



June 29, 2008

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***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****



(Boston, MA - 29 June 2008) **Words of Independence – Words to Cherish: Dramatic Reading of the Declaration of Independence** is scheduled for 10:00 AM on July 4th on the east balcony of the Old State House in Boston. The first reading was done by Robert Craft a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. This year the 300th Captain of the Ancients, Jerome V. Sweeney II, will read to the crowd on the historic site of the Boston Massacre. Everyone is invited to hear the delivery and watch the parade which starts at 9:00 AM in Government Center.

First organized as militia for the protection of settlers following the landing at Plymouth, the Ancients have been a continuous presence in Massachusetts since 1638. The Company, whose headquarters and public museum are at Faneuil Hall, has seen its members deployed in every conflict in the nation's history, from the Bunker Hill to Yorktown, the War of 1812, the Civil War, both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and today, Iraq.

The Ancients participate in numerous memorial and charitable activities throughout the year including this year's Fourth of July Parade in Boston and Lexington, Patriot's Day Parade, USO Fundraising Event, and a combined Holiday Toys for Tots and Clothing Drive for Homeless Veterans. You can find more information about the Ancients at www.ahac.us.com or by calling Brigadier General Emery Maddocks, Executive Secretary at 617 227-1638.

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