



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

Dear Members:

Greetings to everyone on this night of your eighty-ninth Annual Dinner of the Pennsylvania Society.

The Pennsylvania Society has as one of its tenets the preservation of the ". . . good name of the State of Pennsylvania, its good deeds and its good men" Pennsylvania does indeed have a proud heritage of leadership. Long before Pennsylvania led the nation and the world in industrial might, Pennsylvania led the new world to representative government, religious tolerance and cultural diversity. Pennsylvania was where America declared her independence and, two centuries ago, framed our constitution.

Two hundred years ago today, on December 12, 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify that constitution. In celebration of this important anniversary in the history of our Commonwealth and our country, the United States Government issued a special Pennsylvania Statehood stamp. This commemorative stamp, designed by Richard Sheaff, features Philadelphia's Independence Hall, America's living memorial to the wisdom, courage and statesmanship of our nation's founders.

In honor of your celebration of our great state, I am pleased to present each of you with a souvenir cachet envelope bearing the Pennsylvania Statehood stamp. Each envelope has been cancelled by the U.S. Postal Service with a special pictorial stamp.

I am sure each of you will treasure this stamp, both as a reminder of Pennsylvania's special role in celebrating the bicentennial of the United States Constitution and as an inspiration to help us extend to all our citizens the promise of prosperity and the rights guaranteed in that document two hundred years ago.

Best wishes for the holiday season.



Robert P. Casey
Robert P. Casey
Governor