

2010 FALL SENIOR COLLEGE

BEN FRANKLIN

Presenter: Herb Pagel

Outline:

I. Ben Franklin's early years

II. Ben Franklin, Printer

III. Franklin, Inventor and Scientist

IV. The 18th, a Century of Change

V. The Evolution of a Patriot

VI. The Later Years, Diplomat, Statesman, and Reformer

Herb Pagel

I taught in Minneota, MN, for 34 years, from 1965 to 1999. I still sub once in a while, as well as work at the public library when needed. I started buckskinning (camping in canvas, dressing in buckskin costume, shooting muzzle-loaders, throwing tomahawks, cooking over wood fires, etc.) at what are called "rendezvous," after the gatherings of the fur trappers and traders of the 1820's to 1840 in the West. My original persona was "mountain man." I taught courses on the mountain men and on the Lewis and Clark expedition at Senior College at SMSU and over the network for Good Samaritan.

Since then, I have expanded into the persona of a civilian of the late 1700's, acquiring dress of that period. I recently taught a course about Benjamin Franklin at Senior College at SMSU.

My hobbies, besides rendezvousing, include modern camping, fishing, reading, computer technology, and wood-working. My wife, Marilyn, and I have been married for 45 years. We raised five girls and have 15 grandchildren. We reside in Minneota, and enjoy traveling and usually go to Florida to see the Twins at spring training for a couple of weeks in February and March.