

Wreaths Across America

Background

Cherie Wood is a genealogist. A few years ago, George Baker, president of the Webster Union Cemetery asked Cherie if she could research and verify Revolutionary War Veterans in the cemetery. As a result, Cherie has been researching the older graves at the cemetery for some time now. You may have seen an article about her work in the Herald last fall.

Cherie was able to verify 2 Revolutionary War veterans Ebenezer Curtis and Jonas Whiting. There will be a ceremony in July to honor them. Honoring all the veterans in the cemetery is something Cherie is passionate about. She is now working with the Webster Union Cemetery on the Wreaths Across America project. This project hopes to place a wreath on every veterans gravesite in the Webster Union Cemetery. That would be about 650 wreaths. This is a national program held this year on Dec 17th.

Cherie approached me to see if the library would be interested in participating.

The wreaths are \$15. For every wreath sponsored \$5 would be sent back to the nonprofit sponsor group. The website has all the material necessary and Cherie is available to help as much as needed. A poster would be placed in a prominent place, the poster has a QR code. A patron scans the code and registers to sponsor a wreath. Flyers could be printed and handed out at the desk. No money changes hands at the library. On Dec 17th everyone is invited to participate in laying the wreaths. They will also ask Scout troops and other organizations to come as a group to lay the wreaths.

This is the first year Webster Union Cemetery has participated. From this area, Mt Hope, Gates and Churchville Cemeteries have participated in the past. This year Gates will participate by having a ceremony only. Churchville, Chili and Victor Cemeteries are sponsoring wreaths as well as having a ceremony. Mt Hope is having a ceremony for Civil War Soldiers only.

Cherie tells me that the town is excited about the program, the Supervisor and others will be helping with the laying of wreaths. The police will escort the truck as it comes into town with the wreaths. Channel 8 Christian Garzone will be covering the Wreath Day. Cherie spoke about Wreaths Across America at the Chamber of Commerce breakfast and received a very positive reception.

Options for the library

1. The library could choose to support the Webster Cemetery by placing the flyers and posters in the library and on social media. Webster Cemetery would then receive \$5 for each wreath sponsored.
2. The library could be a sponsor group. Put up flyers and posters. \$5 for each wreath sponsored would go to the library.
3. Or the library could choose the option that for every 2 wreaths sponsored 1 wreath would be donated to the cemetery for free
4. The library could choose not to participate

Here is a link to the website

<https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/>

The website is full of information. It may be helpful to check out these pages first

Under the menu

Location/Group Resources

Download Group Material (scroll down this is a long page)

Files and Forms

Policies Forms and Documents

Location and Sponsorship Group Handbook p 4-10, 21-24, 30 Please feel free to read the entire manual. There are several pages on media, scripts for speeches, and other related publicity items.

There are several other links on the location/Group Resources page that will help a sponsor group be successful. Scroll down to view several youtube videos if you are interested and check out the rest of the website, there are many videos and lots of information.

A summary of how the group sponsorship program works

[Group sponsorship program](#)

<https://f.hubspotusercontent00.net/hubfs/7355454/GroupSponsorshipProgram.pdf>

Fact Sheet

<https://fs.hubspotusercontent00.net/hubfs/7355454/2021%20WAA%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

Financials

<https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/financials>

The difference between Wreaths Across America and Worcester Wreath Company

<https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/how-wreaths-across-america-works>

On Dec 17th across America wreaths will be laid on veterans gravesites.

2016 Wreaths Across America Arlington Cemetery

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=YXsnnDe1SWg>

There are several other videos throughout the website and on youtube