

Chapter 1 : Hall of Fame for Great Americans - Wikipedia

*George Washington Carver (Great Americans) [Barbara Kiely Miller] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Introduces the life of George Washington Carver, an expert on plants and plant products and an educator who devoted his life to finding new uses for such crops as peanuts and sweet potatoes that grew on farms in the South.*

Sources George Washington Carver was an agricultural chemist and botanist whose colorful life story and eccentric personality transformed him into a popular American folk hero to people of all races. Born into slavery, he spent his first 30 years wandering through three states and working at odd jobs to obtain a basic education. An accomplished artist and pianist as well, Carver was among the most famous black men in the United States during the early twentieth century. The Carver farm was raided several times throughout the war, and on one occasion, according to legend, bandits kidnapped George, who was then an infant, and his mother, Mary, and took them to Arkansas. George was frail and sickly and his frequent bouts with croup and whooping cough temporarily stunted his growth and permanently injured his vocal chords, leaving him with a high-pitched voice throughout his life. While his healthy brother grew up working on the Carver farm, George spent much of his childhood wandering in the nearby woods and studying the plants. Here he formed the interests and values that determined his later life—love and understanding of nature, long morning walks in the woods spent thinking and observing, strong religious training, and a taste of racial prejudice. The Carvers realized that George was an extremely intelligent and gifted child eager for an education. But since he was black, he was not allowed to attend the local school. In he left home to study in a school for blacks in nearby Neosho, getting his first exposure to a predominantly black environment. He roomed with a local black couple, paying his way by helping with the chores. Soon exhausting his At a Glance—Born c. Iowa State University, B. Worked odd jobs throughout Missouri, Kansas , and Iowa while pursuing a basic high school education, ; Iowa State University, Ames, IA, assistant botanist and director of college greenhouse, ; Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, AL, head of agriculture department, , head of department of research, ; founder of George Washington Carver Foundation and Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute; researcher focusing on improving Southern agriculture through crop diversification and finding multiple uses for various crops; author of articles on agriculture. Carver worked as a cook, launderer, and grocery clerk while continuing to pursue his education. Witnessing a brutal lynching in March of , he was terrified. As quoted by Linda O. McMurry in *George Washington Carver: Scientist and Symbol*, more than sixty years after the incident he wrote: There he lived with another local black couple, Ben and Lucy Seymour, following them to Minneapolis , Kansas, the next year. In he moved to Kansas City , working as a clerk in the Union Depot. Accepted by mail at a Presbyterian college in Highland, Kansas, he was refused admission when he arrived because of his race. Though humiliated, he stayed in Highland to work for the Beelers, a cordial and supportive white family. Carver followed one of their sons to western Kansas in and tried homesteading, building a square-foot sod house. But at that time he seemed more interested in playing the piano and organ and in painting than farming. Finally Gained Academic Opportunities Carver moved again in to Winterset, Iowa, where he worked at a hotel before opening another laundry. A local white couple he met at church, Dr. Milholland, persuaded him to enter Simpson College, a small Methodist school open to all, in nearby Indianola, Iowa. He enrolled in September of as a select preparatory student, one allowed to enter without an official high school degree. Carver was unique in more ways than one: By all accounts his Simpson experience was enjoyable. Carver took in laundry to support himself, was accepted by his fellow students, and had many friends. Again Carver was the only black on campus. Soon he stood out for his talent as well. The faculty, equally impressed by his ability to raise, cross-fertilize, and graft plants, persuaded him to stay on as a post-graduate after he graduated in Carver was appointed to the faculty as an assistant botanist in charge of the college greenhouse. Began Lasting Affiliation with Tuskegee The new graduate was in great demand. Iowa State wanted him to continue working there. But when school principal Booker T. Washington, the most respected black educator in the country, asked Carver to establish an agricultural school and experiment station at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama , he

accepted. He would devote the rest of his life to the institution and its goals. Carver arrived at Tuskegee in the fall of 1891 and immediately ran into problems. Many of the faculty members resented him because he was a dark-skinned black from the North who was educated in white schools and earned a higher salary than they did. Carver was a trained research scientist, not a teacher, at a primarily industrial trade school. He had few pupils, for the simple reason that most black students viewed a college education as a way to escape from the farm. Washington and Carver often clashed. In 1892 Carver was removed as head of the agriculture department and put in charge of a newly formed department of research. He gradually gave up teaching except for his Sunday evening Bible classes. Alabama agriculture was in a sorry state when he arrived. Carver set out to find a better way and to make Tuskegee a leading voice in Southern agricultural reform, as well as an important research, information, and educational center. He encouraged local farmers to visit the school and to send in soil, water, crops, feed, fertilizers, and insects to his laboratory for analysis. Realizing that his discoveries and those of other agricultural researchers nationwide would have little effect unless publicized, Carver brought Tuskegee to the countryside by creating the Agriculture Movable School, a wagon that traveled to local farms with exhibits and demonstrations. His early bulletins stressed the need for planting crops other than cotton to restore the soil, the importance of crop rotation, strategies for managing an efficient and profitable farm, and ways to cure and keep meat during the hot southern summers. They also offered instructions on pickling, canning, and preserving foods and lessons on preparing balanced meals. He publicized his results in several bulletins from 1892 to 1895, providing growing tips and listing uses ranging from livestock feed to recipes for human consumption. When Carver arrived in Tuskegee in 1892, the peanut was not even recognized as a crop. A few years later, Carver grew some Spanish peanuts at the experiment station. Recognizing its value in restoring nitrogen to depleted Southern soil, he mentioned the peanut in his bulletin, *How to Build Up Worn Out Soils*. Department of Agriculture bulletins. A revolution was underway in Southern agriculture, and Carver was right in the middle of it. Peanut production increased from 3. After publicizing the peanut and encouraging Southern farmers to grow it, Carver turned his attention to finding new uses for the once-lowly goober. The following year he testified before the U. House Ways and Means Committee, captivating congressional representatives with his showmanship and ideas for multiple derivatives from the crop including candy, ink, and ice cream flavoring. Peanut butter, however, was not among his discoveries. His similar laboratory work with the sweet potato totaled commodities like flour, molasses, vinegar, various dyes, and synthetic rubber. But in reality, most of these by-products were more fanciful than practical and could be mass-produced more easily from other substances. Peanuts continued to be used almost entirely for peanut butter, peanut oil, and for baked goods instead of the plethora of products Carver concocted. For all his discoveries, he only held three patents: None was commercially successful. He usually worked alone, was uncommunicative with other researchers, and rarely wrote down his many formulas or left detailed records of his experiments. He often played the piano at fund-raising events for the school. A fanciful article in *American Magazine* solely credited Carver with increasing peanut production and developing important new peanut products that transformed Southern agriculture. Backed by automobile manufacturer Henry Ford and inventor Thomas Edison, Carver became the unofficial spokesman of the chemurgy movement of the 1920s that combined chemistry and related sciences for the benefit of farmers. Continuing his work with peanuts, he encouraged the use of peanut oil as a massage to help in the recovery of polio victims. Southern whites approved of his seeming acceptance of segregation and used his accomplishments as an example of how a talented black individual could excel in their separate but equal society. Blacks and liberal whites saw Carver as a positive role model and much-needed symbol of black success and intellectual achievement, a man who visited U. At his death from complications of anemia in 1933, Carver remained the most famous African-American of his era, world renowned as a scientific wizard. However, none of his hundreds of formulas for peanut, sweet potato, and other by-products became successful commercial products. Nor was he solely instrumental in diversifying Southern agriculture from cotton to peanuts and other crops. Through his talents as an interpreter and promoter, he put the agricultural discoveries and technical writings of leading scientists in everyday language that ill-educated farmers could understand and use. And in an age of strict racial segregation, his importance as a role model and national symbol of black ability, education, and achievement cannot be undervalued.

*George Washington Carver (s - January 5, ), was an American botanist and inventor. He actively promoted alternative crops to cotton and methods to prevent soil depletion. While a professor at Tuskegee Insitutute, Carver developed techniques to improve soils depleted by repeated plantings of cotton.*

During the American Civil War , the Carver farm was raided, and infant George and his mother were kidnapped and taken to Arkansas to be sold. Moses Carver was eventually able to track down young George but was unable to find Mary. With the complete abolition of slavery in the United States in , George was no longer a slave. Nevertheless, he remained on the Carver plantation until he was about 10 or 12 years old, when he left to acquire an education. He spent some time wandering about, working with his hands and developing his keen interest in plants and animals. He learned to draw, and later in life he devoted considerable time to painting flowers, plants, and landscapes. By both books and experience, George acquired a fragmentary education while doing whatever work came to hand in order to subsist. He supported himself by varied occupations that included general household worker, hotel cook, laundryman, farm labourer, and homesteader. In his late 20s he managed to obtain a high school education in Minneapolis , Kansas , while working as a farmhand. Carver left Iowa for Alabama in the fall of to direct the newly organized department of agriculture at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute , a school headed by noted African American educator Booker T. At Tuskegee, Washington was trying to improve the lot of African Americans through education and the acquisition of useful skills rather than through political agitation; he stressed conciliation, compromise, and economic development as the paths for black advancement in American society. Despite many offers elsewhere, Carver would remain at Tuskegee for the rest of his life. He conducted experiments in soil management and crop production and directed an experimental farm. At this time agriculture in the Deep South was in steep decline because the unremitting single-crop cultivation of cotton had left the soil of many fields exhausted and worthless, and erosion had then taken its toll on areas that could no longer sustain any plant cover. As a remedy, Carver urged Southern farmers to plant peanuts *Arachis hypogaea* and soybeans *Glycine max*. As members of the legume family *Fabaceae* , these plants could restore nitrogen to the soil while also providing the protein so badly needed in the diet of many Southerners. In response to this problem, Carver set about enlarging the commercial possibilities of the peanut and sweet potato through a long and ingenious program of laboratory research. He ultimately developed derivative products from peanutsâ€™among them milk, flour , ink , dyes , plastics , wood stains, soap , linoleum , medicinal oils, and cosmetics â€™and from sweet potatoes, including flour, vinegar , molasses , ink, a synthetic rubber , and postage stamp glue. Library of Congress, Washington D. Much exhausted land was renewed, and the South became a major new supplier of agricultural products. When Carver arrived at Tuskegee in , the peanut had not even been recognized as a crop, but within the next half century it became one of the six leading crops throughout the United States and, in the South, the second cash crop after cotton by In the U. Late in his career he declined an invitation to work for Thomas A. Presidents Calvin Coolidge and Franklin D. Roosevelt visited him, and his friends included Henry Ford and Mohandas K. Foreign governments requested his counsel on agricultural matters: Joseph Stalin , for example, in invited him to superintend cotton plantations in southern Russia and to make a tour of the Soviet Union , but Carver refused. In Carver donated his life savings to the establishment of the Carver Research Foundation at Tuskegee for continuing research in agriculture. During World War II he worked to replace the textile dyes formerly imported from Europe, and in all he produced dyes of different shades. Department of Agriculture Many scientists thought of Carver more as a concoctionist than as a contributor to scientific knowledge. Many of his fellow African Americans were critical of what they regarded as his subservience. Certainly, this small, mild, soft-spoken, innately modest man, eccentric in dress and mannerism, seemed unbelievably heedless of the conventional pleasures and rewards of this life. But these qualities endeared Carver to many whites, who were almost invariably charmed by his humble demeanour and his quiet work in self-imposed segregation at Tuskegee. As a result of his accommodation to the mores of the South, whites came to regard him with a sort of patronizing adulation.

Carver thus, for much of white America, increasingly came to stand as a kind of saintly and comfortable symbol of the intellectual achievements of African Americans. Carver was evidently uninterested in the role his image played in the racial politics of the time. His great desire in later life was simply to serve humanity, and his work, which began for the sake of the poorest of the black sharecroppers, paved the way for a better life for the entire South. [Learn More](#) in these related Britannica articles:

Chapter 3 : George Washington Carver | calendrierdelascience.com

*George Washington Carver was an agricultural scientist and inventor who developed hundreds of products using peanuts (though not peanut butter, as is often claimed), sweet potatoes and soybeans.*

Blog George Washington Carver "When you can do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world. Carver The early years George Washington Carver was a gifted, giving individual, born into slavery near the end of the Civil War and reared by German-American immigrants who treated him as one of their own. Instead, he roamed those fields, becoming knowledgeable about a wide variety of wildflowers and plants. Neighbors, hearing of his talents, brought him over to nurse a favorite plant back to health. When the task was completed, the neighbors bade him to come to the kitchen. They so-impressed George that he decided to integrate artistry with his love of plants. To go to school, George had to travel 10 miles south of his Diamond Grove, Missouri , home, to a one-room schoolhouse where blacks were accepted. He had to rent a room in Neosho. After getting to know his landlady, a kindly woman named Mariah Watkins, she admonished him, "You learn all you can, then go back out into the world and give your learning back to the people. George was obliged to attend several high schools while living with various foster parents, finally earning his diploma from Minneapolis High School in Minneapolis, Kansas. Higher education In , after first being accepted by mail to attend Highland College in Kansas, only to be turned away in person because he was black, Carver was accepted at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. In , Carver transferred to Iowa State Agricultural College now Iowa State University , where he became the first black student, and later, the first African-American faculty member. Washington persuaded him to take over the agricultural department at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute now Tuskegee University , in Tuskegee, Alabama. It was there that Carver was able to help convince farmers of the value of nitrogen in the soil to enhance their cotton crop yields. Since cotton does not replenish the nitrogen it leeches from the ground, Carver persuaded the farmers to rotate their cotton crops, substituting such replenishing legume family plants as peanuts and soy beans, to help restore the soil. Since those new crops had to be economically feasible to grow and harvest, Carver needed ways to market them. What he came up with was nothing short of remarkable. Carver developed more than uses for the lowly peanut, thus creating instant markets for the dirt-poor farmers. Ironically, peanut butter was not one of his inventions. A crude form of peanut butter was already being manufactured at a couple of food processing companies in the U. In addition to peanuts, Carver found more than uses for the sweet potato, another good plant for the soil, including flour, ink, molasses, postage stamp glue, synthetic rubber, and vinegar. When the boll weevil nearly wiped out cotton growers in , Carver had the leverage to turn the farmers to other crops to save their farms. Within 50 years, the peanut harvest was recognized as one of the top six crops in the U. In , Simpson College bestowed an honorary doctorate on Carver. Roosevelt , made it a point to visit Carver. Such international dignitaries as Mahatma Gandhi of India and the Crown Prince of Sweden, had short-term stays with Carver, while his perhaps most well-known guest, Henry Ford , worked with him to synthesize rubber. The acre parcel features a bronze bust of Carver, the Carver house of vintage, the family cemetery, and a nature trail.

## Chapter 4 : George Washington Carver - Wikipedia

*George Washington Carver was a prominent African-American scientist and inventor. Carver is best known for the many uses he devised for the peanut. This website uses cookies for analytics.*

Historyplex Staff Oct 30, George Washington Carver, one of the most prominent scientists and inventors of the early 20th century, realized the commercial potential of agricultural products like peanuts, sweet potatoes and soy beans. Read on to find out more contributions of George Carver. When you do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world. Although Moses Carver and his wife Susan owned slaves, they were opposed to the concept of slavery. After the culmination of the American Civil War in , they took care of George and his brother James like their own. George became interested in practical botany and gardening at a very early age. Speaking about his love for nature, he later said, "If you love it enough, anything will talk to you. Carver was once accepted in a college on the back of his excellent grades, but was refused admission when the college administration came to know about his race. He earned his diploma at Minneapolis High School, and his degree in botany from Iowa State University, where he was the first black student. He later taught at Iowa for a few years, also becoming the first black person to do so. Washington, a charismatic and influential early black leader, offered Carver a faculty position in the Agricultural Department at the Tuskegee Institute in Carver reinvigorated the fledgling Tuskegee Institute, and carried on his research there for the next 47 years. While at Tuskegee, Carver studied the problems faced by the hegemony of cotton in Southern plantations. Cotton, although a very viable commercial crop, extracts heavy amounts of nutrients from the soil, leaving the soil less fertile with each harvest. Carver realized that unless a system of crop rotation was put into place, the soil would soon become infertile, leading to more hardships for the predominantly black farmers and farmhands. However, his efforts were met with suspicion and derision. Eventually, farmers came to realize that the continued production of cotton could not sustain itself, and switched to planting peanuts and sweet potatoes. As expected, the harvest was abundant. However, this led to another problem; since the commercial avenues of peanut products had not been discovered yet, there were no takers for the bumper crop. Carver then started his untiring and revolutionary research. His research not only brought peanuts to the forefront of the agricultural industry, but also helped revitalize the soil. The crop rotation methods formulated by him saved the Southern lands from becoming barren. The 19th century American economy was primarily agrarian, and depended on the unhindered production of cotton. According to some biographers, he once had his students prepare a meal for the local farmers entirely from peanut products. He revealed the secret after the meal, much to the astonishment of the congregation. He invented dyes of more than different types from agricultural crops. Initially, textile dyes were imported from Europe. He invented the process for making paints and stains out of soy bean. He invented several cosmetic products from peanuts, including soaps, shaving creams, oils, shampoos and lotions. His research on peanuts also yielded numerous products with medical applications. He formulated a goiter treatment from peanuts, as well as laxatives and antiseptic soaps. He also produced several peanut products with considerable commercial value. These included paints, paper, ink, glue, plastics and rubber. He invented vinegar and coffee substitutes. He also invented wheatpaste, candies and flours from sweet potatoes. He invented the "Cook Stove Chemistry". This was formulated to improve the diet of the families who could not afford meat. He encouraged the consumption of cow peas and peanuts as alternative sources of protein. Despite his inventions, Carver had patents for just three products. He described his ideas and inventions as a gift from god. How can I sell them to someone else? Due to his invaluable contribution to the field, he is credited as the Father of Chemurgy the science of creating commercial products from raw agricultural products. Some even consider him the inventor of the field. Carver passed away on January 5, His epitaph perfectly sums up the life of one of the most genius, dedicated and selfless minds of the 20th century: He could have added fortune to fame, but caring for neither, he found happiness and honor in being helpful to the world.

*George Washington Carver ( - ), was an African American scientist, botanist, educator, and inventor. Carver's reputation is based on his research into and promotion of alternative crops to cotton, such as peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes, which also aided nutrition for farm families.*

The exact date of his birth is uncertain and was not known to Carver – however it was before slavery was abolished in Missouri in January after the American Civil War. The kidnappers sold the slaves in Kentucky. Moses Carver hired John Bentley to find them, but he located only the infant George. After slavery was abolished, Moses Carver and his wife Susan raised George and his older brother James as their own children. They encouraged George to continue his intellectual pursuits, and "Aunt Susan" taught him the basics of reading and writing. When he reached the town, he found the school closed for the night. He slept in a nearby barn. By his own account, the next morning he met a kind woman, Mariah Watkins, from whom he wished to rent a room. George liked Mariah Watkins, and her words, "You must learn all you can, then go back out into the world and give your learning back to the people", made a great impression on him. After witnessing a black man killed by a group of whites, Carver left the city. He attended a series of schools before earning his diploma at Minneapolis High School in Minneapolis, Kansas. College At work in his laboratory Carver applied to several colleges before being accepted at Highland University in Highland, Kansas. When he arrived, however, they rejected him because of his race. In August , Carver traveled by wagon with J. He also earned money by odd jobs in town and worked as a ranch hand. By June he left the area. Carver did research at the Iowa Experiment Station under Pammel during the next two years. His work at the experiment station in plant pathology and mycology first gained him national recognition and respect as a botanist. Carver taught as the first black faculty member at Iowa State. Tuskegee Institute George Washington Carver front row, center poses with fellow faculty of Tuskegee Institute in this c. In , Booker T. Washington , the first principal and president of the Tuskegee Institute now Tuskegee University , invited Carver to head its Agriculture Department. Carver taught there for 47 years, developing the department into a strong research center and working with two additional college presidents during his tenure. He taught methods of crop rotation, introduced several alternative cash crops for farmers that would also improve the soil of areas heavily cultivated in cotton, initiated research into crop products chemurgy , and taught generations of black students farming techniques for self-sufficiency. Carver designed a mobile classroom to take education out to farmers. He called it a "Jesup wagon" after the New York financier and philanthropist Morris Ketchum Jesup , who provided funding to support the program. He had to manage the production and sale of farm products to generate revenue for the Institute. He soon proved to be a poor administrator. In , Carver complained that the physical work and the letter-writing required were too much. Carver replied in writing, "Now to be branded as a liar and party to such hellish deception it is more than I can bear, and if your committee feel that I have willfully lied or [was] party to such lies as were told my resignation is at your disposal. Carver started his academic career as a researcher and teacher. In , Washington wrote a letter to him complaining that Carver had not followed orders to plant particular crops at the experiment station. When it comes to the organization of classes, the ability required to secure a properly organized and large school or section of a school, you are wanting in ability. When it comes to the matter of practical farm managing which will secure definite, practical, financial results, you are wanting again in ability. In , Carver complained that his laboratory had not received the equipment which Washington had promised 11 months before. He also complained about Institute committee meetings. Being Chapters from My Experience. He spoke at the Conclave that was held at Tuskegee, Alabama, in which he delivered a powerful and emotional speech to the men in attendance. In these years, he became one of the most well-known African Americans of his time. World War II poster circa Carver developed techniques to improve soils depleted by repeated plantings of cotton. Together with other agricultural experts, he urged farmers to restore nitrogen to their soils by practicing systematic crop rotation: These crops both restored nitrogen to the soil and were good for human consumption. Following the crop rotation practice resulted in improved cotton yields and gave farmers alternative cash crops. To train farmers

to successfully rotate and cultivate the new crops, Carver developed an agricultural extension program for Alabama that was similar to the one at Iowa State. To encourage better nutrition in the South, he widely distributed recipes using the alternative crops. Additionally, he founded an industrial research laboratory, where he and assistants worked to popularize the new crops by developing hundreds of applications for them. They did original research as well as promoting applications and recipes, which they collected from others. Carver distributed his information as agricultural bulletins. President Theodore Roosevelt publicly admired his work. Henry Cantwell Wallace served from to He knew Carver personally because his son Henry A. Wallace and the researcher were friends. The American industrialist, farmer, and inventor William Edenborn of Winn Parish , Louisiana , grew peanuts on his demonstration farm. He consulted with Carver. In , Carver wrote to a peanut company about the potential he saw for peanut milk. He discussed "The Possibilities of the Peanut" and exhibited peanut products. By , the U. In , peanut farmers and industry representatives planned to appear at Congressional hearings to ask for a tariff. Due to segregation , it was highly unusual for an African American to appear as an expert witness at Congress representing European-American industry and farmers. The Fordney-McCumber Tariff of was passed including one on imported peanuts. Life while famous United States Farm Security Administration portrait, March During the last two decades of his life, Carver seemed to enjoy his celebrity status. He was often on the road promoting Tuskegee University , peanuts , and racial harmony. Business leaders came to seek his help, and he often responded with free advice. From to , Carver toured white Southern colleges for the Commission on Interracial Cooperation. Merritt contacted him for his biography published in At present not a great deal has been done to utilize Dr. He says that he is merely scratching the surface of scientific investigations of the possibilities of the peanut and other Southern products. In , Carver attended two chemurgy conferences, an emerging field in the s, during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl , concerned with developing new products from crops. Carver", cartoon by C. Alston Carver never married. At age forty, he began a courtship with Sarah L. Hunt, an elementary school teacher and the sister-in-law of Warren Logan, Treasurer of Tuskegee Institute. This lasted three years until she took a teaching job in California. This young black man, a graduate of Cornell University , had some teaching experience before coming to Tuskegee. Carver bequeathed to Curtis his royalties from an authorized biography by Rackham Holt. He left Alabama and resettled in Detroit. There he manufactured and sold peanut-based personal care products. Carver died January 5, , at the age of 78 from complications anemia resulting from this fall. He was buried next to Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee University. Voice pitch This section may lend undue weight to certain ideas, incidents, or controversies. Please help to create a more balanced presentation. Discuss and resolve this issue before removing this message. April This section relies largely or entirely on a single source. Relevant discussion may be found on the talk page. Please help improve this article by introducing citations to additional sources. April Even as an adult Carver spoke with a high pitch. McMurry noted that he "was a frail and sickly child" who suffered "from a severe case of whooping cough and frequent bouts of what was called croup. Frequent infections of that nature could have caused the growth of polyps on the larynx and may have resulted from a gamma globulin deficiency. Christianity Carver believed he could have faith both in God and science and integrated them into his life. He testified on many occasions that his faith in Jesus was the only mechanism by which he could effectively pursue and perform the art of science. A dear little white boy, one of our neighbors, about my age came by one Saturday morning, and in talking and playing he told me he was going to Sunday school tomorrow morning. I was eager to know what a Sunday school was. He said they sang hymns and prayed. I asked him what prayer was and what they said. I do not remember what I said. I only recall that I felt so good that I prayed several times before I quit. My brother and myself were the only colored children in that neighborhood and of course, we could not go to church or Sunday school, or school of any kind. That was my simple conversion, and I have tried to keep the faith.

**Chapter 6 : George Washington Carver - Historic Missourians - The State Historical Society of Missouri**

*George Washington Carver was the second African-American honored in the Hall of Fame for Great Americans. (The first was educator and Tuskegee founder, Booker T. Washington.) He was born around in Missouri.*

History[ edit ] Origin and inspiration[ edit ] The library in ; Hall of Fame for Great Americans arcade is visible left and right. The library and hall stand on the heights occupied by the British army in the autumn of during its successful attack upon Fort Washington. It was the first hall of fame in the United States. King Ludwig I of Bavaria actually built two: After the three buildings which were to form the west side of the quadrangle of the New York University College of Arts and Science at University Heights had been planned, it was decided, in order to enlarge the quadrangle, to push them as near as possible to the avenue above the Harlem River. But since the campus level is feet above high tide, and from 40 to 60 feet above the avenue, it was seen at once that the basement stories would stand out towards the avenue bare and unsightly. In order to conceal their walls, a terrace was suggested by the architect, to be bounded at its outer edge by a parapet or colonnade. Like most persons who have visited Germany, the chairman was acquainted with the "Ruhmes Halle," built near Munich by the King of Bavaria. But the American claims liberty to adopt new and broad rules to govern him, even when following on the track of his Old-World ancestors. Hence it was agreed that admission to this Hall of Fame should be controlled by a national body of electors, who might, as nearly as possible, represent the wisdom of the American people. Design[ edit ] North wing of the Hall of Fame for Great Americans showing Alexander Graham Bell and Eli Whitney The memorial structure is an open-air colonnade , feet in length with space for bronze sculptures , designed in the neoclassical style by architect Stanford White. In worldwide good they live forever more. Each bronze bust must have been made specifically for The Hall of Fame and must not be duplicated within 50 years of its execution. For two decades before , in fact, it lacked the funds to hold new elections or to commission busts of the people it elected, including Louis Brandeis, Clara Barton, Luther Burbank, and Andrew Carnegie. In a point system replaced the majority vote. Two nominees, Constance Woolson nominated in and Orville Wright elected in , were considered, although being dead only 6 and 17 years respectively. MacCracken wanted to make sure that the people enshrined in his Hall of Fame were truly famous, not just memorable. So he established a board of electors, composed of men and women who were themselves possessed of some measure of renown, ostensibly people of great character and sound judgment. Over the years that body would include the most respected writers, historians, and educators of their day, along with scores of congressmen, a dozen Supreme Court justices, and six Presidents; seven former electors have themselves been elected to the Hall of Fame. To ensure that nominees would be evaluated with adequate sobriety and perspective, it was decided that no one could be elected who had not been dead for at least twenty-five years. Newspaper publishers used their editorial pages to lobby for or against nominees, and groups like the American Bar Association and the United Daughters of the Confederacy helped elect "Stonewall" Jackson in and, without success, Jefferson Davis waged extensive, expensive campaigns to get "their" candidates elected. Installation ceremonies were elaborate events. For a while the term "Hall of Famer" carried greater cachet than "Nobel laureate", and a hilltop in the Bronx seemed, to many, the highest spot in the country, if not the world.

**Chapter 7 : George Washington Carver**

*George Washington Carver was a prominent American scientist and inventor in the early s. Carver developed hundreds of products using the peanut, sweet potatoes and soybeans.*

Visit Website Moses Carver and his wife Susan raised the young George and his brother James as their own and taught the boys how to read and write. James gave up his studies and focused on working the fields with Moses. George, however, was a frail and sickly child who could not help with such work; instead, Susan taught him how to cook, mend, embroider, do laundry and garden, as well as how to concoct simple herbal medicines. At a young age, Carver took a keen interest in plants and experimented with natural pesticides, fungicides and soil conditioners. Education At age 11, Carver left the farm to attend an all-black school in the nearby town of Neosho. He was taken in by a childless African-American couple named Andrew and Mariah Watkins, who gave him a roof over his head in exchange for help with household chores. A midwife and nurse, Mariah imparted on Carver her broad knowledge of medicinal herbs and her devout faith. Disappointed with the education he received at the Neosho school, Carver moved to Kansas about two years later, joining numerous other African Americans who were traveling west. For the next decade or so, Carver moved from one Midwestern town to another, putting himself through school and surviving off of the domestic skills he learned from his foster mothers. He was initially accepted at the all-white college but was later rejected when the administration learned he was black. In the late s, Carver befriended the Milhollands, a white couple in Winterset, Iowa , who encouraged him to pursue a higher education. Despite his former setback, he enrolled in Simpson College, a Methodist school that admitted all qualified applicants. Carver initially studied art and piano in hopes of earning a teaching degree, but one of his professors, Etta Budd, was skeptical of a black man being able to make a living as an artist. Carver worked with famed mycologist fungal scientist L. Pammel at the Iowa State Experimental Station, honing his skills in identifying and treating plant diseases. In , Carver earned his Master of Agriculture degree and immediately received several offers, the most attractive of which came from Booker T. Washington whose last name George would later add to his own of Tuskegee Institute now Tuskegee University in Alabama. Carver accepted the offer and would work at Tuskegee Institute for the rest of his life. Additionally, many faculty members resented Carver for his high salary and demand to have two dormitory rooms, one for him and one for his plant specimens. Carver also struggled with the demands of the faculty position he held. Carver and Washington had a complicated relationship and would butt heads often, in part because Carver wanted little to do with teaching though he was beloved by his students. Carver would eventually get his way when Washington died in and was succeeded by Robert Russa Moton, who relieved Carver of his teaching duties except for summer school. He taught poor farmers that they could feed hogs acorns instead of commercial feed and enrich croplands with swamp muck instead of fertilizers. His idea of crop rotation proved to be most valuable. Through his work on soil chemistry, Carver learned that years of growing cotton had depleted the nutrients from soil, resulting in low yields. But by growing nitrogen-fixing plants like peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes, the soil could be restored, allowing yield to increase dramatically when the land is reverted to cotton use a few years later. To further help farmers, he invented the Jessup wagon, a kind of mobile horse-drawn classroom and laboratory used to demonstrate soil chemistry. But the method had an unintended consequence: A surplus of peanuts and other non-cotton products. Carver set to work on finding alternative uses for these products. For example, he invented numerous products from sweet potatoes, including edible products like flour and vinegar and non-food items such as stains, dyes, paints and writing ink. In all, he developed more than food, industrial and commercial products from peanuts, including milk, Worcestershire sauce, punches, cooking oils and salad oil, paper, cosmetics, soaps and wood stains. He also experimented with peanut-based medicines, such as antiseptics, laxatives and goiter medications. It should be noted, however, that many of these suggestions or discoveries remained curiosities and did not find widespread applications. House of Representatives on behalf of the peanut industry, which was seeking tariff protection. Though his testimony did not begin well, he described the wide range of products that could be made from peanuts, which not only earned him a standing ovation but also convinced the committee to approve a

high protected tariff for the common legume. He traveled the South to promote racial harmony, and he traveled to India to discuss nutrition in developing nations with Mahatma Gandhi. Up until the year of his death, he also released bulletins for the public 44 bulletins between and . Some of the bulletins reported on research findings but many others were more practical in nature and included cultivation information for farmers, science for teachers and recipes for housewives. In the mids, when the polio virus raged in America, Carver became convinced that peanuts were the answer. He offered a treatment of peanut-oil massages and reported positive results, though no scientific evidence exists that the treatments worked the benefits patients experienced were likely due to the massage treatment and attentive care rather than the oil. Carver died on January 5, , at Tuskegee Institute. Soon after, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation for Carver to receive his own monument, an honor previously only granted to presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln: Carver was also posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

**Chapter 8 : Great Black Heroes**

*Carver, George Washington George Washington Carver at the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama, Johnston (Frances Benjamin) Collection/Library of Congress, Washington D.C. (LC-J) Carver was born into slavery, the son of a slave woman named Mary, owned by Moses Carver.*

He stayed in Neosho for at least two years until the late s, when he decided to move to Kansas with other African Americans who were traveling west. The diorama depicts George and Jim Carver playing marbles, around He often used his domestic skills to make money. By the late s, Carver moved to Winterset, Iowa. Carver was befriended by a white couple, John and Helen Milholland. They encouraged Carver to enroll in nearby Simpson College where he studied piano and art. Agricultural Chemist Booker T. Washington Portrait of Booker T. Washington, founder of the Tuskegee Institute. Washington at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. There he conducted agricultural research and taught students until his death. He stressed the importance of planting peanuts to upgrade the quality of the soil, which had been depleted from years of planting cotton. Carver found many practical uses for peanuts, sweet potatoes, and other agricultural products. For more recipes, see Tuskegee Institute Bulletin, no. His work also helped revitalize the depressed southern economy. Outside view of Cassedy Hall, part of Tuskegee Institute. He became widely known for his agricultural experiments. He also became known as a promoter of racial equality. Carver was a deeply religious man and agreed to share his belief in racial equality. During the s and s, he traveled throughout the South delivering his message of racial harmony. Carver in his laboratory Carver in his laboratory [SHS ] Carver drew more public attention during the mids when the polio Poliomyelitis, also known as polio or infantile paralysis, is a disease caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system, most often in children. Although most people infected by the polio virus only experience flu-like symptoms and make a full recovery, the disease can damage nerve cells, causing severe pain or paralysis and, in rare cases where muscles necessary for breathing and blood circulation are affected, death. Several polio epidemics swept the nation between the late s and the s, afflicting tens of thousands of Americans, including President Franklin D. Several treatments were developed to help polio sufferers with long-term pain and paralysis, but they had limited success. The worst epidemics happened from to , causing rising national fear of the disease. Polio declined rapidly in America after , when a polio vaccine developed by Jonas Salk was put into widespread use. Carver offered a treatment of peanut-oil massages that he believed helped many people, especially children, gain relief from the painful and paralyzing effects of polio. The crash was the result of risky financial decisions made by investors in the stock market. The value of stocks fell dramatically, sending the economy into a tailspin. Many people went broke and faced tough times. Many people were unemployed during this time, income dropped, and many families became homeless. This was a period of great economic decline caused partly from generations of poor farming practices and years of drought. People from all over the world asked Carver for agricultural advice because he was able to show farmers how to maximize plant production and improve the soil at very little cost. A skilled artist and musician who never married, Carver lived out his life in a dormitory at Tuskegee Institute. He became friends with many people, some of whom were quite rich and famous. One of his closest friends was the automobile manufacturer Henry Ford. From ordinary peanuts he made hundreds of useful products, including milk, cheese, soap, and grease. He also made over a hundred products from sweet potatoes. Though he was offered positions at many other laboratories, Carver always declined, preferring to continue his work among his own race at Tuskegee. Carver died on January 5, , at Tuskegee Institute. He is buried on that campus near the grave of Booker T. Established by legislation sponsored by Senator Harry S. Truman, it was the first national memorial to an African American. Pilant wrote a book about Carver titled *George Washington Carver: Text* by Gary R. Society Resources The following is a selected list of books, articles, and manuscripts about George Washington Carver in the research centers of The State Historical Society of Missouri. All links will open in a new tab.

## Chapter 9 : George Washington Carver's Inventions

*George Washington Carver (s) Carver revolutionized agriculture in the South, transforming its economy. Background: Carver was born near Diamond Grove, Mo., to enslaved parents.*

Born into slavery, he, his sister, and mother were kidnapped by slave raiders when he was an infant. Although he was eventually returned to his owners, George developed a severe whooping cough during the escapade and could not perform the work expected of slaves. As a result, George would spend his days wandering the fields and meadows, learning about different plants. They encouraged him to pursue academic goals, and his aunt taught him how to read and write. George went to great lengths to find schools that would allow black students and traveled through much of Missouri and Kansas. He finally earned his high school diploma from Minneapolis High in Minneapolis, Kansas. After high school, he opened a laundry business in Olathe, Kansas. Over the next few years, George tried to enroll in numerous colleges but was continually rejected because of his race. In 1891, he was finally accepted by Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. He would become the second African-American to enroll. While at Tuskegee, Carver developed an interest in helping poor African-American farmers. Farmers in the south worked on poor soil, depleted of nitrogen by the annual cotton crops. Carver and his colleagues taught the farmers how to retain nutrients in the soil by using a crop rotation, a system in which the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts. In addition, Carver conducted numerous experiments on peanuts, soybeans, cow beans, and pecans, finding hundreds of practical uses for them including dyes, cosmetics, paints, plastics, and even gasoline. Carver designed a mobile classroom known as a Jesup Wagon which could be transported from place to place. In 1906, Carver was instrumental in convincing Congress to place tariffs on peanuts imported from China that were making it impossible for American peanut farmers to make a living. Carver would later experiment with peanut oil and its possibilities for easing symptoms of polio in infants. Legacy and Dedications George Washington Carver died in 1933 after falling down a flight of stairs. In his will, he dedicated his entire life savings to the George Washington Carver Foundation at Tuskegee University, which was established two years earlier. After his death, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the George Washington Carver National Monument in 1937. It was the first national monument for an African-American and for a non-president.