

The United States Capitol

by **Lynne Belluscio**

By the time you read this, I will have returned with the bus load of folks from LeRoy, who went to Washington, D.C. to visit the Henry Clay painting that we donated to the Senate. Next week you'll get a complete report. Five of us will have dinner with some of the Senators in the formal Senate Reception Room. There will be some speeches – of course and hopefully mention of the LeRoy Historical Society. As is the custom, on the trip down to Washington, there will be some questionnaires to test everyone's knowledge about the Senate and the Capitol. So see how many of the questions you can answer and I'll give you the answers next week.

1. The cornerstone for the Capitol was laid in 1793 by _____?
2. The two houses of Congress resulted from the "Great Compromise of 1787" between the large and small states. It was also known as _____.
3. The original Constitution provided that state legislatures would elect Senators, but passage of the 17th Amendment in _____ established direct election of Senators by the people.
4. Senators are elected for a _____ year term.
5. In 1800, the Federal Government moved from _____ to Washington, D.C..
6. The _____ serves as president of the Senate.
7. The National Motto _____ is engraved over the south-central entrance to the Senate chamber.
8. The old Senate Chamber which was occupied by the Senate until 1859, was then used by the _____ for 75 years.
9. The Capitol building was burned during the _____.
10. The Constitution requires that Senators be at least _____ years of age, citizens of the United States and _____.
11. In 1800, when the Senate first met in the Capitol in Washington, there were _____ Senators.
12. The most recent addition to the Senate in 1959 were the Senators from _____.
13. There are 100 desks on the floor of the Senate. Forty eight desks date back to 1819. In the 1830s, a writing box was added to the top of each desk, except for the desk used by Jacob LeRoy's brother-in-law, _____. He said that if his predecessors could do without the additional space, so could he. It is the only desk without a writing box.
14. The Senate room also has spittoons, two small lacquer snuff boxes. The desks have holes for _____ and a sand shaker for blotting ink.
15. The two New York Senators are _____ and _____.
16. A committee was formed to name the five most significant Senators. Their portraits now hang in the Senate Reception room (which will be where we will be having dinner the night the Henry Clay painting is unveiled). The first five Senators were: _____, John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster, (the "Great Triumvirate"), Robert La Follette and Robert Taft.
17. Two more names were added in 2000: Arthur Vandenburg of Michigan and _____ from New York. In 2006, Roger Sherman and Oliver Ellsworth, both of Connecticut, became numbers eight and nine.
18. The Rotunda of the Capitol was built in 1865. The inside of the dome, the Apotheosis of Washington was painted by an Italian artist, _____ who also painted the corridors with frescoes and designed bronze work that decorate the Capitol. He has been called "America's Michelangelo."
19. When the American flag is flying above the Senate building, the Senate is in session. A _____ indicates if the Senate is in session at night.
20. The Senate has exclusive authority to advise and consent on all nominations and _____?
21. New York Senator James Wadsworth, from nearby _____ opposed women's suffrage and prohibition.
22. All of the _____ in the Capitol Dome was manufactured in New York by Janes, Fowler & Kirkland.
23. A New York Senator, who was appointed to the office, but never elected, appeared on a US postage stamp: _____.
24. A portrait of Henry Clay by Phineas Staunton now hangs in the staircase at the Senate. It was donated to the Senate by _____.
25. Henry Clay was a Senator from _____.
26. The Henry Clay portrait used to hang in the Staunton Art Conservatory on the campus of _____ in LeRoy.
27. The painting is significant because it is one of only three known views of _____.

