



February 21, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Washington's Birthday Marked

Raleigh - In observance of the birthday of George Washington on February 22, descendants of his officers in the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati conducted a ceremony Thursday laying a wreath at the statue of Washington in the State Capitol Rotunda.

Led by President Tony Maupin in North Carolina, the Society is the nation's oldest hereditary military organization. It was founded in 1783 by General Henry Knox and other Revolutionary leaders and named for Cincinnatus, the Roman general who, having won the war declined offers to be made Emperor and returned to civilian life. Washington, first President of the Society, emulated that classical model and returned to civic pursuits at the end of the American Revolution.

Its mission is to promote knowledge and appreciation of the achievement of American independence and to foster fellowship among its members. Now a nonprofit educational organization devoted to the principles and ideals of its founders, the modern Society maintains its headquarters, library, and museum at Anderson House in Washington, D.C.

The North Carolina Society in cooperation with the Museum of History presents an annual American Revolution lecture series. This year the speaker was nationally recognized author Nathaniel Philbrick discussing his latest historical work, *In the Hurricane's Eye: The Genius of George Washington and the Victory at Yorktown*, the story of the remarkable year leading up to the siege of Yorktown.

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