



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Patriotic ★ Historical ★ Educational

## *George Washington Chapter – WA SAR*

### **Subject: First Quarter Activity Report of 31 March 2022**

To: Leland Hutchins, President George Washington Chapter, Washington SAR  
From: C. Marshall Eberhart, Historian & Membership

Activities for the first quarter of 2022 are listed below. The Chapter returned to in-person meetings at the start of this quarter. In September of last year, requests from sequestered members initiated an investigation into the potential of creating hybrid meetings and the technology required to facilitate this method. This resulted in a test of the technology at our February 2022 meeting. Equipment was provided by Compatriot Anderson, consultation of the required technology by Compatriot R Oliver and remote testing by Compatriot Vandaveer (on San Juan Island) which was highly successful. While there were communication issues, several positive results indicated the value of moving forward with this concept.

This summary does not address regular housekeeping activities but focuses on those new and innovative activities addressing our missions of Patriotism, Education and History.

#### **Color Guard Activity**

Color Guard Captain: Mike Hutchins

All nine Color Guard members along with civilian fifer Patricia Francisco gathered to celebrate Gen George Washington's birthday by parading and posting colors at the Chapter meeting February 19, 2022. Compatriots Kraft and Hutchins attending planning meetings for Memorial Day event at the Maple Leaf Cemetery in Oak Harbor, WA on 30 May 2022. Compatriots Hutchins, Eberhart and Foster visited Green Acres Cemetery Lynden WA for a planning meeting with DAR & VFW representatives for a Dedication of a Gold Star Families arch ceremony on scheduled for May 29, 2022.

#### **DAR Liaison**

Chair: VP Mike Hutchins

The GW Chapter partnered with the Ann Washington DAR Chapter to sponsor a Vietnam Veterans memorial display at the Burlington WA Public Library. The DAR Chapters Whidbey Island, Chief Whatcom and Ann Washington were encouraged to participate in the Day of Remembrance ceremony in May. Joined the Ann Washington Chapter in a donation of \$340 construction funds for renovation of the Burlington Historic Library with an anonymous donation of \$171.

#### **Flag Recognition Awards**

Chair: Russ Oliver

We came in 4<sup>th</sup> place by volume of flag displays recognized in calendar year 2021. Which is down from when our Chapter was tied for third place in 2020. There are two flag nominations which are being prepared for Chapter consideration at the April meeting.

#### **Member Relations**

Chair: C. Marshall Eberhart

Chair assumed the responsibility for new member orientation, including customizing the NSSAR New Member Workbook for the accepted member and initiating in person, one-on-one discussions with the new members. Recently raising the bar by reaching out to pending members

as soon as the application appears on the Application status Report. Membership Relations Committee (comprising three GWC members) implement a phone tree, reaching out in the event of inclement weather, members missing meetings, member illness and personal mailings to those members suffering recent losses.

### **Registrar**

Chair: Bruce Bock.

Bruce announced the following applicants have completed and submitted their applications; Terry Laxton, Raymond Pickens, Steve Pickens, Dr. Murl Leibrecht, Chris Dariotis and "Pete" Earl Cilley. The Chapter looks forward with great anticipation to the new members and their involvement with the missions of the Chapter.

### **Sargent at Arms**

Compatriot Bill Bentler accepted a newly created position in March. Bill's duties will include, but not limited to, welcoming new people to our meetings, providing the names of guests and honorees to the Secretary and President.

### **Veterans Recognition**

Chair: Chris Fridley

There are two pending applications for recognition of Compatriots William Bennett and Ricky Clark.

### **Youth Awards – Boy Scouts of America**

Chair: C. Marshall Eberhart

Contact was made with the Scoutmaster of Troop 4070 in Sedro Woolley. He requested help getting the Troop to complete the "Citizenship in the Nation" Merit Badge which is a requirement for the rank of Eagle Scout. The young men of the troop completed some work on the requirements of the badge but the response from the boys were not overwhelming but some work has been completed. Our Chapter's Color Guard has been invited to do a flag ceremony at the troop's Court of Honor at the end of the school year. Relations between the troop and our Chapter looks promising for further engagements in the future.

### **GWC Website**

Web developer: Dale R. Harshman

The server Operating System (OS) and WordPress PHP language have been updated. A PayPal button has been added, and the "JetPack" plugin has been included which will help facilitate the eventual migration of our website to a new WordPress server. This should allow for easier updating of the OS and WordPress PHP going forward. Implementation of the "Updraft" plugin to supplement backups is being considered. Progress continues in bringing Marshall Anderson up-to-speed on the inner workings of the website, etc.