

Volunteer Chapters Newsletter

April 2020

Hello Chapter Members!

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Greetings from Valley Forge!

I hope this April issue of our Volunteer Chapter Newsletter finds all of you and your families in good health. This is an unprecedented time in our nation and the world. During this time, we see the best in America. We see so many everyday heroes like the newspaper deliveryman who makes grocery runs for his customers who can't leave the house or the local restaurant owner preparing and giving out free meals to make sure kids don't go hungry while school is out. These are all people to keep in mind for our National Awards Program in 2020. See an article below with an update on the 2020 awards program.

We are all eager to continue our important programs and we will, but in the meantime, please be safe and stay healthy!

Carolyn E. Santangelo

Sacramento Chapter Honors Award Recipients
and Students



Sacramento Chapter sponsored Spirit of America Participants for 2020

The Sacramento Chapter held its 11th Annual Awards Dinner on Saturday, February 29th. The chapter honored a host of individuals including their local



Keynote speaker,
John McGinness

2019 National Award Recipients, 2020 Spirit of America Scholarship Winners, 2019 Hero Award recipients, and inaugural Constitution Bowl winning team. John McGinness, former Sacramento County Sheriff and noted radio talk show host, was the evening's keynote speaker. Freedoms Foundation president, David Harmer, was in attendance for the event that also featured recognition of the Sacramento Chapter's student essay winners and scholarship honorees.

San Diego Chapter's Awards Luncheon

Chapter Honors George Washington Honor Medal Recipients

Nearly 100 guests gathered to honor five outstanding recipients of the George Washington Honor Medal and the San Diego Honor Plaque at the Admiral Clubhouse. Master of Ceremonies, Larry Zeiger, presented the nominators of each award to make the formal presentation. The recipients each gave a background of their projects and how they helped find solutions to assist the San Diego community. Eileen Cornish from Freedoms Foundation headquarters

brought special greetings from Valley Forge to all in attendance.



George Washington Honor Medal recipients seated left to right: Glen Fisher, Kathy Bruyere, Evan Rice, Marcy McCann and accepting the San Diego Honor Award for Rev. Darcy Pavic is Brenda Ferich.

Oklahoma City Chapter Celebrates Community Leaders at Annual Awards Luncheon



L-R Dr. Kevin Crow, Don Spencer and Don Powers.

The Oklahoma City Chapter was able to hold it's 2019 awards luncheon just before the coronavirus outbreak. The chapter's luncheon took place on March 10th at Oklahoma Christian University. Three outstanding citizens were honored

by the chapter. Don Spencer and Dr. Everett Piper were awarded the Oklahoma City Chapter Community Service Award. The third honoree was Dr. Kevin Crow. Dr. Crow was presented the George Washington Honor Medal for his efforts in higher education and his emphasis on civic engagement with his weekly radio show and pod cast.

Spring Spirit of America Programs Rescheduled for Fall

The last two chapter sponsored Spirit of America Youth Leadership Programs slated to take place in April have been rescheduled. The April 16-19 program is now planned for October 8-11, 2020. The April 23-26 program is now scheduled for October 22-25, 2020. We are hopeful to have many of the students and chaperones participate in the new dates. If you have any questions about the updated scheduled, please contact Rachel in the Education Office at rschy@ffvf.org. Please note that both dates are open to any chapter wishing to participate. If you have students who were unable to attend from the first two conferences or if you were unable to send students in the spring, we will have slots open.



Student from the Greater Cincinnati Chapter at a past Spirit of America program.

National Award Deadline Moved to September 1, 2020

Due to the continuing restrictions in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Freedoms Foundation has moved the deadline for the



National Awards set for presentation

2020 National Awards from June 1st

to September 1st. The Foundation will be accepting nominations all summer. The plan is to have a jury in place over the summer to review submissions. This will assist us in turning around results in September to enable chapters to conduct their award ceremonies in November. If you have your student essays, submit them now. The summer is a great time to review them. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the awards office at csantangelo@ffvf.org.

Our past award recipients are shining examples of civic virtue. Now more than ever we need to highlight those helping their fellow man. A great example is Freedom's Foundation's partner, AMVETS Auxiliary. Auxiliary members and posts are sewing masks for their local communities. If one of your chapter's past awardees are making a difference during this COVID-19 crisis, please let us know. We would love to highlight their work.

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Stay Connected



"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."

-Unknown