

The Dodona Dispatch



Official Newsletter of the
THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL
INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Inspiring Leadership

Channeling General Marshall During the Impact of Coronavirus

On March 12, joining national efforts to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, the George C. Marshall International Center (GCMIC) closed George C. Marshall's Dodona Manor to the general public.

Dodona Manor will remain closed for tours until it is deemed safe by local and regional authorities to reopen. The gardens and grounds are open to our members for family picnics and quiet diversion during the shutdown, so long as physical distancing is strictly adhered to between visiting family units.

In the face of this pandemic we continue the GCMIC mission, bringing to life the timeless values of selfless service and unwavering integrity to develop visionary leaders worldwide. This is our time as an organization, built of an international community of valued members, to serve and inspire. Our leadership programs have not stopped and we have added new virtual programs.

We have reflected on the worldwide trials that George C. Marshall faced during his lifetime, and we found guidance in his words: "When a

thing is done, it is done. Don't look back. Look forward to your next objective." Thus, our focus is forward and our hearts are with all of our international community.

George C. Marshall: Transforming America's Military for World War II

General George C. Marshall became Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army on September 1, 1939, the day that Germany invaded Poland to start World War II. It would be two years before America entered World War II, and Marshall assumed control of an undersized, undertrained army -- one that he knew would be significantly ill-prepared for global war. There were fewer than 175,000 men in the U.S. Army at the end of 1939, making it just the 19th largest in the world. As Marshall stated in his 1956 interview with the official U.S. Army historian, Forrest Pogue, "We were into a mobilization almost immediately on my appointment as chief of staff. The Regular component of the ground army was so small that there was almost no place to assign these men for professional experience.

[I remember someone saying that] all the noncommissioned officers of the Regular Army in this country could find reserve seats in Yankee Stadium."

In the years leading up to World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had prioritized the buildup of America's naval and air forces over the expansion, training, and modernization of the army. Marshall, however, wasted no time in making Roosevelt understand the need to modernize and multiply ground forces. By mid-1940, Marshall was Roosevelt's point person in working with Congress on military matters. He worked with the executive and legislative branches of government to transform America's military into the greatest in the world, and one that was crucial to Allied victory in World War II.

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*Leadership Letter from our Executive Director
Ms. Valérie Beaudoin*

Dear George C. Marshall Friends,

It is my great pleasure to be in service here at the George C. Marshall International Center. We are proud to bring to life the timeless values of George C. Marshall's selfless service and unwavering integrity to develop visionary leaders worldwide and advance ethical leadership. On behalf of the George C. Marshall International Center, I hope you find the many exciting events and programs we have to be a source of pride.

It is through the generous support of our members and volunteers, that we are able to reach more people internationally, and especially young people, each month. Education and leadership development are at the heart of all we create, and connecting with members and visitors on a level that stirs their desire to learn and to share what they have learned gives us great joy. The continued stewardship of George and Katherine Marshall's Dodona Manor certainly adds a great backdrop and depth to our programs.

It is my great hope that you will take advantage of the variety of far-reaching virtual and live programs we have developed, and that you will enjoy all the benefits of membership here at the George C. Marshall International Center and Dodona Manor. Every membership dollar we earn is paramount to continuing the George C. Marshall mission for many generations to come.

Thank you,

Valerie Beaudoin
Executive Director, GCMIC

Keep in Touch

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Executive Director: vbeaudoin@georgemarshall.org

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Inspiring Leadership

Much like Marshall leading through World War II and beyond, the GCMIC is continuing to push forward in the face of the unprecedented challenges brought on by COVID-19. We have adapted many of our existing programs to the virtual world and continue making great connections. We have also established new virtual programs launching in spring and summer 2020, including a weekly, family-friendly, video distance learning program "Now & Then at Dodona Manor" (appropriate for age 12 and up) as well as the virtual Marshalls' Victory Giving Garden Club for people of all ages and our Visionary Leadership Speaker Series. We have also expanded our membership programs and are committed to staying fully engaged during these unprecedented times.

Leading with Educational Content

We are excited to introduce our new distance-learning program, "Now & Then at Dodona Manor." With the official closing of all public and private educational facilities in Virginia, we recognize a gap for those who are seeking to learn more and to explore George C. Marshall's Dodona Manor. In order to fill that gap and share the treasures in the Manor, we are launching a 12-week video distance learning series in May, 2020. Cody Youngblood, Dodona Manor Director of Museum Operations and one of our deeply engaged Manor docents, will host a fun, weekly distance learning video coupled with related materials to allow participating members to learn more about George C. Marshall and 20th-century American history and their impact on today. This membership program will focus on items from the Dodona Manor, telling the story of the artifact



"My goal is to spark a newfound interest in one of the most important figures of the 20th century and better educate everyone about his accomplishments and legacy." -Cody Youngblood

and connecting the relevance between then and now. Think, "Antiques Roadshow meets Bill Nye the science guy." This entertaining presentation is sure to engage and teach people of all ages. New membership levels have been made available to allow access to the entire series. Not a member? Follow our social media for clips and fun facts to stay connected.

New GCMIC Membership Levels

For information on all membership levels, visit: www.georgemarshall.org/membership

FAMILY LEVEL

\$250/year (or \$25/month)

George C. Marshall considered his three stepchildren his own, and instilled in them important values in leadership and emphasized the importance of education. In this spirit, our Family-level membership grants you access to the entire 12-week video distance-learning program with corresponding materials for a more meaningful learning experience. (Continued Page 4)



*Virtual or physical meetings **Restrictions apply, and party hosts responsible for all party logistics including catering, etc.

INCLUDES:

- The GCMIC's 12-week video distance-learning program with corresponding materials
- Four Guest Passes to George C. Marshall's Dodona Manor and a link to our virtual tour
- Access to our virtual or physical Book Club and Foreign Policy Brown Bag Lunch Program
- Two VIP passes to one of our signature events
- The opportunity to host a private indoor event at our facilities (restrictions apply)
- Early access to purchase VIP passes to our annual Innovation Leadership Awards gala
- A copy of the book, Marshall: A Statesman Shaped by the Crucible of War, signed by author Rachel Yarnell Thompson

- GCMIC Board of Directors*
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GARDEN LEVEL

\$250/year (or \$25/month)

Dodona Manor wouldn't be what it is without its beautiful landscaping and signature gardens. The Garden-level membership makes you an automatic member of our Victory Garden Club, which will come with the seeds, trowel and instructions to start planting your very own garden. We will share tips and pictures and answer your questions. When we are allowed to open to the public, we will invite our Victory Garden Club members to take a personal tour of the gardens and meet in person monthly though October to share and learn about gardening.

INCLUDES:

- Seed packets, garden trowel and instructions to start planting your own garden
- Weekly tips from our experts and participation in interactive group
- Personal tour of the Marshalls' gardens
- Four Guest Passes to George C. Marshall's Dodona Manor or a link to our virtual tour
- Access to our virtual or physical Book Club and Foreign Policy Brown Bag Lunch Program
- 2 VIP passes to one of our signature events
- The opportunity to reserve our outdoor patio for a private event (restriction apply)
- Early access to purchase VIP passes to our annual Innovation Leadership Awards gala

**Want combined membership benefits?
Join our combined Family/Garden membership at \$350 a year or pay monthly for \$35.**



Veterans Day at Dodona Manor

Veterans Day was first officially celebrated as a national holiday on November 11, 1938, when General George C. Marshall was Deputy Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. It is especially fitting that we host an annual celebration for Veterans Day at the Marshalls' beloved home, Dodona Manor.

On November 11, 2019, the George C. Marshall International Center, in tandem with Loudoun County and the Town of Leesburg, held our 15th Annual Veterans Day commemoration at Dodona Manor. Always free and open to the public, the ceremony opened with the Briar Woods High School band performing its drum cadence and Detachment 1205 of the Marine Corps League presenting the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. More than 400 attendees joined, including World War II veteran, Sergeant Bill Vitale U.S. Air Force, (Ret.), who served with General Marshall when Marshall was Secretary of Defense from 1950 to 1951.

The keynote speaker, Admiral T. Joseph Lopez, USN (Ret.), delivered a riveting address that honored veterans of all generations and military branches. Admiral Lopez called Marshall "Perhaps our greatest ever soldier-statesman of modern history," and emphasized the importance of keeping Marshall's spirit alive. After the ceremony, all guests were welcomed for a tour of the first floor of George C. Marshall's Dodona Manor

To watch a recording of Admiral Lopez's speech, visit our website
About page: [In the News.](#)



George C. Marshall Innovation Leadership Awards 2020-2021

Last year, we launched the George C. Marshall Innovation Leadership Awards program to recognize innovators and leaders who have had a positive, profound impact in the world, just as George C. Marshall did throughout his lifetime. In 2019, we were pleased to honor Vinton Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist for Google. We plan to continue the tradition in 2020 and honor three national defense and humanitarian leaders and innovators through three unique award categories: the Defense Technology award, the Digital Transformation and Security award, and the Healthcare Services and Humanitarian Action award. Each represents the trifecta of leadership areas that George C. Marshall served and championed throughout his career.

• For Defense Technology:

Jared Shepard, CEO of Intelligent Waves, LLC, recognizing Hypori Virtual Mobility

• For Digital Transformation:

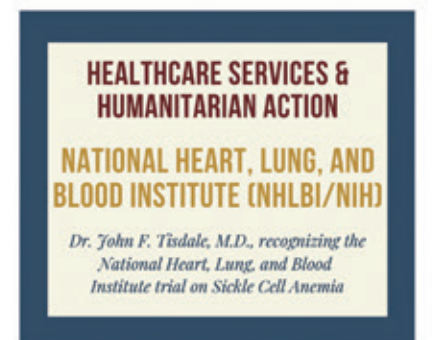
James Gfrerer, Asst. Sec. for Information & Technology, & CIO, recognizing VA Digital Transformation Strategy

• For Humanitarian Action:

Dr. John F. Tisdale, M.D., recognizing the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute trial on Sickle Cell Anemia

This year's honorees were to have been recognized at a gala in May. In light of the pandemic, we postponed the live Gala to April 30, 2021.

For more information on this year's honorees, and to read more about the change in plans for celebrating them, visit:
www.georgemarshallinnovationawards.com



Marshall - A Statesman Shaped in the Crucible of War

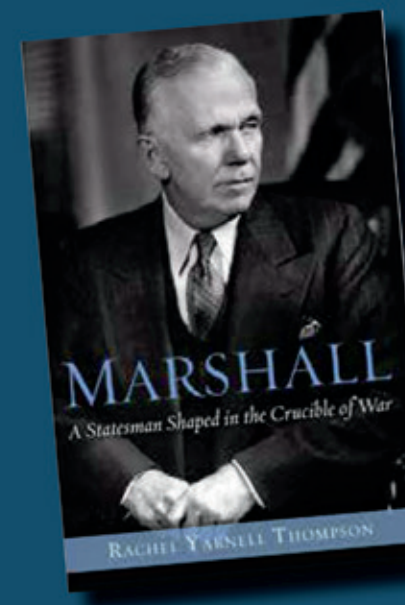
by Rachel Yarnell Thompson

"If you're going to read only one biography of George Marshall, Rachel Thompson's is the one to read."

"The author's research and knowledge of Marshall's family life at his Dodona Manor home certainly adds value to this exemplary work on George C. Marshall."

(Reviews from Goodreads.com)

To order your copy please call us at 703.777.1301.



Snapshots from Dodona



Foreign Policy Brown Bag Lunch Discussion

To expand our reach this stimulating program is now available as a virtual, live interaction program.



Sergeant Vitale & the Winter Coat

We were honored to welcome Sergeant Bill Vitale for a special look at General Marshall's winter coat. Vitale was in his young twenties when he was hired as then, Secretary of Defense Marshall's aide. When Marshall received this coat it was Bill's job to ensure it was properly cared for and moth-proofed.



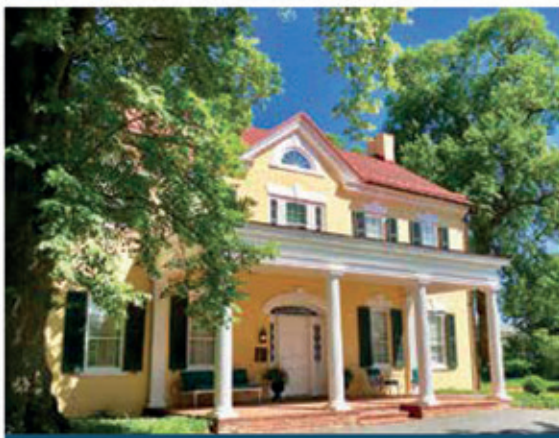
American Red Cross Day at Dodona Manor



Christmas at Dodona

We love Christmas at Dodona Manor and welcome visitors of all ages throughout the Holiday Season





THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Inspiring Leadership

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www.georgecmarshall.org

Follow us on social media...

@DodonaManor



Please remember The George C. Marshall International Center in your Estate Plans.

The George C. Marshall International Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

For electronic transfers of stock, please use the following information:
Broker: Virginia Managed Investments
Account Name: The George C. Marshall International Center
Account Number: 716TF185
DTC Number: 0725
Contact: Ed Wetherell, President
Phone: 703.443.0222
Email: ewetherell@capitolsecurities.com
GCMIC tax id number: 62-1381698

You can have a **bigger impact** by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stock, bonds, and mutual funds. Your gifts help continue the mission, bringing to life the timeless values of selfless service and unwavering integrity to develop visionary leaders worldwide.

The George C. Marshall International Center (GCMIC) may accept gifts of stock electronically through its broker or directly through the mail. If you would like to **make a contribution**, or if you have questions, please contact us at admin@georgecmarshall.org or 703-777-1301 or admin@georgecmarshall.org

Please advise us of stock transfers by calling or emailing us at 703-777-1301 or admin@georgecmarshall.org

Inspiring Leadership

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