

Dear Chapter Presidents and Representatives,

All of us at headquarters are thinking of our chapter members dealing with harsh weather conditions across the country, especially in Texas and Oklahoma. Let's hope that Spring is just around the corner.

We had a very successful meeting of our National Board of Directors this week. Highlights from the meeting include the approval of the 2021 budget along with the okay to begin the process of hiring new team members in education and communications. Phase I of the Master Plan dealing with switching to the public sewer system remains on time and on budget. Most importantly, the board approved new governing guidelines for chapters and model by-laws. More details on those new documents will be distributed to the chapters next week with a letter from Volunteer Chapter Board Committee Chair, Sandy Cook. Sandy and her team worked hard on creating these new documents to make life easier for current and future chapters. Please be on the look-out for this vital information in your email and mailbox.

We will be discussing these new documents, along with the creation of a best practices manual and 2022 Spirit of America dates, at our next Chapter Presidents Zoom Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd at 2PM EST. Mark your calendars. A meeting invite with an agenda will be sent out next week.

I want to make a special shout-out to our Utah Chapter. This year the Utah Chapter will be sponsoring 23 teachers to attend our Summer Graduate Programs. In a year when they were unable to send students to Spirit of America, the Utah Chapter placed their efforts in making sure all the teachers who wanted to attend a program this summer were able to participate. Thank you Utah! We look forward to welcoming the teachers to campus this summer.

Program Invitation

You and members of your chapter are invited to join the Dallas Chapter for the next installment of their Patriots Forum Series. This month features a chat with author David O. Stewart on his book "George Washington: The Political Rise of America's Founding Father." The event on Zoom will take place this Wednesday, February 24th at 7PM CST. Below please find the link to join.

<https://zoom.us/j/92997840331?pwd=RDVYd3hCaHV4RmZqVjNZTE15VEY2QT09>

Finally, I am pleased to share a video from our Presidents' Day Campaign. Hopefully you have been able to see some of our Presidents' Day social media posts. You can still see all the videos on our YouTube page, but this video really stood out during the week. David Eisenhower talks about his Grandfather, President Eisenhower and his relationship to Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge. When you watch the video take

a close look at the photo next to David. It's a great picture of his Grandfather looking over National Award entries.

David Eisenhower- My Grandfather and FFVF - <https://youtu.be/r1ZT9TKgg1Y>

I know many of you are usually very busy in February preparing students to attend Spirit of America and hosting award ceremonies. Though things might be quiet this February, I know you are still having Zoom meetings and making plans for the fall of this year and 2022. Thank you for your efforts.

Be safe and stay healthy!

Carolyn E. Santangelo

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