

GREATER CININNATI CHAPTER

FREEDOMS
FOUNDATION

at VALLEY FORGE



THE SENTINEL

Greater Cincinnati Chapter • Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
Fall 2020 • Theresa Bradley, President

SPIRIT OF AMERICA 2021

The Spirit of America Youth Leadership Conferences are being held at Valley Forge in March and April of 2021.

Our Cincinnati group will be attending the March 11-14 conference. Our goal is to send 10 students to Valley Forge for this interactive and transformative conference.

Students can apply by contacting Theresa Bradley at tkobradley@gmail.com for application forms. Students must submit an application as well as an essay on this year's topic: "What happens when a community no longer respects public property?"

After interviews in January, students will be selected to attend and receive a scholarship that pays for tuition, board, room, and airfare.

The Conference features a Mock Congressional Debate, a Free Enterprise Challenge, Leadership Workshops and tours of Valley Forge and historic



2020 participants ready to leave for the conference in Valley Forge

Philadelphia. This kind of experience immerses the students in the history and values of the founding of the country; this is something that cannot be experienced online.

If you know of any high school students who you think might benefit from this experience, please contact Theresa Bradley at tkobradley@gmail.com.

VETERANS RECOGNITION SERVICE POSTPONED UNTIL 2021

Our annual Veterans Recognition and Remembrance Program is being postponed until next November.

Given the restrictions of the pandemic, the Board believed it wise to postpone. The program will be scheduled to continue next November.

DON'T FORGET THE 'S'

This is a reminder to refer to our organization as Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. There is another organization known as Freedom Foundation that has a mission and purpose very different from ours.

Check out our Foundation's website at:
freedomfoundation.org.

TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR FREEDOMS FOUNDATION AT VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER

Dear Friends,

Amid the chaotic confusion currently characterizing our country, neither the National Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge nor our local Greater Cincinnati Chapter's Board of Directors have stopped pursuing our joint patriotic purpose of Educating, Honoring and Challenging.

We are mutually committed to **Educate** high school students and teachers about early American history and America's foundational principles; to **Honor** veterans and citizens who have served the cause of freedom in some way; to **Challenge** individuals in all walks of life to love America and to be involved, if possible, in preserving and promoting the freedoms inherited from previous generations.

Across our country are over twenty chapters nobly engaged in faithful stewardship of the cause in which we share. Our Chapter was founded in 1974 by a small group of patriotic women, and what they started has been bequeathed to us.

We are not an organization that requires attendance at major events, so how can we support what is the purpose of our existence? There are three ways to support the work of the Chapter:

To pay our annual membership dues of \$35 for individuals and \$50 for a family.

To pray for the efforts of our Board of Directors representing us as members and the work of the National Foundation. Our Pledge of Allegiance says we are a "nation under God."

To participate in acts of patriotism. Fly our nation's flag on pole or porch, attend parades and patriotic programs. Write letters to legislators and local officials. Teach our children and grandchildren about our national heritage.

There is another matter about which you can be assured, the concern we have as Chapter officers for you as Chapter members and families. Every monthly meeting of our Board begins with prayer including prayer for any of you who may be ill or bereaved, or dealing with other disruptions of life unknown to us. We hope you will share with us your joys and concerns, with specific requests for prayer and news of situations in your life or questions about the work we do in your behalf.

Members of our Board are Theresa Bradley, president; Bob Stevens, vice president; Bob Goering, treasurer; Jane Burke, Ron Grimmer, Jenny Kilgore, Bob Klare and Ann Wiethe who are members without assignment, and me, Board member and Chaplain.

We will continue to keep you informed by our newsletter, *The Sentinel*. Keep us informed as well by phone, letter, or email.

Sincerely,

Ted Kalsbeek, Chaplain

12177 Maple Drive, Loveland, OH 45140

513-677-8906

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT OF FREEDOMS FOUNDATION AT VALLEY FORGE

With Election Day just four weeks away, and partisan passions running high, Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge reaffirms its longstanding policy of political neutrality. The Foundation and its local chapters are nonpartisan and nonpolitical.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is incorporated and legally recognized as a tax-exempt charitable and educational organization. Contributions to us are tax-deductible. In return for that favored tax status, we are prohibited from engaging in political activity. That prohibition applies with equal force to our local chapters.

No activity, communication, event, meeting, or program hosted or sponsored by or at the Foundation or its local chapters may be used to promote or oppose any political campaign or candidate. Members, officers, and staff at the national and chapter levels alike must never use any Foundation or chapter position or resource to promote or oppose any political campaign or candidate. Any reference in any chapter communication to any political campaign or candidate jeopardizes the Foundation's tax-exempt status and is strictly forbidden. The [Internal Revenue Service](#) warns:

Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office. Contributions to political campaign funds or public statements of position (verbal or written) made on behalf of the organization in favor of or in opposition to any candidate for public office clearly violate the prohibition against political campaign activity. Violating this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax-exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes.

Avoiding the legal and financial consequences of violation ought to be motivation enough for compliance. But an even more fundamental consideration should govern our words and deeds.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge exists to create and build an understanding of the spirit and philosophy of the American founding, as reflected in its core documents: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. We fail to further that mission if we limit our audience to those who already share our personal political views. We aim to build an appreciation of the founding ideals among Americans of all political persuasions. We seek to serve as a trusted resource for conscientious citizens regardless of party. Everyone who loves our country is welcome.

Cordially,
David Harmer
President and Chief Executive Officer
Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
president@ffvf.org
