

# the Gregorian

## Inside this Issue

*Welcome to Gregory*

*Gregorian Guide to Ye Olde City*

*September Photo Montage*

*Top 10: Ways to Deal with Gregory's Lack of Air Conditioning*

*Clip of the Month*

*Shout Outs*

- 1 Some of you have chosen to reside here. If you fall into that category, you are probably enthusiastic about having an entire room to yourself, watching high-browed cinema, or conversing in a foreign tongue with the students on your floor.
- 2 Others of you are living in Gregory because the Quad was full. If this college house wasn't your top choice, you may be worried about the social stigma attached with Gregory and fearful that you won't meet as many other freshmen as those living in places with a higher concentration of first years.

No matter how you've come to live here, be assured that you'll find many things to like about Gregory College House. If you chose to live here, you need no convincing. But even if Gregory was your tenth choice, you'll find it is not really such a bad place to live. Here are a few reasons why...

- There are fewer power outages here than in the high-rises, and if there is a power outage, at most, you'll only have to walk up four flights of stairs—not twenty.
- You have roommates but don't have to live in the same room with them. Along these same lines, you're sharing a bathroom with not more than three people (meaning a shorter list of suspects if someone steals your shampoo).
- The best Academy Awards Party on campus (with fantastic prizes for picking the most winners correctly (although you shouldn't get your hopes up because people here are really good at picking the winners)). The best Super Bowl Party on campus too (be prepared to cheer loudly and eat lots of wings).

- If you happen to wonder into a frat party and happen to find yourself a tad befuddled upon leaving, you have a shorter distance to stumble back home to bed.
- There are movie showings almost every night of the week in a lounge with comfy couches, booming surround sound, and a refrigerator without a padlock.
- Plenty of procrastination tools in addition to the film lounge, including a big screen TV, a Nintendo Wii, and other fun gaming systems.
- Proximity to food. Real food, that is (not the stuff you get from commons). Step out the door and find yourself on 40<sup>th</sup> St., home to delicious eateries galore.
- Study breaks every Wednesday night in the Piano Lounge. Bring Your Own Mug (BYOM) every Tuesday night on the third floor of Van Pelt. Come by to meet people, or at least for some hot chocolate and free food.
- A dedicated and knowledgeable staff that either has the answers or can point you in the right direction. Additionally, there's a healthy mix of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Older students are great resources for all sorts of things—used textbooks, class advice, use your imagination.

With these things in mind, if you fell into the latter category, hopefully you're slightly more optimistic about the year ahead. And if you fell into the former, hopefully you're even more excited. I look forward to meeting all of you and to a great year.

Sincerely,

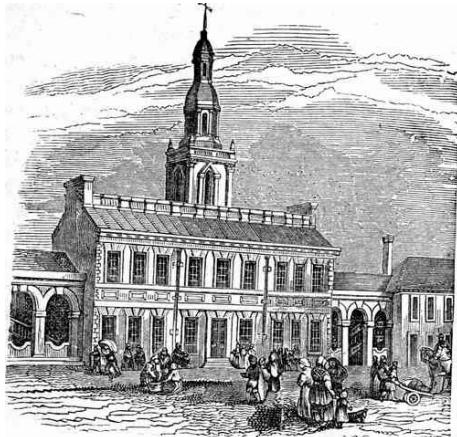
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## *The Gregorian's Guide to Historic Philadelphia*

Welcome to Philadelphia! Philly was founded in 1652 by William Penn, who hoped his “City of Brotherly Love” would be the embodiment of tolerance and freedom (you be the judge). Beginning in 1790, it briefly served as the US capital, but lost out to a place where the summers are even more unpleasant in terms of heat and humidity.

“The Gregorian’s Guide to Historic Philadelphia” covers some of the basics of the city’s past. Unfortunately, it would be impossible to mention everything worth seeing so what follows are just a few highlights. Stay tuned for the next issue, which will look at some of the city’s cultural attractions.



**Liberty Bell and Independence Hall** – These two sights are best seen together—in fact, that’s the way the National Park Service has structured the tour of Independence Hall. First, pick up your free tickets at the Independence Hall Visitor’s Center near 6<sup>th</sup> St. and Market St. Then go through security and see the Liberty Bell in the Liberty Bell Center. Finally, wait for a ranger to escort you over to Independence Hall for a tour and history lesson. Warning: this is the city’s top tourist attraction and the free tickets go fast (especially on weekends). For guaranteed admission, go early in the morning.

**Elfreth’s Alley** – The oldest continuously inhabited street in America (people have lived along this quaint route since 1713), makes you feel as if you’ve stepped back in time. Located just off 2<sup>nd</sup> St. between Arch and Race, it gives passersby a taste of what it would have been like to walk down a Philadelphia city street 200 years ago—or what it would be like for Harry Potter to walk through Diagon Alley.



**Franklin Court** – Ben Franklin’s Philadelphia residence burnt down almost two centuries ago. However, a skeletal framework has been erected to commemorate and give visitors a sense of the house. A floor plan is etched into the bricks, making it possible to trace where Franklin napped, ate, and went to the bathroom. There’s also a museum and a gift shop where you can buy authentic looking copies of the Constitution and books written by and about Franklin. Franklin Court can be found on Market St. between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets. You will know it by a passageway with a small but quite profound sign noting the famous figure who passed through the walkway so many times.



**Macy’s (the old Wanamaker’s department store)** – If you’re a shoppaholic history geek, this is the department store for you. Located along Market Street near City Hall, this historic building offers a chance to shop the finest designer brands and also see the first organ to be dedicated as a National Historic Landmark. Visit the Friends of the Wanamaker Organ website for a schedule of when the dusty pipes are transformed into an eerie concerto; this happens almost daily.

If you’re up for a challenge, see if you can find where William Taft stood when he dedicated the building a century ago.



**U.S. Mint** – You don’t have to be in Wharton to learn how to make money at the US Mint. Located a block east of the Constitution Center, visitors are treated to tours between 9:00 and 3:00 on weekdays of the place where pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters are formed. Apologies if you’re only interested in the big bucks; dollar bills are not made at the mint, but rather at the Bureaus of Engraving and Printing. One is in Washington, DC and the other is in Fort Worth, TX.



**Old City** – This is the area southeast of Independence Hall. As the name suggests, it harkens back to a bygone era. Hedges and cobblestone streets lead history buffs to some lesser known national landmarks like the Mercantile Exchange, the Second Bank of the United States, and City Tavern, where the founder’s kicked back after a long, arduous day of Constitution-framing. Old City is the perfect place to picnic or finish that 800-page tome for your freshman seminar. It’s more relaxing than Independence Mall as Old City is less known to tourists.

# *Move-in, Game Night, Toga Party, Convocation, Annual House BBQ*



## *Top Ten Ways to Deal with Gregory's Lack of Air Conditioning*

10.) Fabricate absurd reasons to visit Chris and Winnie in the air-conditioned house office. Pretend you're interested in renting some of the obscure foreign language films in the House DVD collection. Chris loves that stuff. Or ask Winnie if "Empire Records" is any good.

9.) Organize a march on President Amy Gutmann's house insisting that it's impossible to know "Why Deliberative Democracy" when you can't inhale without scalding your lungs. Tell her that your "Identity in Democracy" is being clouded by the heat.

8.) Try not to think about that minor detail. Just indulge in the luxurious plastic mattress, ergonomically designed chair, and stylish cinder block walls of your palatial dorm room.

7.) Call mommy and daddy and shrilly demand that they do something. Your father will import Arctic ice to line the walls of your room and hire attendants to fan you with palm fronds as you recline and nibble grapes.

6.) Never leave Huntsman Hall or the library. Those places have air conditioning and you'll get lots of studying done. Then again, staying alive isn't nearly as important as having a life.

5.) Much to your roommates' chagrin (or possibly, but less likely, great delight), don't wear anything at all.

4.) Drink lots and lots of water, but make sure it isn't from the tap—if it is, the water you're drinking is from the Schuylkill River and you might start to glow, sprout fins, or just feel really, really sick.

3.) Call Donald Trump. He graduated from Wharton and is in real estate. Plus his gravity-defying hair proves that he can do miraculous things with moving air.

2.) Look on the bright side: your roommate might spontaneously combust.

1.) Get a fan and stop whining. It will cool off in a week or two.



## CLIP OF THE MONTH

What: Penn Masala (an Indian a capella group) singing "I Can Be Your Facebook Stalker" to the tune of Enrique Iglesias' "Hero."

Where:  
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=6FahBBnfHAQ>

Best Moment: "Would you poke if I sent you a poke?"



Have something to say to someone, but are afraid to say it? Then turn to SHOUTOUTS.

Send your SHOUTOUT to  
[gregorian.gregory@gmail.com](mailto:gregorian.gregory@gmail.com) with  
"SHOUTOUT" in the title of the email.

&^@)#!\$!%



All SHOUTOUTS will remain anonymous (unless you're obvious about it, but that's your own fault).



Questions? Suggestions? Comments?

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