

Walk In Their Footsteps

By Frank Hyland, Deputy Governor

This article was submitted to the Bulletin Editor for publication in the OFPA Bulletin in 2009.

Join OFPA Governor General Bourne and Mrs. Bourne at 2:30PM on Saturday, October 17th for a trip back in history. The Virginia Society of The Order of Founders and Patriots of America, along with a number of other heritage societies, will gather at the Warner Hall Plantation Graveyard in Gloucester County, Virginia, to honor several of our distinguished forebears with a grave-marking ceremony.

The Warner Hall Plantation ceremony is another milestone in the ongoing Virginia Society, OFPA, program to honor America's founders and patriots, a program that began in 2007 and that has been so well received that it gives every evidence that it will continue as long as the Virginia Society can continue to find eligible gravesites. It should be noted that "well received" pertains to the heightened interest shown by churches, congregations, and other heritage societies involved as well as by present and prospective OFPA members.

The October 17th ceremony will honor Augustine Warner I and Augustine Warner II, both 17th Century-era founders, and their great grandson, Warner Lewis, a Revolutionary War Lieutenant. For those not familiar with the Warner name and associated history, among the "footsteps" you will be following will be those of George Washington, himself. Descendants of Colonel Augustine Warner, in addition to George Washington, include General Robert E. Lee and Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain.

In addition to attending this particular ceremony, if you and your Society would like further "How-To" information on beginning a very worthwhile program such as Virginia's, you may feel free to contact The Virginia Society Governor, "Mike" Lyman, whose contact information is on the OFPA website and in the back of this issue of The Bulletin. Governor Lyman will also gladly provide you with directions to the ceremony. The program has fostered a great deal of interest from other heritage societies, and from individuals who are prospective OFPA Associates. The opportunities are great for OFPA Societies in *all* the former Colonies that saw action in the Revolutionary War to honor their founders and patriots as well.