

Reverend John Clark Chapter

Florissant, Missouri

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit National Tour Will Make a Stop in Florissant, Missouri

This unique museum on wheels, which honors veterans, will be at the James J. Eagan Civic Center 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 19 for a scheduled event that is both free and open to the public.

FLORISSANT, MISSOURI — (October 14, 2022) — Wreaths Across America (WAA) is proud to announce a local stop for the WAA Mobile Education Exhibit (MEE) national tour. The MEE started its tour at the WAA Headquarters in Maine and will be in the area on Saturday, November 19, at the James J. Eagan Civic Center, #1 James J. Eagan Dr. in Florissant, MO 63033. Veterans, active-duty military, community members, members of the media, and other interested groups are urged to come, take a tour, speak with WAA representatives and DAR volunteers, share stories and experience this one-of-a-kind exhibit.

The event, hosted locally by the Reverend John Clark and O'Fallon Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, will take place 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. with a flag ceremony and "Welcome Home" for Vietnam veterans at 1:30 p.m. Local dignitaries will speak and St. Louis Vocalist and Trumpeter, Lady J Huston, a Reverend John Clark member, will perform the national anthem. In addition, Boy Scout Troop 942, Scoutmaster, Steve Scott, will assist with the ceremony and Bob Mannecke of Mann Meats food truck will serve food from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

"The goal of the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit is to bring community together and teach patriotism while remembering the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes." said Karen Worcester, executive director, Wreaths Across America.

"Our chapter is very excited to host this important exhibit on November 19, and help honor our St. Louis area veterans by welcoming home those who served in the Vietnam War," said Wendy Powers Sinn, Regent, Reverend John Clark.

"Several of our chapter members are the wives of Vietnam veterans and we understand how important it is for our veterans to be recognized and celebrated by the members of our community," said Wendy Krzyzanowski, Chair, Service for Veterans Committee, Reverend John Clark.

<u>Wreaths Across America</u> is the non-profit organization best known for placing wreaths on veteran's headstones at Arlington National Cemetery. However, in 2021, the organization placed more than 2.4 million sponsored veterans' wreaths at more than 3,100 participating locations nationwide.

Locally, members of the Reverend John Clark and O'Fallon Chapters lay wreaths on the graves of veterans interred at two historic cemeteries: <u>Cold Water Cemetery</u> in Florissant, the oldest Protestant cemetery west of the Mississippi River, and <u>New Coldwater Burial Grounds Memorial Park</u> in Black Jack, one of the few graveyards in Missouri owned by and reserved for the use of African-Americans during its active years, 1886-1949.

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About Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission – Remember, Honor, Teach – is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

About the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR)

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to preserving American history, securing America's future through better education, and promoting patriotism. Founded October 11, 1890 and incorporated in 1896 by an Act of Congress, the DAR's Mission is to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism.

About the Reverend John Clark and the O'Fallon Chapters

The Reverend John Clark Chapter, is the 104th chapter in the state of Missouri and the only active chapter in North St. Louis County. Together with the O'Fallon Chapter, it is one of 3,000 chapters across the country and throughout the world. DAR welcomes any woman aged 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background.

For more information about attending or volunteering for the November 19 event, please contact Reverend John Clark Regent, Wendy Sinn at regent.rev.j.clark15@gmail.com or 1-618-420-9030.

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