

Volunteer Chapters Newsletter

Fall 2020



Greetings from Valley Forge!

I hope this finds you all well and making the most of life during the pandemic. I applaud all of our volunteer chapters and members. You have adapted to the new normal and gone above and beyond in this difficult time. The energy and passion you have for our organization is so evident in the award submissions and in the great number of reservations for the spring 2021 Spirit of America Youth Leadership Programs. Though activity has been limited, there are still some great activities taking place in our chapters and at headquarters that I would like to share with all of you.

Thank you again for all that you are doing for Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge. We appreciate every single one of you.

Take care, be well and be safe!

Carolyn E. Santangelo

**Dallas Chapter Host Zoom Lecture and
Membership Drive**



Jeffrey A. Engel, Director SMU Center of Presidential History

On the evening of September 30th, the Dallas Chapter held a virtual speaker series event with Jeffrey Engel, Director of the SMU Center for Presidential History. The topic of the lecture was, "Every Election Matters, but Some More than Others: Tectonic Presidential Elections in American History" Engel focused on several elections including 1912, 1992 and foreshadowing this year's upcoming election. The Dallas Chapter used this event to invite perspective members to attend and had a nice number of attendees. The Dallas Chapter is continuing to grow its relationship with the SMU Center for Presidential History by offering members access to several online events hosted by the center. Keeping the membership engaged during this time has been a top priority of the Dallas Chapter.

Sacramento Chapter finds unique way to get message to students on Constitution Day!

The Sacramento Chapter had to postpone their scheduled Mock Article V Convention of States in honor of Constitution Day due to the pandemic. The event that was going to bring high students from across the Sacramento Area to compete in mock convention purposing amendments to the Constitution. So the chapter called an audible and created a 45 minute video presentation on the U.S. Constitution and the Article V Amendment process. The video in commemoration of Constitution Day featured Dr. Darren Guerra of Biola University and Dr. Andrew Carico of William Jessup University discussing Article V and the amendment process. The video will be available to schools across the area. The Sacramento Chapter still hopes to hold their Convention of States in November.

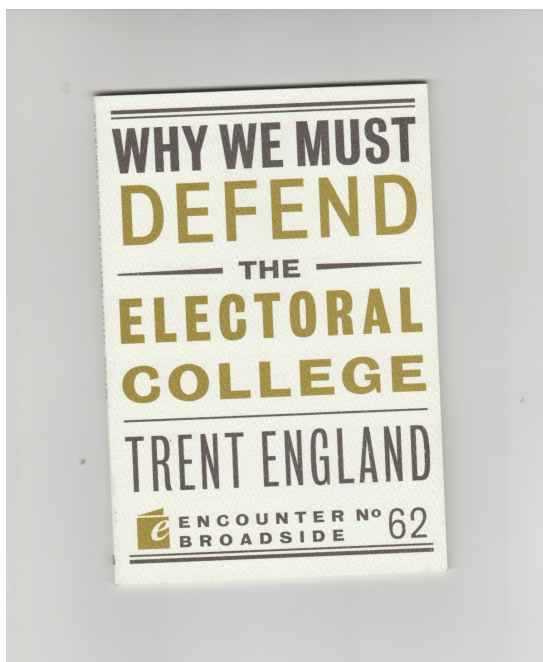


Dr. Andrew Carico



Dr. Darren Guerra

Oklahoma City Chapter holds first in person meeting since COVID-19 pandemic.



The Oklahoma City Chapter was the last chapter to hold an event prior to the shutdown and they are the first to hold an in person meeting in the new normal. The chapter hosted the meeting on September 8th with light refreshments and guest speaker, Trent England from the Oklahoma Council for Public Affairs, a non-partisan think tank. Trent spoke on the history of the Electoral College and the importance of keeping it in place. The chapter had 30 people in attendance for the speaker event.

FFVF is looking towards 2021!

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is looking forward to 2021, and we know we are not alone. Its time to bring students and teachers back to the campus.

We look to you, our chapters, to help us fill our sessions for students and teachers. You are well on your way to filling 6 Spirit of America Programs in the spring. The list of dates can be found below. Information and registration can be found on our website - <https://www.freedomfoundation.org/students/high-school/spirit-of-america/>

February 25-28

March 18-21

March 4-7

April 15-18

March 11-14

April 22-25



Students from the Utah Chapter with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams at a past Spirit of America program.

The Education Department is excited to announce the topics and dates for our 2021 Summer Graduate Programs. Once again this year scholarships are available to all teachers, but we need assistance from our chapters in recruiting teachers to attend and spreading the word. The programs for 2021 are...

On Campus Programs

June 20-25: Medal of Honor Legacy: Vietnam

June 27-July 2: American Revolution: Philadelphia Campaign #1

July 10-15: Civil Rights Movement: Heroes & Heroines

July 18-23: American Revolution: Philadelphia Campaign #2

July 25-30: The Presidency and Electoral Power

Traveling Programs

July 10-15: Union & Confederate Capitals: Washington DC & Richmond

The 2021 flyer will be available soon to assist with promotion and look for the new dates on the website very soon. Thank you in advance for spreading the word on our incredible education programs. We can't wait to welcome the first participants back on campus in the new year!

In Memoriam 2020

We recently lost several prominent chapter members. We thought it appropriate to recognize them and their contribution to Freedoms foundation at Valley Forge.

Josephine (Jose) Freede - Oklahoma City Chapter



Jose was the founder of the Oklahoma City Chapter in 1978. She continued to be an active member and supporter of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge until her passing in September.

Marian Hope - Los Angeles County Chapter



Marian was a member of the Los Angeles County Chapter since 1989. She served the chapter in many capacities including president and treasurer. She was an active member until her passing this summer.

Eloise Kimpland - Central New York Chapter



Eloise served as president of the Central New York Chapter for many years and

as a former school teacher was an advocate for students attending Spirit of America. If you ever attended a Chapter Conference with Eloise you were sure to have been given a crisp New York State Red Delicious apple.

Bettye Parker - Chattanooga Chapter



Bettye was a charter member of the Chattanooga Chapter and served as president of the chapter for several terms, but she might best be remembered for her parliamentary skills. She was very active in the local community and an active member until her passing this September.

If a member of your chapter has passed, please let us know. Send to csantangelo@ffvf.org a note with the member's name, years of service and a picture if possible. Our in memoriam section will be featured each fall. Thank you!

Thank You!

This has been a challenging year for all of us. I want to thank each and every chapter member for continuing to support Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. We have seen an increase in donations to headquarters and support of our virtual activities including the summer learning series and gala. We plan more virtual activities in the coming weeks and look forward to your participation. Remember the staff at headquarters is always just a phone call or email away to help with any questions or concerns.

Carolyn E. Santangelo
Senior Director
Chapter & Partner Relations

csantangelo@ffvf.org
610.933.8825 ext. 234

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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

