

Forum: "Looking Back On Our America"

By: Ethel Aamot

Narrator: Good evening. Welcome to our Forum. Tonight we will be looking back on the history of our great country. Before I go any further I would like to introduce the panel. Please stand as you are introduced. Hold your applause until all have been introduced. To my far right is George Washington, the father of our country. -- Seated next to him is his lovely wife Martha.-- Next to Martha is Betsy Ross, the lady who made our beautiful flag.-- To my left we have Thomas Jefferson, that great statesman. Seated next is Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States of America and his lovely wife Mary. Let's give our panel a round of applause. (clap) We'll begin our forum with a little of the early history of our great country. Thomas Jefferson, will you do us the honor of reading it for us?

Jefferson: Certainly. America was actually discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1492 and was under British rule. The people who came over on the Mayflower, Pinta & Santa Maria were looking for a place where they could have religious freedom & also to escape authority. However in 1765 the British imposed taxes with the stamp Act & the townsend act. The people didn't like that. Finally the taxes were removed, except for the tax on tea. In anger, because they did not remove the tax on the tea, the settlers dressed up as Indians and dumped the tea in Boston Harbor. War followed under the direction of George Washington, who was commander-in -chief of our army. We were successful in defeating the British.

Narrator: Thank you Thomas. Now here, in his own words, is none other than George Washington, the Father of our country. (applause)

George W: Good evening everyone. Before I say another word I would like to introduce my lovely wife Martha. I heard that at the Moose if you don't introduce your wife you have to buy her a new dress. My wife Martha.

Martha: Oh! He is so CHEAP!!

George W: Yes, I remember those trying days that winter of 1777. We were camped out at Valley Forge and it was a real bummer! My troops had little food, not much shelter and barely any warm clothing. It was terrible. I was really glad when the British surrendered on Oct. 19, 1781 because I really needed to get home and get a change of underwear.

Martha: (stands up) Boy, did he ever need a change of underwear. Phew!!!!

Narrator: Thank you George for your service to our country. Next we will hear from that wonderful lady who made our flag, Betsy Ross. (Betsy goes to microphone)

Betsy: Hello, everyone. I worked so hard on that flag and what did I get for it? Well, see for yourself. (holds up hands covered with band aids)

Narrator: We do appreciate all you have done for our country. In appreciation we would like to present you with some lotion to help heal those hands. Let's pay tribute to this great lady by singing "You're A Grand Old flag" (guide marches Betsy around the room will we sing & clap hands to music)

Narrator: We are honored to have with us tonight the 16th President of the United States of America, Abraham Lincoln and his lovely wife Mary. Let's give them a big hand! (applause) (Mary follows Abe to the microphone)

Lincoln: Thank you and good evening. (looks at wife) Go sit down Mary.

Mary: I'll sit down when I get ready!!

Lincoln: You are making a scene. Sit down. (Mary sits down with disgust!)

Mary: (looks at audience) You can see what I have to live with!!

Lincoln: Now you can see what I have to live with!!! I think back about those days when I was President and our country was engaged in a Civil War. I would like to read the speech I gave at the National Cemetery at Gettysburg after the War. (Gettysburg Address followed by applause)

Narrator: Thank you President Lincoln. The best to you and your Mrs.

Lincoln: Thank you. Living with her is not easy. (Mary hits him with her handbag)

Narrator: Mary, please control yourself. I would like to thank all of our panel for participating in our Forum tonight. Before we adjourn Let's all stand and sing "God Bless America".

Narrator: You may be seated. I would like to leave you with this thought. It is Beyond Belief that America and the WOTM have had so many great days behind them but you know & I know that the "BEST IS YET TO COME".

Cast Introductions:

Narrator: _____

Thomas Jefferson _____

George Washington _____

Martha Washington _____

Betsy Ross _____

Abraham Lincoln _____

Mary Lincoln _____

Escort _____

I thank you all for your participation.