



POTTER CO. VETERANS GRAVESTONE RESTORATION PROJECT

REPORT FROM THE POTTER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Countdown continues toward the official launch on Saturday, May 13, at the Eulalia Cemetery in Coudersport. Here's the latest news:



--Demonstration project outstanding success! Our committee joined several members of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 192 at the Lymansville Cemetery (county Mapleview property) to conduct a demonstration of the veterans' grave marker restoration project. Caretakers from three cemeteries in Potter County and other volunteers joined us. Within an hour, we had largely restored the markers of Revolutionary War veteran Isaac Lyman and three veterans of the Civil War. The cleaning solvent we tested worked like a charm and everyone who was involved considered the demonstration a big success. More details can be seen on our new Facebook page (see below). Squadron 192 members pitching in were, from left, Tom Taylor, John Welsh, Matt Grossman, Dick Chapell and Ted Parsell.

--Liftoff/Memorial Ceremony Draws Closer. In cooperation with the directors of the Eulalia Cemetery, the liftoff of the Potter County Veterans Gravestone Restoration Project has been scheduled for 9 am Saturday, May 13. After a brief ceremony at the cemetery chapel along Rt. 6 West in Coudersport, volunteers will fan out across the cemetery to clean the gravestones of designated military veterans. We'll soon be announcing details of the veterans' memorial service that will precede the work session and are hoping for a large turnout from across Potter County. Those interested in volunteering to work on the individual stones should contact Eulalia Cemetery board president Steve Erway (steven.erway@northwest.com).

--Check out our Facebook page. An important part of our mission is the collection of photographs and biographical information on the military veterans who have been laid to rest in Potter County. To that end, we recently launched a site on the popular social media site, Facebook, titled "Military Veterans of Potter County." Over the course of just three days, this site is going viral and we're looking forward to continuing to fill it with more profiles and related information. Please feel free to check in with the site and consider "liking" or "sharing" it. Thank you.



--So, what's next? We've chosen the Eulalia Cemetery for our pilot project. After its launch, we will be reviewing what we've learned and developing a plan to engage with the caretakers of other cemeteries across Potter County and advance our mission. This is just the start of a countywide project that will continue for many years. Suggestions for additions to the mailing list for these updates are welcome as we assemble teams of volunteers for specific cemetery assignments or other projects. Those interested in receiving future updates, sharing suggestions, or volunteering in any capacity should contact Dawn Wooster at dwooster@pottercountypa.net or 814-274-8290, ext. 207.