



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

A good question...And the answer, I believe is within each of us. We know that despite the differences which separate us, we all share one thing -- our American heritage.

Our freedom and our liberties were not achieved quickly or easily. For centuries our European and English ancestors fought for concepts and beliefs which we accept so easily today. When the first English colonists came to this shore they found an environment in which the principles of democracy could take root and eventually flourish.

The American Revolution was a critical period in the development of these ideas, not only because of the war for independence but because it was during these years of intense intellectual turmoil that the ideas upon which this country was erected were confirmed. John Adams said that the American Revolution had taken place long before 1776--for it was in the "hearts and minds" of the colonists that the decision was made for separation from Great Britain and the creation of a unique political system. And it is no platitude to say that this "revolution" has never ended.

The principles of a free society are never secure. They are dynamic, ever-changing, ever-growing. But they are fragile percepts which are likely to die if not reenforced and strengthened by each generation. In a very real sense every generation must rediscover and reaffirm the sources of our liberty and freedom.

Some of us can point proudly to the fact that our ancestors fought at Bunker Hill and suffered with George Washington at Valley Forge. But the fact remains that every American, no matter what his ancestry or origin, stands on the "firing line" of freedom! "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," it has been said. And this expressed the challenge which has faced every generation of Americans.

Now, perhaps more than ever before, we need the anchor of our great heritage. Certain of where we have been as a people, we can look forward with confidence and pride to what we, as individual citizens and as a people, can be in the future.

And this is what I believe the American Revolution Bicentennial is all about!

Dr. Robert N. Manley

Nebraska American Revolution
Bicentennial Commission

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was established by Congress to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the 200th anniversary of the United States.

The President has strongly urged that the events planned for the celebration be more than the usual parades, shows, and gala festivities connected with great events, for we should not miss the opportunity to imprint on our state and communities a lasting commemoration of two centuries of national life.

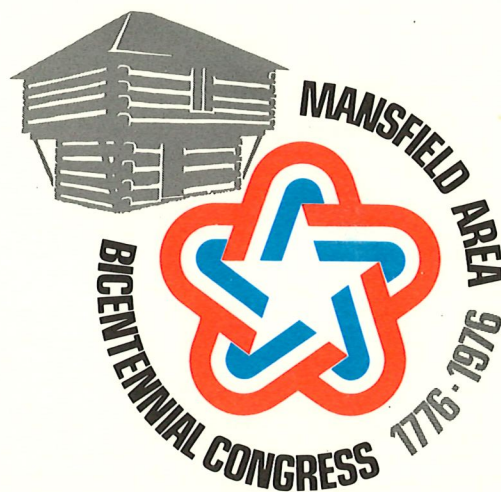
To this end, the national American Revolution Bicentennial Commission has chosen as its theme the creation of "a better quality of life for all Americans." Its three emphases for commemorating the bicentennial are:

1. Heritage '76 - A summons to learn what has made our country great and to stimulate pride in the development and achievements of our country's first 200 years by learning new truths about local, state, and national historical events.
2. Festival USA - A program to encourage travel throughout America so that citizens will expand their knowledge and appreciation of their country. Festival will also extend an invitation to visitors from all over the world to join in the celebration of our 200th birthday.
3. Horizons '76 - A call for all Americans to engage in some project, individually or collectively, that will carry out the theme of "a better quality of life" by encouraging citizen involvement in governmental and community programs.

The Ohio American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and the Mansfield Area Bicentennial Congress will follow the same program and coordinate all local participation.

"REDEDICATE YOURSELF AS AN AMERICAN"

BECOME PART OF THE
AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL



As we near the 200th birthday of our great nation, The Mansfield Area Bicentennial Congress is asking your organization to become part of the celebration.

A membership campaign and fund raising drive is being launched to involve every citizen - youth and adult -- in the Bicentennial spirit. We are also asking the various local organizations and firms to support the project in a more significant manner.

Funds derived from memberships and gifts will be used to support approved projects of the non-profit Mansfield Area Bicentennial Congress.

Firms and Organizations Contributing*

MINUTEMAN:

\$100.00 or more - will receive an official 3' x 5' Bicentennial Flag, membership card and pin.

PATRIOT:

\$50.00 - \$100.00 - will receive an official 2' x 3' Bicentennial Flag, membership card and pin.

VOLUNTEER:

\$25.00 to \$50.00 - will receive an official membership card and pin.

For your further information we are enclosing a copy of our local newsletter, "The Bicentennial Fyfe and Drume".

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Albert L. Allen, Jr.

Albert L. Allen, Jr.
Chairman - Mansfield Area Bicentennial Congress

Enclosure

* Please make checks payable to Mansfield Area Bicentennial Congress.



May 10, 1974

Dear Citizen of the Mansfield Area:

As you know, our nation will be celebrating its 200th birthday in 1976. The President has encouraged all citizens in the communities where they live to plan now to celebrate our 200th birthday in some meaningful way during 1976 - a way that demonstrates purpose, meaning, and, yes, even love for our great country.

He suggests that we think in terms of projects which, regardless of their nature, will provide a legacy for those individuals who are one day sure to follow us. For example: projects or community efforts which will demonstrate that we do love our country; that we did appreciate the blessings of Almighty God by preserving and utilizing the wonders of nature which He gave us in the surroundings where we live, and finally, because of our desire to improve the nation in which we live, that we will have left our city, town or village a better place for future inhabitants.

A meeting of all interested groups, societies, clubs, organizations, city and county government bodies, or their representatives, and any individual citizen is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 16, 1974 at Malabar High School to start planning for the Mansfield Area Bicentennial year, 1976.

We will have with us Dr. Robert Cecil, the Ohio Bicentennial Chairman, who will explain Ohio's Bicentennial plans, and just what the observance should mean to us.

We want you to come prepared to make suggestions, talk freely and with complete candor about your ideas for making the Mansfield and Richland County area a better place to live; to enable its residents to appreciate its heritage and enjoy life in one of the most beautiful areas of the state and our nation.

With your help, zeal, and support we will all be a part of making the Mansfield Area Bicentennial a truly successful event in our history. We hope you or your representative will be with us. Unfortunately, we know we will not reach everyone with this notice! Therefore, we are asking you to please pass this message on to any other interested parties you may know of.

Your Bicentennial Steering Committee,

Albert L. Allen, Jr.
J. Gilbert Baird
Wray C. Smith, D.D.
Richard P. Dalton



May 10, 1974

Dear Citizen of the Mansfield Area:

As you know, our nation will be celebrating its 200th birthday in 1976. The President has encouraged all citizens in the communities where they live to plan now to celebrate our 200th birthday in some meaningful way during 1976 - a way that demonstrates purpose, meaning, and, yes, even love for our great country.

He suggests that we think in terms of projects which, regardless of their nature, will provide a legacy for those individuals who are one day sure to follow us. For example: projects or community efforts which will demonstrate that we do love our country; that we did appreciate the blessings of Almighty God by preserving and utilizing the wonders of nature which He gave us in the surroundings where we live, and finally, because of our desire to improve the nation in which we live, that we will have left our city, town or village a better place for future inhabitants.

A meeting of all interested groups, societies, clubs, organizations, city and county government bodies, or their representatives, and any individual citizen is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 16, 1974 at Malabar High School to start planning for the Mansfield Area Bicentennial year, 1976.

We will have with us Dr. Robert Cecil, the Ohio Bicentennial Chairman, who will explain Ohio's Bicentennial plans, and just what the observance should mean to us.

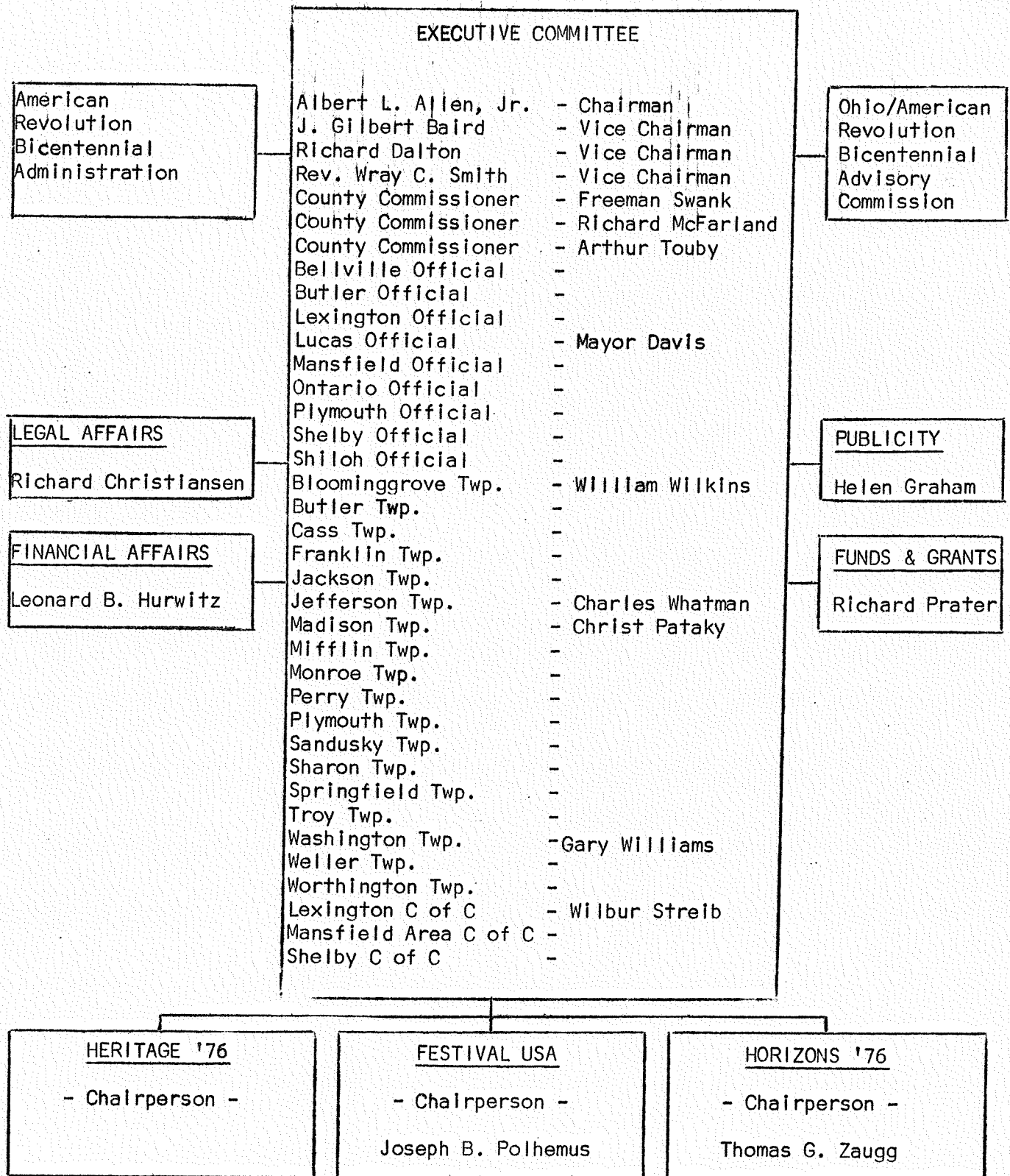
We want you to come prepared to make suggestions, talk freely and with complete candor about your ideas for making the Mansfield and Richland County area a better place to live; to enable its residents to appreciate its heritage and enjoy life in one of the most beautiful areas of the state and our nation.

With your help, zeal, and support we will all be a part of making the Mansfield Area Bicentennial a truly successful event in our history. We hope you or your representative will be with us. Unfortunately, we know we will not reach everyone with this notice! Therefore, we are asking you to please pass this message on to any other interested parties you may know of.

Your Bicentennial Steering Committee,

Albert L. Allen, Jr.
J. Gilbert Baird
Wray C. Smith, D.D.
Richard P. Dalton

MANSFIELD AREA BICENTENNIAL CONGRESS



GROUP: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

PLEASE RETURN BEFORE NOVEMBER 27, 1974 TO:

MR. ALBERT ALLEN, JR., CHAIRMAN
Bicentennial Congress
33 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

GROUP: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

PLEASE RETURN BEFORE NOVEMBER 27, 1974 TO:

MR. ALBERT ALLEN, JR., CHAIRMAN
Bicentennial Congress
33 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

GROUP: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

PLEASE RETURN BEFORE NOVEMBER 27, 1974 TO:

MR. ALBERT ALLEN, JR., CHAIRMAN
Bicentennial Congress
33 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

GROUP: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

PLEASE RETURN BEFORE NOVEMBER 27, 1974 TO:

MR. ALBERT ALLEN, JR., CHAIRMAN
Bicentennial Congress
33 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44902