon _ event.html or by calling the Alumnae Office at 800.381.6131. The registration deadline is Feb. 16. The fee for attending is $65 per alumnae/guest. Space is limited, so we encourage you to register early.

ARRIVAL
When you arrive at Mount Vernon, proceed directly to the lobby area outside of the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Auditorium near the Shops at Mount Vernon, where you may check in to receive your nametag and program and enjoy coffee and refreshments. Seating is general admission. Only speakers will have reserved seating.

PARKING
Visitor parking is free and convenient. We recommend parking in the lot across from the Mount Vernon Inn.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Attendees must book and pay for their overnight accommodations with the hotel of their choice. Please visit the Mount Vernon Web site for recommendations at http://hotel-systems.com/brandings/mountvernon/. We recommend the Best Western Mount Vernon for its close proximity. The number is 703.360.1300.

ACCESSIBILITY
Mount Vernon welcomes visitors with special needs. We recommend that you speak with Guest Services at the Ford Orientation Center for personalized advice to make the most of your visit by calling 703.780.2000, extension 6822.

RECOMMENDED READING LIST


Welcome Coffee and Refreshments

9:30–10:15 a.m.  “Mount Vernon: A Reflection of the Real George Washington”
James C. Rees

George Washington’s remarkable leadership on the battlefield and in the halls of government is well known by most Americans, but very few are aware of his achievements in architecture, horticulture, and a variety of business ventures ranging from fishing to distilling, on his Mount Vernon estate. This illustrated lecture demonstrates why Washington was not only the most indispensable and powerful leader in 18th-century America, but also the most fascinating.

10:30–11:15 a.m.  “Defining Military Leadership”
William K. Suter

Leadership is difficult to define. Military leadership and political leadership, for instance, are quite different. A military leader might be one who successfully leads troops in combat and is respected by his subordinates. A political leader, on the other hand, might be one who skilfully convinces other politicians to vote for a piece of legislation, but is not respected by his colleagues. Leadership should not be confused with popularity. It is easier to be popular than to exercise leadership. This talk will concentrate on a series of short stories about military leadership.

11:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M.  Lunch
Dining rooms in the Mount Vernon Inn

12:45–1:30 P.M.  “George Washington and the History of Presidential Leadership”
Barbara A. Perry

This talk will delineate the criteria for “great” presidents, as developed by historians and political scientists, and demonstrate how these measures apply to Washington, Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt. The multimedia presentation will conclude with thoughts on whether contemporary presidents can lead in the current challenging political environment.

1:30–2 P.M.  Book signing
James C. Rees and Barbara Perry will be available for a book signing.

2–5 P.M.  Tours Available
Mansion, gardens and grounds, the Ford Orientation Center and Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center.
Barbara A. Perry, Carter Glass Professor of Government and Executive Director of the Center for Civic Renewal and the Virginia Law-Related Education Center at Sweet Briar College

In 1994–95, Dr. Perry was a judicial fellow at the U.S. Supreme Court, where she received the Tom C. Clark Award as the outstanding fellow that year. In 2006–07, she was the senior fellow for civics education at the University of Louisville’s McConnell Center. Her books include: The Michigan Affirmative Action Cases; Jacqueline Kennedy: First Lady of the New Frontier; The Priestly Tribe: The Supreme Court’s Image in the American Mind (a 2001 Choice Award); The Supremes: Essays on the Current Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States; A Representative Supreme Court? The Impact of Race, Religion, and Gender on Appointments; and, with Henry J. Abraham, Freedom and the Court: Civil Rights and Liberties in the United States, 8th edition. She is currently researching two new books: The Catholic Supreme Court Justices and Rose: Mother of the Kennedy Image. The author of more than 30 articles, Dr. Perry has lectured throughout the United States and is a frequent media commentator on public affairs and regular guest on Wisconsin Public Radio. Since 1995, she has served as a consultant for and taught in the annual Supreme Court Summer Institute, co-sponsored by the Supreme Court Historical Society and Street Law. Professor Perry earned a Ph.D. in government from the University of Virginia, an M.A. in politics, philosophy and economics from Oxford University, and a B.A. in political science, with highest honors, from the University of Louisville.

James C. Rees, Executive Director of George Washington’s Mount Vernon

Mr. Rees has been the executive director of Mount Vernon for the past 14 years. He is a former president of the Virginia Association of Museums and a past board member of the National Parks and History Foundation. He has previously worked at the National Trust for Historic Preservation and at the College of William & Mary. His publications include: George Washington’s Leadership Lessons: What the Father of Our Country Can Teach Us About Effective Leadership and Character with Stephen Spignesi; George Washington’s Mount Vernon; Treasures from Mount Vernon: George Washington Revealed, a catalogue for a traveling exhibition sponsored by Historic Mount Vernon, March 1999; and Slavery at the Home of George Washington. Mr. Rees earned a master’s in public administration from George Washington University, and a B.A. in English and a honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the College of William & Mary.

Major General William K. Suter, Clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court

William K. Suter is the 19th and current clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States, a position he has held since 1991. The clerk’s responsibilities include managing the Supreme Court’s docket and calendar and overseeing the Supreme Court Bar. The clerk also attends all oral arguments at the Court. Previously he was a career U.S. Army judge advocate and retired as a major general. He served in numerous positions of responsibility around the world, including appellate judge, deputy staff judge advocate of the U.S. Army Vietnam, staff judge advocate of the 101st Airborne Division, commandant of the JAG School, and the assistant judge advocate general of the Army. His military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star, and the parachutist badge. He is a frequent lecturer at law schools, bar association meetings and civic functions. Maj. Gen. Suter is a graduate of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, and the Tulane University School of Law in New Orleans. He attended Trinity on a basketball scholarship and Tulane on an academic scholarship. He was on the Tulane Law Review and was elected to the Order of the Coif. He is a graduate of the Judge Advocate General’s School Graduate Course, the Command and General Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.
Driving Directions

Directions from Washington, D.C. / Memorial Bridge
Cross the Memorial Bridge, heading toward Arlington National Cemetery. While you are on the bridge, get in the center lane. At the circle on the Virginia side, go to the right, following the sign George Washington Parkway (do not head to Arlington Cemetery). Just after the circle, take the left-hand exit, marked Parkway South/Alexandria/Mount Vernon. Once on the parkway, follow the signs to Reagan National Airport and continue south, through Alexandria. The Parkway is renamed Washington Street in Alexandria. Mount Vernon is eight miles south of Alexandria, located at the large traffic circle at the end of Parkway.

Directions from Washington, D.C. / 14th St. Bridge
Cross the 14th Street Bridge, heading to Virginia. While on the bridge, move to the far right lane. Take the second exit on the right, which is marked Reagan National Airport/Mount Vernon. Once on the Parkway, follow the signs to Reagan National Airport and continue south, through Alexandria. The Parkway is renamed Washington Street in downtown Alexandria. Mount Vernon is eight miles south of Alexandria, at the large traffic circle at the end of Parkway.

Directions from the North (Frederick, Gaithersburg, Rockville, Bethesda)
Travel south on Interstate 270 to Interstate 495 (the Capitol Beltway). Follow the Beltway south to Virginia. As you cross the American Legion Bridge over the Potomac River, get in the right lane. Take the first exit in Virginia, marked George Washington Memorial Parkway. Follow the Parkway south for about 30 miles, which takes you directly to Mount Vernon. The Parkway is renamed Washington Street in Alexandria, and Mount Vernon is eight miles south of Alexandria, at the large traffic circle at the end of Parkway.

Directions from the South (Woodbridge, Richmond, North Carolina)
Travel north on Interstate 95 and turn off at Exit 161, U.S. Route 1 north, marked Ft. Belvoir/Mt. Vernon. Continue north on U.S. 1 about six miles, through Ft. Belvoir. Just after Ft. Belvoir, turn right on State Route 235 north. Mount Vernon is three miles straight ahead, at a large traffic circle.

Directions from the East (New Jersey, Baltimore, Annapolis)
Travel south on Interstate 95 (which becomes the Capitol Beltway). As you cross the Potomac River on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, move to the far right lane. After you cross the bridge, take Exit 177 to Mount Vernon. The exit takes you to a light at S. Washington Street. Take a right on S. Washington Street. Washington Street becomes the George Washington Memorial Parkway as you leave Alexandria, and Mount Vernon is eight miles south, at the large traffic circle at the end of Parkway.

Directions from the West (Reston and beyond)
Travel east on Interstate 66 to Interstate 495 south (the Capitol Beltway). Follow the outer loop of the Beltway, which becomes Interstate 95 north (headed towards Baltimore). Turn off at Exit 177B, Route 1 north, marked Alexandria/Mount Vernon. Once on U.S. 1, make the first right turn, onto Franklin Street. Turn right again at Washington Street, which is marked for Mount Vernon. Washington Street becomes the George Washington Memorial Parkway as you leave Alexandria, and Mount Vernon is eight miles south, at the large traffic circle at the end of Parkway.