

Dee E. Andrews
CSU East Bay
SAR Talk, 5 November 2016

***A (very) BRIEF READING LIST of RELATED & RECENT WORKS on
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN***

Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography*, ed. Leonard Labaree (Yale University Press, 1964): the standard edition, but there are lots of others, including a good, inexpensive one by Bedford Books

Claude-Anne Lopez and Eugenia W. Herbert, *The Private Franklin: The Man and His Family* (W.W. Norton, 1975): hands-down the best book on Franklin's private life

Robert Middlekauff, *Benjamin Franklin and his Enemies* (University of California Press, 1996): a different perspective on Franklin's notoriety

Edmund S. Morgan, *Benjamin Franklin* (Yale University Press, 2002): a major American historian's encomium to Franklin as public servant

Michael Brian Schiffer, *Draw the Lightning Down: Benjamin Franklin and Electrical Technology in the Age of Enlightenment* (University of California Press, 2003): more about electricity than Franklin, but fascinating

Walter Isaacson, *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life* (Simon & Schuster, 2004): standard recent life, by a fellow "media" professional

Gordon S. Wood, *The Americanization of Benjamin Franklin* (Penguin, 2004): on Franklin's transition from royalist to republican

David Waldstreicher, *Runaway America: Benjamin Franklin, Slavery, and the American Revolution* (Hill & Wang, 2004): on Franklin (the runaway apprentice) and servitude

Page Talbott, ed., *In Search of a Better World* (Yale University Press, 2005): rich exhibit catalog for the 300th anniversary of Franklin's birth

Stacy Schiff, *A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the Birth of America* (Henry Holt, 2006): hands-down best book on Franklin in Paris

James N. Green and Peter Stallybrass, *Benjamin Franklin, Writer and Printer* (Oak Knoll Press, 2006): hands-down best book on Franklin as a printer

Joyce E. Chaplin, *The First Scientific American: Benjamin Franklin and the Pursuit of Genius* (Basic Books, 2007): on Franklin's first love: science

Jill Lepore, *Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin* (Knopf, 2013): unusual biography of Franklin's sister and lifelong correspondent

Carla Mulford, *Benjamin Franklin and the Ends of Empire* (Oxford University Press, 2015): Franklin as the original American liberal

PLUS! CLASSIC CHILDREN'S BOOKS on FRANKLIN

Robert Lawson, *Ben and Me* (Little Brown & Co., 1939/1951)

James Daugherty, *Poor Richard* (Viking Press, 1941/ 1958)

Ingri D'Aulaire and Edgar Parin, *Benjamin Franklin* (Doubleday & Co., 1950)

Robert Byrd, *Electric Ben* (Dial Books, 2013)