

4th of July Trivia 2011

1. On June 7, 1776 a delegate in the Continental Congress introduced a motion for independence. Who was it and what colony was he from?

{Richard Henry Lee, Virginia}

2. The Declaration of Independence was initially released to the world with only one signature on it. Whose signature was it and what was his position?

{John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress. His signature was required to authenticate the document.}

3. The outcome of what Civil War battle was officially announced on the 4th of July, 1863? (It technically ended on July 3rd)

{The Battle of Gettysburg}

4. What delegate rose from his death bed and traveled to vote for independence in 1776?

{Caesar Rodney, a delegate from Delaware. When he heard they were voting on independence he rose from his death bed to attend the session, breaking the tie among his delegation and casting the deciding vote for independence.}

5. In what year were the words “under God” added to the Pledge of Allegiance?

{1954}

6. In what year was the Star Spangled Banner officially adopted as our National Anthem?

{Written in 1814, it was officially adopted in 1931, but had already been adopted by the army and navy}

7. In the War of 1812, what woman became known for her act of bravery in risking her safety to save important national documents from the British when they invaded the capitol?

{Dolley Madison, then First Lady}

8. What is our national motto?

{In God we trust. Officially adopted in 1954}

9. What was the “Great Compromise” of the Constitutional Convention?

{The question of representation. Solution: The creation of a bicameral legislature with one house of equal representation and one of representation according to population.}

10. How many times has the U.S. Constitution been amended?

{27}

11. When was the last amendment made to the Constitution?

{1992}

12. Which were the first and the last of the 13 colonies to ratify the U.S. Constitution?

{First was Delaware; Last was Rhode Island}

13. Article seven of the Constitution required 9 states to ratify the Constitution for it to be binding. Which was the 9th state?

{New Hampshire, in June of 1788}

14. Who was the first Supreme Court Chief Justice of the United States of America?

{John Jay, also remembered as one of the authors of the Federalist Papers}

15. How many signers of the Declaration of Independence became President of the United States?

{Two. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Interestingly, these two men were also the last two living signers of the Declaration. They both died on the same day, July 4, 1826, which was the 50th anniversary of the Declaration. Adams was 90 and Jefferson was 83.)