



Daughters of the American Revolution
Cornwall Iron Furnace Chapter
Phone: 717-926-1098
Email: info@cornwallironfurnacedar.org
Web: <http://www.cornwallironfurnacedar.org/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cornwall Iron Furnace Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution launches Lebanon County Revolutionary War graves location project

CORNWALL, Pa.-Members gathered last month to initiate a community service project to record the exact location using GPS, as well as the condition of more than 300 Revolutionary War graves in Lebanon County.

The project may take years to complete, explained the chapter's regent, Dr. Heather Waddell. Records were pulled from the Lebanon County Department of Veterans Affairs that includes the grave's location. Next, chapter members travel to the cemetery. Once there, they locate the grave, note its position, and fill out an information sheet with the condition of the grave and other pertinent facts.

"We embarked upon this project for several reasons," she explained. "The first is to ensure all of the graves in the county have their federal Revolutionary War marker, as well as a DAR marker (if applicable)."

Other reasons include a research tool for tool for the veterans descendent and other genealogists. The chapter has ambitions to produce a book, but hopes to start with information on their website.

"It's also exciting because there's a chance we could rediscover a patriot," said the chapter's Registrar Wanda Taylor. "By cross-referencing the veteran's affairs listing, the DAR database, and other publications, we may discover patriots that one or both of the organizations was missing."

The chapter's first group of Revolutionary War graves were located at Gingrich's Mennonite Church. They were able to locate five graves. They are looking forward to finding and getting proper recognition for these veterans.

For more information about the Cornwall Iron Furnace DAR visit www.cornwallironfurnacedar.org/

The DAR, founded in 1890 to honor "God, Home, and Country," and headquartered in Washington, DC, is a nonprofit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. Any woman 18 years or older - regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background - who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for membership.

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Cornwall Iron Furnace Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution began a project to exactly locate Revolutionary War graves throughout Lebanon County.



Cornwall Iron Furnace Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution Suzanne Thomas examines a grave at Gingrichs Mennonite Church to determine if it is a Revolutionary War patriot last month. The chapter is embarking on a project to determine the exact location of all Revolutionary War graves in Lebanon County.



Dr. Heather Waddell, Cornwall Iron Furnace Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution Regent and Diana Wells use tin foil to see the grave markings on a headstone.