

**THE GREAT**

**SEAL**

- The Secretary of State is the official custodian of the Great Seal of the United States. It is only attached to certain documents, such as foreign treaties and presidential proclamations. The Great Seal is kept in a mahogany cabinet and displayed in the Exhibit Hall of the Department of State in Washington, D.C.**





**□ The United States seal has a rich history beginning with their founding fathers in 1776 when the first Continental Congress resolved that Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jefferson, and J. Adams "bring in a device for a seal for the United States of America." Both sides of the Great Seal can be seen on the**





**SYMBOLS  
ON  
OBVERS  
E OF  
GREAT  
SEAL**







**In the center of the seal is a bald eagle. The eagle holds a scroll in its beak inscribed with the Latin motto *E pluribus Unum* - which means *Out of Many, One* (one nation created from 13 colonies). The eagle grasps an olive branch in its left talons and a bundle of thirteen arrows in its right. The olive branch and arrows are symbols for the power of peace**





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- A shield with thirteen red and white stripes covers the eagle's breast. The shield is supported solely by the American eagle as a symbol that Americans rely on their own virtue.**



**The red and white stripes of the shield represent the states united under and supporting the blue, which represents the President and Congress. The white color is a symbol of purity and innocence; red represents hardiness and valour; and blue signifies vigilance, perseverance, and**

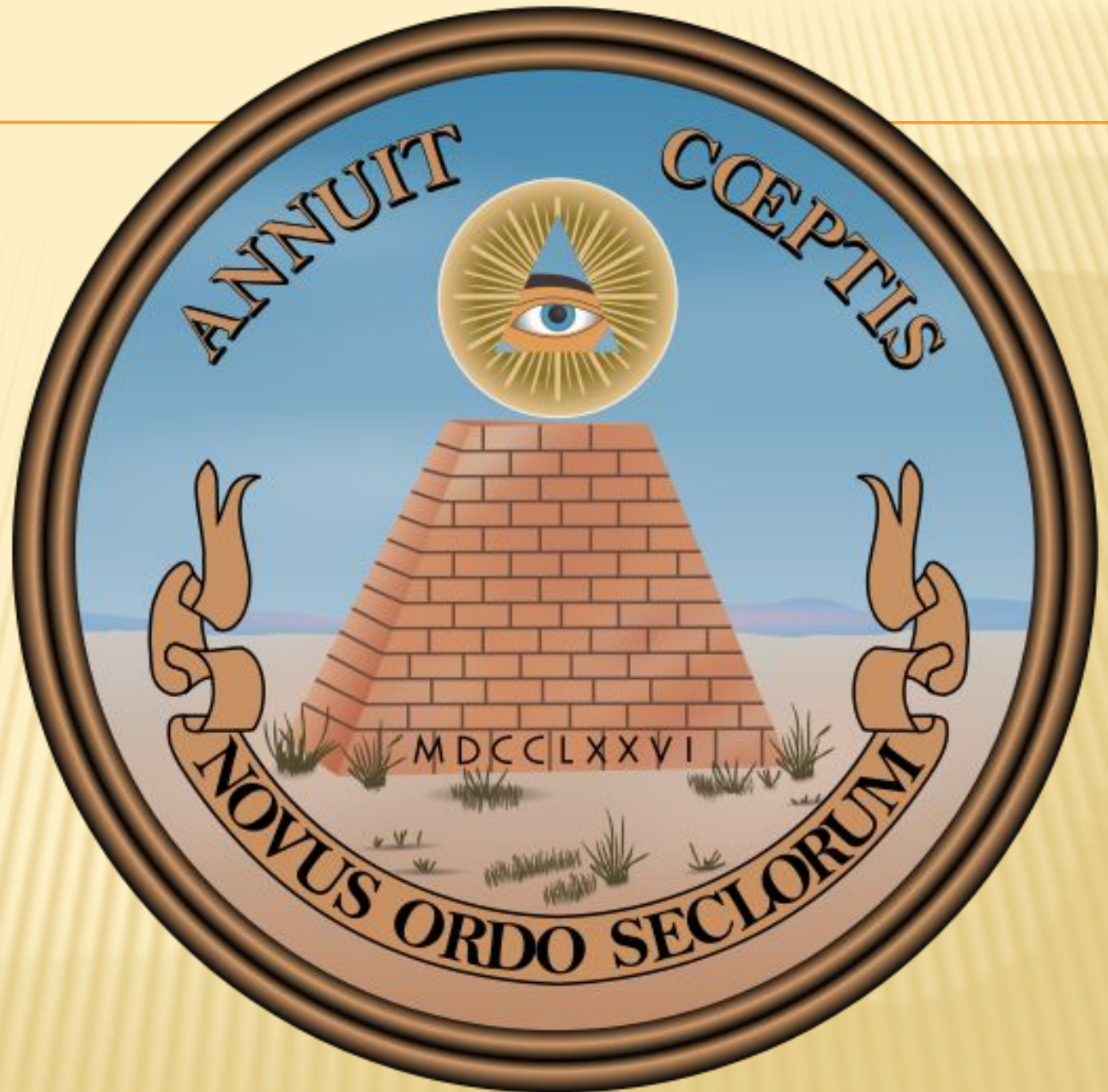




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**Above the eagle's head is a cloud surrounding a blue field containing thirteen stars which form a constellation. The constellation denotes that a new State is taking its place among other nations.**

**SYMBOLS ON  
REVERS  
E OF  
GREAT  
SEAL**







*13. Grande piramide di Giza*

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- **The seal's reverse side contains a 13-step pyramid with the year 1776 in Roman numerals at the base.**

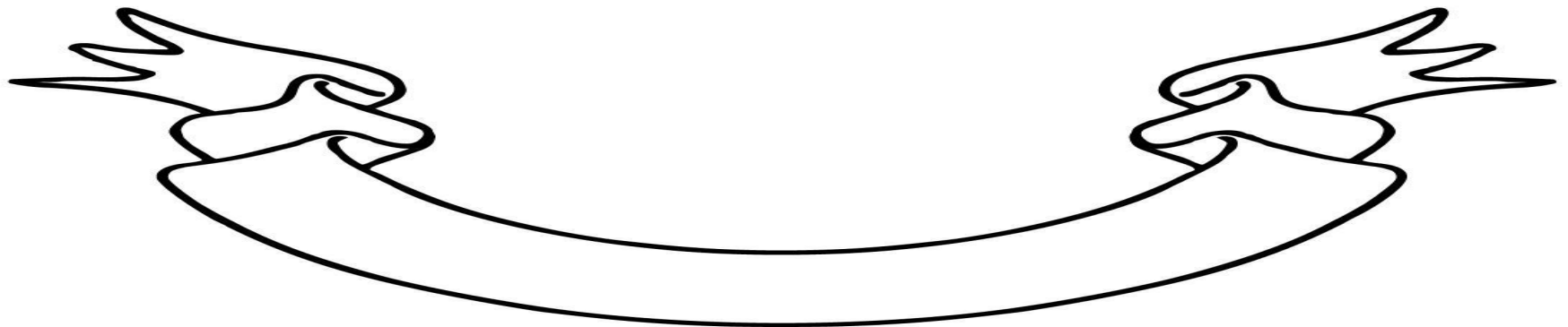




**At the top of the pyramid  
is the Eye of Providence  
with the Latin  
motto *Annuit Coeptis* in  
the sky above -  
meaning *It* (the Eye of  
Providence) *is favorable*  
*to our undertakings* or *He***



**Below the pyramid,**  
**a scroll reads *Novus Ordo***  
***Seclorum* - Latin for *New***  
***Order of the Ages*. which**  
**refers to 1776 as the**  
**beginning of the American**



*The End*