

SYMBOLS & SERVANTS

It's so fitting that between Memorial Day, the remembrance of those who fought to preserve our freedom, and July 4th, the birth of our Nation, we celebrate **Flag Day**. This cherished representation of our independence has led the charge of every battle fought by Americans, adorned the caskets of those who died to protect it, and reflects our unity as a Nation in our pledge of allegiance as "...one Nation, under God, indivisible..."

Those brave servants came from all walks of life, encountered great hardships, but never lost sight of the mission. Along side our American Flag, these brave Americans carried specific flags to represent their branch of service – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines – and the units they served. Thanks to each of you for your service and dedication to our country, keeping the spirit of patriotism alive, and inspiring each of us to be faithful to Old Glory – a gift from our Founders and Forbearers.

The George Washington Chapter Color Guard unveiled its Chapter Flag at the Claysville Memorial Day Parade – a symbol of the 13 Colonies, leadership by General Washington, and depicting the principles, sacrifices and patriotism of the SAR. This Flag will proudly accompany our Nation's Flag at all events and activities.

The Chapter Flag represents a committed group of compatriots, which I am honored to have served as their President for the past eighteen months. I deeply appreciate the dedication of the Officers, those in Appointed Positions, Board of Management, Executive Committee and the Chairs and Volunteers of our 15 Committees.

Through our collective efforts, the Chapter launched its web-site, and participated in Color Guard events, Commemorative Programs [including Wreaths Across America], Grave Markings, Battle Reenactments, and a Naturalization ceremony. We also provided service to Veterans, celebrated Allegiance Sunday & Flag Day raisings, recognized Eagle Scouts, Knight Essay and Americanism Poster winners, and we awarded Good Citizenship Medals. These initiatives enabled our Chapter to serve nearly 15,000 community members.

Collaboration with historical, genealogical, DAR and other SAR organizations is benefiting each of us to advance our mission and increase an appreciation of true patriotism. The Theme of the Chapter has been **Commitment, Connection and Community**, and the results could not have been attained without the excellent service of my fellow compatriots. Thanks to all of our 85 Compatriots for your service and dedication to the Chapter.

As Ronald Miller becomes the Chapter President, effective July 1st, I am confident that he will receive similar support and innovative thinking that the current Officers have enjoyed. We look forward to exciting monthly meetings, along with events and activities that continue to enrich our community by enabling them to further embrace the institution of American freedom and respect for our National symbols. **Symbols & Servants** – never ending!