



## Sons of the American Revolution

### Christian Ardinger Chapter

Chartered May 22, 1971

<http://christian-ardinger.mdssar.org/>

Ms. Darce E. Easton  
131 Buttercup Dr.  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
301-393-4826

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Dear Ms. Easton,

Thank you for coming to our spring dinner to inform the attendees of the history of the Washington Monument Dedication ceremony.

Our plans are coming together and I wanted to summarize the event plans thus far.

The re-enactment will include 3 soldiers with Maryland Line uniform to fire a volley during the ceremony. There will be Fife and Drum music during the gathering as well as the ascent up the path to the monument and for the retiring of the colors. We are hoping there will be other SAR members, and possibly ladies available in period military and or civilian colonial attire to add atmosphere to the event.

Our preparation will include a dress-down practice at Washington Monument State Park June 17th at 10:00 am where we will discuss and walk through our actions. If anyone from the Boonsboro Historical Society is available to assist us interface with other elements of the ceremony they could meet us there or earlier on the morning of the event to insure continuity.

On the event morning July 1st, we will have participants gather at 9:00AM to prepare and get into their places. The Fife and Drum will be next to the museum and begin their performance at 10:00AM while shuttles are arriving. We will have an information table established across the parking lot from the path to the monument to re-direct anyone arriving where to go, and to promote our organization for anyone wishing to join. 20 minutes prior to the start of the program (We were told ceremony at the monument to start at 11:00AM) all participants will proceed on foot to the top of the trail to a spot where the trail makes a sharp left turn toward the monument and approx. 100 yards from the monument. This spot is tree covered and we will be protected from direct sun. Five minutes prior to the start of the program all participants in the march to the monument and ceremony will form on the trail waiting for the start of the program. Members present that need additional time to make the ¼ mile walk up the trail may begin sooner.

- Colors and guard begin slow march to the monument; fifes and drums may accompany the colors to the monument or form and play at the monument, their choice.
- The guards will follow the colors but will march to a position front and center of the monument steps facing the monument.



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- Color Sergeant will command "About Face". All components will remain at attention (shoulder arms & carry colors) until the order "POST COLORS" is given by the color sergeant at which the color bears will post the colors in the holders and the rest will come to the position of order arms.
- Color bears will remain with the colors during the ceremony.
- During national anthem all will come to attention and will render a hand salute or present arms. Color Sergeant will command "Present Arms" & "Order Arms" at the conclusion.
- Focus reverts to speakers and presenters for ceremony.
- Musket firing salute, after firing salute fires will return to the front center of monument.
- Closing, Color Sergeant will command "Retire the Colors". Colors bearers will retrieve colors and go to position of carry colors or Shoulder arms, Musket guards will also go to the position of shoulder arms and retake positions to the front of the monument or podium facing the monument.
- Music will move on its own to the steps of the monument and play a selection of their choosing,
- End of ceremony, troops dismissed.
- Troops should stay in the area for photographs for the media and others.

I want to clearly re-iterate what an honor it is for us to assist in this event and in the memory of General George Washington and the citizens of Boonsboro. We have informed participants in the entertainment that FirstEnergy Foundation's contribution is to provide a luncheon at Old South Mountain INN. Wes Evans will provide a list compiled for those wanting to attend the event as well as those invited wishing to attend the luncheon.

Please feel free to reply with any questions or concerns you or the society may have.

Sincerely,

John R Turner  
President Christian Ardinger Chapter  
Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution  
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