



# The Forge

***The Freedoms Foundation Mission***  
*We educate about American rights and responsibilities*  
*Honor acts of civic virtue, and*  
*Challenge all to reject apathy and get involved.*



Becky Reid, President

<https://www.ffvf.org/>

September 2023



## MESSAGE FROM

### BECKY REID, PRESIDENT

I hope you all had a fun and relaxing summer. My time as President is coming to an end. The slate of officers is included in this newsletter and the vote will be held electronically. This rewarding experience has given me a new level of respect for all the hard work done by each and every member of this wonderful organization. The leadership provided at the National Level provides the framework for our Chapter activities. The support provided to me by the members of our board has been wonderful.

I am so proud of what our San Diego County Chapter has been able to accomplish. It has been very gratifying to be able to honor the many George Washington Honor Medal recipients who were nominated by our board members. We all continue to be amazed by the students we are able to recruit for the "Spirit of America" Leadership Program at Valley Forge. How gratifying to talk to the students after they return home eager to share their experiences and practice their leadership skills..

A major fundraiser, our annual "Day at the Races," has become bigger and better than ever. We had a sell-out event this year. Congratulations to Rose Perkins who was selected to represent our group in the winner's circle this year. Thank you Rose for your continued support of our group through your beautiful baskets.

Congratulations to all of you! Think about the overall impact we have on the students who are lucky enough to attend the "Spirit of America" Leadership Program. . Thank you for your passion, dedicated efforts and persistence. Because of you, we can fund these programs. The dues letter will be coming to you soon, please pay your dues so we can continue to support our on-going programs.

I am so proud to be a part of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge because our impact is life-changing, and truly significant. I look forward to working with Joyce Truett as she begins her new job as President elect.

## **2023 NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHAPTER**

Freedoms Foundation recognizes citizens and organizations as community leaders through the National Awards Program. They are presented to nominees who exemplify civic responsibility through their committed efforts to improve our country.

Brenda Ferich V.P. Awards is pleased to announce the following will be honored as Award recipients and receive George Washington Honor Medals at our Annual Awards luncheon to be held at the Admiral Baker Clubhouse, February 8, 2024.

Please plan to join us in celebrating these outstanding people in our community.

### **Adult Community George Washington Honor Medal**

Regina and James Gamboa  
***“Magnolia People’s Choice Food Pantry”***

Charlotte K. Perry  
***“Joy of Giving”***

Neil O’Connell  
***“Mt Soledad National Memorial”***

Holly Shaffner  
***“Operation Dress Code”***

**Educator**  
**George Washington Honor Medal**  
Alyssa Huckleberry

**Youth Public Communication**  
**George Washington Honor Medal**  
**on Neck Ribbon**

Christian Bernabe  
***“Being Born Mexican American”***  
**Youth Essay**

**George Washington Honor Medal**  
**on Neck Ribbon**  
Bianca Romero

## **2023-2025 SLATE OF OFFICERS**

President	Joyce Truett
Vice Presidents	
Awards	Brenda Ferich
Membership	Paula Day
Programs	Sally Syren
Youth	Virginia Syverson
Secretary	Becky Reid
Treasurer	Paula Day

Appointed officers include

<i>The Forge</i> - Newsletter	Sally Syren
Parliamentarian	Jo Liddell
Immediate Past President	Becky Reid

An electronic ballot will be sent to you by email to cast your ballot.

If you would like to be a member of the Board to help further our mission, please contact President Elect Joyce Truett – 858-484-5464 or email: [jtruett44@yahoo.com](mailto:jtruett44@yahoo.com)

***To continue to reach our goals we  
must have people willing to accept  
leadership positions.***



## **CONTRIBUTORS**

***We celebrate our cherished donors.***

***Chuck and Paula Day***  
***Brenda Ferich***  
***Sandy and Tom Helmantoler***  
***Sharon and Brian Henry***  
***Jo Liddell***  
***Sally and Jim Syren***  
***Virginia Syverson***  
***Joyce and Henry Truett***



## DAY AT THE RACES - SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHAPTER



Members and friends gathered at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club to attend the races on July 30, 2023. Honoree Rose Perkins was in the winner's circle to celebrate with the owners of the winning horse.

A sold-out crowd raised funds to assist our chapter to send students to the “Spirit of America” Leadership Program in the spring.



## CELEBRATE CONSTITUTION WEEK



**SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2023**

Constitution week is observed in America to commemorate the 1787 adoption of our U. S. Constitution. The day of observation is September 17<sup>th</sup>.

The week was officially enacted on August 2, 1956, by President Dwight D. Eisenhower from a congressional resolution petitioned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, but it was George W Bush who officially declared the inception of Constitution Week in September 2002.

The purpose of the week of observance is to promote study and education about the United States Constitution which was originally adopted by the American Congress of the Confederation on September 17, 1787. Specifically, the Daughters of the American Revolution state the purpose as:

- Emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution.
- Inform people that the Constitution is the basis for America's great heritage and the foundation for our way of life.
- Encourage the study of historical events which led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

Many observances will be taking place in the San Diego area. Be sure to fly your flag and take a little time to read our Constitution again. This helps us to become a more informed citizenry.



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY

Do you have a grandchild, friend or neighbor who is an 11<sup>th</sup> grade high school student in San Diego? Each year our Freedoms Foundation Chapter sends 10-12 students to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania for the "Spirit of America" Leadership Program and an extended trip to Washington D. C.

The process consists of the completion of an application, personal interview and selection. Many of the returning students call it a life-changing experience. They also take a greater leadership role in their school government.

Please pass on the news of this unique experience to others. Applications may be found on our website [www.ffvf.org/chapters](http://www.ffvf.org/chapters) or email Virginia Syverson V.P. Youth at [vsyverson@cox.net](mailto:vsyverson@cox.net)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS!

Be on the lookout for your Membership Renewal letter that will arrive in October. Please renew your membership so our chapter can continue to support our programs and activities.

Individual Membership	\$35.00
Couple's Membership	\$50.00
Patron Membership	\$100.00

Send check to Paula Day, Treasurer  
4717 Corte Mariposa – Bonita CA 91902-1532  
Or to pay with credit card contact Paula, at  
[phday@cox.net](mailto:phday@cox.net)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FEBRUARY 8, 2024**  
**ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
**HONORING 2023**  
**AWARD RECIPIENTS**