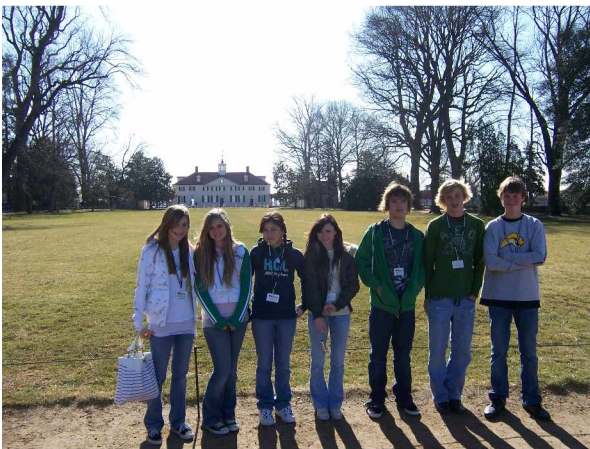


# The *DCS* Washington Illustrated

Sunday, March 11

After a night short on hours, we all gathered at 8:00 am for a breakfast of runny eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, and fruit.

Then it was on the bus and off to Mt. Vernon. What a beautiful day. Clear skies, temps in the 60s, gorgeous! We arrived to a brand new Welcome Center, Museum, and Visitors Center. Absolutely amazing! There were many interactive displays, movies, lectures, and exhibits. I learned everything there is to know about George Washington and his life. We toured his old house, strolled around his plantation, and even took an illegal picture of George's dentures. See Mrs. Nichols if you would like a copy of the photo. I don't dare post it here. J





Then it was off to the town Alexandria, VA for lunch and some light shopping. We saw the Spite House, George Washington's church, and Ben and Jerry's where I chose to eat my lunch. Don't worry I washed it down with Starbucks.



Crowded Elevator

Next we rode over to the Washington Monument. I can't believe I was over 500 feet above ground. There were amazing views in all directions. I just wish that the reflecting pool would have been filled with water.



It was easier to tell from this point of view that the city is laid out in the shape of a cross. One thing I learned was that inscribed on the cap stone are the words, "Laus Deo", which means, "Praise Be to God". Very Cool!



# *Our Motor Coach*

We then rolled to the WWII memorial. I couldn't believe all the thought that went into designing this thing. You'll have to ask me to explain it to you when I get home. We met a veteran and listened to some of his stories, and even had a veteran in our own group. Thank you to Jacob's grandfather, and all those who fought for our freedom.



Then we walked to a statue of Albert Einstein where everyone just played around, climbed on his head and took photos. It's kind of funny that such a brilliant man has a statue where people climb all over his dome. Mr. Hartog even pretended to pick his nose. (Einstein's that is) Gross!

It was then off to the H2O restaurant for dinner. You can google it and check it out on the web if you would like.

After dinner we loaded the bus once more and went to see the Viet Nam, Lincoln, and Korean War memorials. The Viet Nam Memorial moved some in our group to tears. The Lincoln Memorial was just plain spectacular, and the Korean War Memorial, left me with a very eerie feeling.



We arrived back at the hotel around 9:45 and it is time for bed.

Quotes of the day:

"This is soooooo Awesome!" – student while viewing Lincoln Memorial

"The first two days couldn't have gone better" – teacher

"This group is very well behaved" – tour guide

"I can't believe we walked this much" – parent

"Smells like Ontario out here" – student

And Ending Picture!

As Always  
Your RCS Editing Staff

