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Enterprise, Alabama

April, 1999

TO ALL COMPATRIOTS AND  
FRIENDS:

### **APRIL MEETING:**

The April meeting of the Wiregrass Chapter of the SAR will be **April 15th at Noon, at Po' Folks in Enterprise.** It is hoped that everyone will have their tax return in the mail by the time of the meeting, and not use "Income Tax" as an excuse for not attending. Your input and support is needed at each chapter meeting.

### **STATE CONVENTION:**

A highlight of the recent Alabama Society Convention in Auburn was the presentation of five contestants in the annual oratorical contest. The Wiregrass Chapter entry, Miss Jennifer Deel of Ozark, made an excellent effort and even though she did not capture first or second place, she did receive a check for \$50.00 at the conclusion of the contest. Moreover, she left with a great deal of enthusiasm and a stated desire to represent the chapter next year in Huntsville. Meanwhile, her coach, Pauline Buis, is working with Miss Deel as they prepare for another contest. They plan to be ready for the year 2000 with considerably more experience.

### **BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES:**

Local efforts with the John Coffee Chapter, DAR to celebrate this bicentennial year are off to an excellent start. The mayors of both Elba and Enterprise have signed proclamations encouraging citizens to remember the legacy of George Washington and his impact on our democracy. Programs are scheduled at the Elba Library (April 13) and Enterprise Library (April 14) to present the gift of children's books on George Washington's life. Each presentation will be accompanied by a story time for children.

A certificate has been received naming Coffee County a George Washington Bicentennial Community. The certificate will be presented to the County Commission during a meeting as soon as a spot can be found on an upcoming agenda. Any Wiregrass member who can persuade a local group or business to establish a George Washington Memorial Garden this year should do so. Churches, schools, businesses and government are all potential candidates. Free seeds are offered with a very low handling cost. In Enterprise, a new city horticulturist is to begin duties about April 1st and plans are to ask this individual to lead in the establishment of a George

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Washington Memorial Garden in the new Enterprise City Park on the Troy Highway. The site is a perfect place for such a project and there seems to be more than enough room.

With this mailing is a sample letter to the editor prepared by Mount Vernon. Each member is encouraged to use this as a sample to prepare their own letter to the editor of their local newspaper on thoughts concerning the impact of George Washington on this country. Should your letter be published, it is requested you forward a copy of the newspaper article to the Chapter President for inclusion with our annual historical report.

### **WEBPAGE:**

The webpage for the Wiregrass Chapter, SAR is up and running. Check us out at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) and then go to the Alabama Page and follow the links to the local chapter.

### **FROM THE BOOK SHELF:**

A couple of books worth reading by SAR members during this Bicentennial observance may be found in area bookstores. One is George Washington's War-The Saga of the American Revolution by Robert Leckie and the other is Miracle at Philadelphia by Catherine Drinker Bowen. The latter book

covers the meeting of delegates, who in 1787, wrote the Constitution of the United States, an event which George Washington headed and concluded.

Members who know of other publications, should share the information with chapter members by requesting inclusion in the Newsletter.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Locating new members and sponsoring them to membership is a major goal, not only for our chapter, but of the entire National Society. Each current active member is asked to take on the task of finding at least one new member this year or bringing one from an inactive to an active status. Our focus should be on those living in Coffee and Geneva Counties, at this time, so we may develop a greater pool from which to draw as we engage in the various activities that can bring us recognition in our communities.

Richard A. Kemp President  
John R. Wallace Editor