

Dear Chapter Presidents and Representatives,

I hope everyone had a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July and are enjoying a pleasant summer. We are midway through our summer season at headquarters. We have conducted two successful teacher seminars on campus and one great traveling workshop. We are currently hosting the National Sojourners Spirit of America conference which is immediately followed by our Service Learning in Public Policy Program (SLIPP). All of the summer programs have been well attended and the feedback has been extremely positive. We finish the summer season strong with two more teachers seminars.

Along with programs running this summer, we are busy working on the new website which is set to launch on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to everyone who sent in the requested information and materials to help us build the best chapter pages possible. We greatly appreciate all of your efforts and can't wait to show off the new site soon. The 2022 National Award nominations are being reviewed. Thank you for all the submissions this year. You have found some very inspiring Americans to nominate.

Though it is summer time, we are looking towards spring. I am currently mailing out to all chapter presidents and education vice presidents, the 2023 Spirit of America brochure. Each chapter is being sent an amount of brochures based on the number of students sponsored. If you need more brochures, please let me know. You can also send the brochure electronically to any interested participant, school, or sponsor. Attached please find the PDF version and feel free to share with all your members to help get the word out about our Spirit of America program. Reservations for the 4 chapters dates are coming in nicely. We still have space in all four dates, but the March 9-12 and April 20-23 dates are close to being full. Don't delay and reserve your chapter's spots today.

The next big event on the horizon is the Chapters and Partners Conference scheduled for October 6-9, 2022. Our chapter members have not gathered together since 2019. This long overdue conference is a great opportunity to connect with your fellow chapter members. The conference will also contain a lot of current information including updates on the discussion with the Legacy Foundation on the merger and an opportunity to meet the staff of the Legacy Foundation. Of course there will also be fun with a tour of Gettysburg and recognition at the Red, White and Blue Banquet. Attached is the registration information for the conference. Please share with your board and also your membership in general. We will be doing some key mailing and several emails to promote attendance over the next several weeks. The more who attend the more benefits for all.

Finally, as many of you already know we lost our dear friend and American hero, Hershel "Woody" Williams recently. He was a great champion of Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge and loved speaking to the teachers. I want to share with you a small video he did for us back in 2020 for Flag Day. Woody will be greatly missed.

Woody Williams Flag Day Video - <https://youtu.be/3yDuFl5mfsQ>

Thank you for continuing to be our boots on the ground supporting our programs and mission. You could not be successful without you.

Be safe, stay healthy, and take care.

*Carolyn E. Santangelo*

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