

The Marshal

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ROBERT FORSYTH CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



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Spring/Summer 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Efforts Pay Dividends

By William A. Greenly

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE we're halfway through 2014! It seems like yesterday we were celebrating the New Year.

We've accomplished a great deal in the last 6 months. One of our best achievements is working as a team. This effort has certainly paid dividends for our chapter.

Over the past few months, we executed two major chapter events, both smoothly on the same day! The first was our inaugural Flag Retirement Ceremony held at the

We are partnering with Ingram Funeral Home to host our Flag Retirement Ceremony annually.

Ingram Funeral Home. We had about 50 worn flags to retire properly.

Through the wonderful efforts of Tom Davis, we are partnering with Ingram Funeral Home to host our Flag Retirement Ceremony annually.

They will also burn all of the worn flags per U.S. Code in a dignified manner in their crematorium. The

turnout was light this year, but it is our hope that with this event published in the local news and with promotion of the event next year, the turnout will be much higher.

The second major chapter event was the Flag Receptacle Unveiling Ceremony

held in the Cumming Home Depot parking lot. This was not only a major event for our chapter, but also for the state society.

This was a first in the nation partnership among three civic groups and private enterprise to place a flag recycling receptacle in a major national

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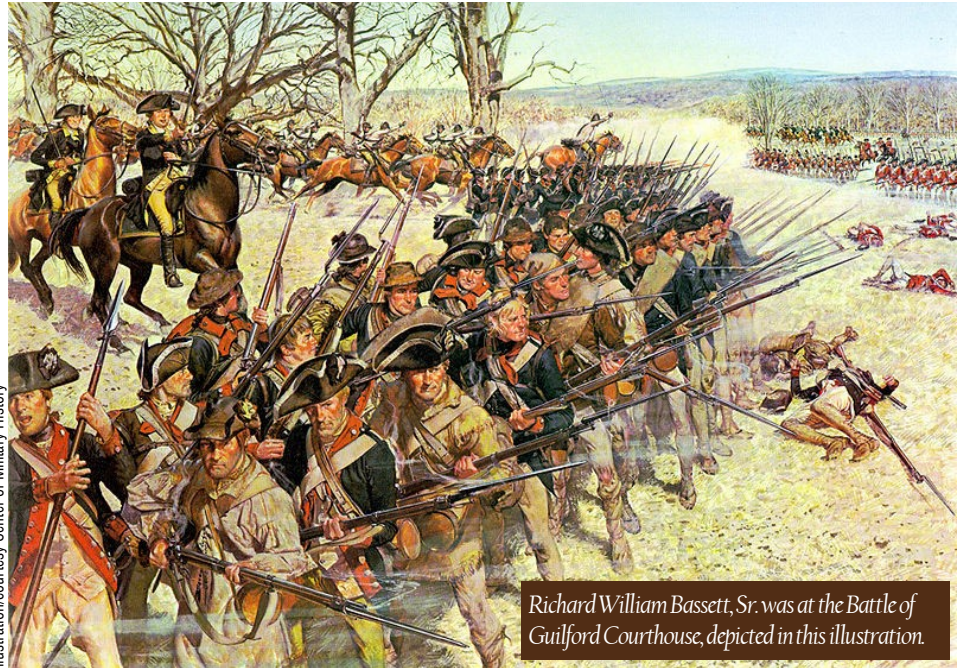


Illustration courtesy Center of Military History

Richard William Bassett, Sr. was at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, depicted in this illustration.

★ ★ ★ *Our Patriot Ancestors* ★ ★ ★

Richard William Bassett, Sr.

By Timothy F. Bassett, Chapter Genealogist

Richard Bassett, Sr. was born between 1760-1762 in Maryland from a Bassett lineage that had been in the country since the mid 1600s. He served during the Revolutionary War as a private from Maryland, enlisting on April 25, 1778 in Lee's Legion as a Dragoon for the duration of the War. He served under the command of Capt. Michael Rudolph and Lt. Col. Henry Lee, often referred to as "Light Horse Harry" Lee, father of Robert E. Lee. Of historical interest to our chapter, Robert Forsyth served as a Captain in Lee's Legion Light Dragoons from 1798-1799 and Forsyth's name appears on a pay voucher for Richard.

Lee's Legion was an elite body, comprised of Partisans and Continentals who had enlisted for the duration of the war. They were all issued new equipment, the best of arms and supplies that were arriving from France. They all had new uniforms, consisting of plumed helmets, dark green tunics, white or doe skin colored breeches and black boots. In total, Lee's Legion

numbered some 350 officers and men. In late 1780s, Lee and his Legion started the long march South to join Gen. Nathanael Greene and his southern campaign. The Legion was subsequently involved in numerous battles throughout North and South Carolina including the siege of Ninety Six, Battle of Haw River (also known as Pyle's massacre) and the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. It was later written that Lee's Legion marched as though the "Hounds of Hell" were nipping at their heels. Pay records from the legion has Richard receiving pay as late in the War as Jan. 1, 1785.

On Nov. 14, 1789, Richard received a Land Bounty Grant for land westward of the Cumberland in Washington Co., GA. It was granted as part of an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, awarded to soldiers who served during the war.

Richard arrived in Washington Co., GA between 1791 and 1792. He was listed in the 1790 census in Cecil Co., MD, and in 1793 he appears in Washington County. According to the Georgia State Militia

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Photo/courtesy Charles Rann

TEAMWORK

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chain. Our state president, Roger W. Coursey from Guyton, GA (near Savannah) thought so much of the program he drove up early Saturday morning to support our efforts. He said he would not have missed this program and believes it will be a great success, not only for our chapter, but for all chapters in the state. The speakers included Chris Coleman of the Home Depot, Roger W. Coursey representing the GASSAR, Pete Amos, Chairman of the Forsyth County Commissioners, Paula Nelson, Regent of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter NSDAR and Charles "Chuck" Murphy representing The Home Depot Military Appreciation Group.

The Home Depot is very excited about the project and wants to roll it out to more stores. Charles Murphy spoke to me after the program and told me he wanted to put one in The Home Depot corporate offices.

The success of this project is due to all the hard work of John Flikeid, Frank Clark, Ed Hooper, and all the other members who supported the efforts in various ways.

I would like to also thank James Guthrie, the artist, for the incredible graphic job he did on the receptacle. For those of you that have not seen it, please stop in to The Home Depot in Cumming and take a look. The receptacle is a true piece of art!

We cannot rest on our laurels. The next store is on the horizon and we have a lot of work to do.

We have an Operations Manual to produce, roll the program out to the other chapters in the state at the end of July and roll out the program nationally at Fall Leadership at the end of September. I would like to take our next receptacle to Fall Leadership before we place it in our next location of The Home Depot.

In closing, I would like to thank all our members for their continued support not only in this program, but in all of our chapter programs. ■

Welcome to Our New Chapter Members



Name, Patriot Ancestor
Ed Hooper, David Hooper
Matthew Kyle Hooper, David Hooper

BASSETT

Continued from page 1...

Records: "A muster roll with an Inspection of Horses, Arms and Accouterments of a detachment of Military Cavalry of the First Regiment Washington County in the service of the United States commanded by Capt. Hugh Irwin stationed at Aaron Tices near the Oconee River 1793, "No. 19 - Richard Bassett, Gentlemen of Arms." Records show he entered service in the First Washington Regiment on Sept. 11, 1793.

Georgia had eight land lotteries between 1805 and 1833 to divide the Creek and Cherokee Indian Lands. In these Land Lotteries every bachelor with three years residency in Georgia was allowed one draw and every married man with like residency was allowed two draws. In the 1805 Lottery, Richard Bassett had two draws and drew Lot 197. This particular lottery encompassed Creek Indian lands just west of the Oconee River, which were ceded to the state in 1802. Richard's lot was located in Wilkinson County.

In the Act of December 15, 1818, which set up the Third Land Lottery of 1820, invalid Revolutionary War Veterans were finally recognized and given a preference in the drawing which consisted of two additional draws. In the



Marker for Richard Bassett, Sr.

1820 Lottery, Richard Bassett living in Harris District, in Morgan County drew Lot 98 District 13, in Habersham. The lot reverted to the State, although he was paying taxes on this lot in 1822 according to the Morgan County Tax Records.

In the Act of June 9, 1825, which established the Fifth Land Lottery of 1827, and the Act of Dec. 21, 1830, which set up the Sixth (Cherokee) Land Lottery, the extra draws were expanded to include all Revolutionary War Veterans. As part of receiving the extra draws every Revolutionary War Veteran had to take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear that I served as a soldier in the armies of the United States during the Revolutionary War a tour or tours of duty and that I did not any time during the said war bear arms or act as a spy or emissary against the United

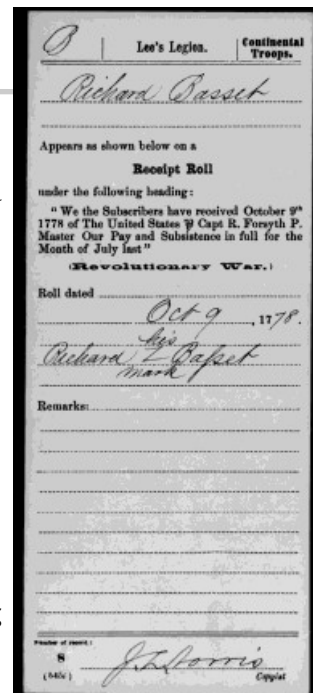
States, or in any manner aid or abet the enemy thereof, and am entitled to a draw or draws according to the provisions of this Act; so help me God." It was during the Sixth Land Lottery that Richard Bassett Sr. living in the

Hill's District of Harris County, is found having drawn one of these lots in Cherokee County and is listed as a Revolutionary Soldier. This land eventually reverted to the state.

Richard died in Harris Co., GA between Sept. 11 and Nov. 2, 1840. His will was probated on Nov. 2, 1840 and he left all of his land, slaves and belongings to his wife Ann and at her death, the estate was to be divided among his children. Richard's son and my third great grandfather Richard Jr., his wife Elizabeth Langley (daughter of Patriot James Langley) and their children moved shortly after the elder Richard's death across the Chattahoochee River to Randolph Co., AL, thus establishing my Bassett lineage in Alabama.

Richard and Ann are buried on their homestead near West Point, GA. Winnie Robinson, also a relative, once found the exact gravesite but she did not record the location other than to say it was on their homestead in Harris County and that only fragments of the marble markers remained. On May 1, 1974, she petitioned the government for a military stone for Richard, which was granted. This memorial headstone was erected in a Bassett family plot at the Hillview Cemetery in La Grange, GA. It says "Richard Bassett, Sr., Lee's Legion, Revolutionary War 1760-1840, wife, Ann 1770-1841." ■

To submit a patriot ancestor biography,
email matthewtpatton@yahoo.com.



1778 payroll receipt for Richard Bassett, Sr. with chapter namesake Robert Forsyth listed.

Retiring with Respect

A ceremony was held on Flag Day, June 14, in Cumming, GA, at The Home Depot. This ceremony was to unveil a one-of-a-kind flag collection receptacle now placed inside this store location.

This first in the nation partnership includes the Robert Forsyth Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, the Boy Scouts of America Troop 1099, the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, and The Home Depot. The concept was the brainchild of Robert Forsyth chapter chaplain John Flikeid who spent hours researching and coordinating the project's feasibility, ultimately planning and executing the idea.

The ceremony was attended by several political and military dignitaries including Pete Amos, Chairman of the Forsyth County Commissioners, Roger W. Coursey, President of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution and Charles Murphy representing the Home Depot Military Appreciation Group (MAG), who spoke about the significance of this event; remembering the history behind our American flag, and all it represents to each of us, remembering "as we commemorate Flag Day today, let us not only recognize this project but also take a moment to think about what our flag represents and express our sincere gratitude to all those who've served our nation and who are currently serving our nation," Pete Amos said. The award winning Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard provided the presentation and retirement of the colors.

Chris Coleman, Home Depot Merchandising Execution Manager of the Cumming Home Depot store said, "Today is more than a flag ceremony, but the genesis of a partnership between multiple institutions that take pride in serving our communities. It is our collective hope that the dedication of this beautiful flag receptacle here today, will be the beginning of a nationwide relationship between these parties to honor our service men and women, and shine a light on a symbol of hope, opportunity and freedom: our nation's flag!"

Coursey added, "This flag receptacle unveiling and the cooperative effort between The Home Depot and

the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is an extremely significant and important event. "Now people in this area will no longer have to ask where to retire and dispose of worn U.S. flags. By The Home Depot allowing this receptacle to be placed on their property, they are not only doing a patriotic duty, but also providing a much needed service. And we will be taking on this challenge of providing the process to properly dispose of old flags; one that we hope to spread across the state of Georgia."

Chapter President Allen Greenly said, "This was the end of a long road from the initial concept to today, and that it was the beginning of a long partnership between the three civic groups and The Home Depot to provide a much needed service to the public. Our chapter is proud to take the leading role in this project and it is our hope that this will become a national project."

Jack Flikeid, from Troop 1099, gave an informative talk on significant events in U.S. flag history. He then detailed proper flag etiquette and the proper way to dispose of a U.S. flag.

Representatives from The Home Depot, Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter NSDAR, Boy Scout Troop 1099 and the Robert Forsyth Chapter SAR then unveiled the receptacle, drawing praise from the crowd. The stunning artwork on the receptacle was done by James Guthrie of Signarama in Cumming.

Staff Sargent David A. Thompson, U.S. Army National Guard Retired, placed the first ceremonial flag into the receptacle for proper disposal, followed by Jack Flikeid of Troop 1099 and then several others.

Coleman announced those who bring a U.S. flag for disposal and then purchase a replacement at the Cumming location of The Home Depot would receive a discount toward the purchase of a new U.S. flag. ■

For a gallery of event photos, visit [facebook.com/robertforsythsar](https://www.facebook.com/robertforsythsar).



Photos/courtesy Charles Ramm

Marking Flag Day 2014

Top: Life Scout, Jack Flikeid, places the first flag for proper disposal at The Home Depot in Cumming. **Left middle/bottom:** The new flag retirement receptacle, the brainchild of chapter member John Flikeid. **Middle right:** Paula Nelson, Regent of the Martha Stewart Bulloch Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. **Bottom right:** A local citizen places a worn flag in the new receptacle for proper retirement. Several placed flags on the day it was installed.

The Marshal

This publication is the newsletter for the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. It is printed four times per year and is distributed to current and prospective chapter members and to certain officers of the state and national organizations and to certain officials of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Golden Corral at 2025 Market Pl. Blvd., Cumming, GA 30041.

Prospective members are always welcome at monthly membership meetings. Men, eighteen years of age and older, who are interested in documenting their relationship to their American Revolutionary ancestors and in joining an active group with similar interests are urged to contact the Chapter Registrar, Christopher Russo at 770-315-6348, via email at guido139@yahoo.com or any other chapter officer.

Deadline for the Next Issue:

The deadline for material for the next issue is **July 25, 2014**. In addition to the material, please include hi-resolution imagery. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding *The Marshal* to Editor Matthew T. Patton at 215-285-0920 or via email at matthewtpatton@yahoo.com.

Norman's Landing Earns Certificate



Photo/courtesy Nicole Thompson

Bill Norman of Norman's Landing Restaurant, 365 Peachtree Parkway in Cumming was presented a flag certificate from the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. It is presented to government agencies, businesses, and private citizens who display the U.S. flag in the proper manner and for patriotic reasons. Ed Rigel, Jr. (right) presented the certificate to the restaurant's owner Bill Norman (left) on April 28.

Upcoming Chapter Events & Color Guard Schedule



- **July 10:** Robert Forsyth Chapter Meeting (Cumming, GA)
- **July 18-23:** 124th Annual NSSAR Congress (Greenville, SC) (<http://congress.sar.org>)
- **July 26:** BOM Meeting (Barnsville, GA).
- **Aug. 2:** 62nd Old Soldier's Day Parade, hosted by the City of Alpharetta and the American Legion Post 201 (Alpharetta, GA) (<http://www.alpharetta.ga.us/index.php?p=520>).
- **Aug. 9:** Robert Forsyth Chapter Picnic (Fowler Park Recreation Center, Cumming, GA) (<http://www.forsythco.com/DeptPage.asp?DeptID=40&PageID=1335>)
- **Sept. 13:** Patriot Samuel Reed Grave Marking
- **Sept. 14:** Patriot Fred Smith Grave Marking
- **Sept. 17:** William Few Ceremony (Augusta, GA)
- **Sept. 26-27:** NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting (Louisville, KY)

Robert Forsyth Chapter Officers 2013-14

- ★ **President:** William A. Greenly, 6440 Ivey Meadow Ln., Cumming, GA 30040, 404-788-8824, wagreenly@gmail.com
- ★ **Vice President:** Thomas R. Davis, 7215 Wyngate Way, Cumming, GA 30040, 770-442-8147, davtomln@att.net
- ★ **Secretary:** Edward P. Rigel, Jr., 1608 Indian Way, Cumming, GA 30040, 770-757-6070, erigel@dogwoodpartners.net
- ★ **Treasurer:** William W. Walker, [REDACTED]
- ★ **Chaplain:** John Flikeid, 947 Lakemere Crest, Suwanee, GA 30024, 678-936-7635, jflikeid@gmail.com
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- ★ **Sergeant-at-Arms:** Daniel P. Miles, Sr., 5625 Wills Wood Cir., Cumming, GA 30040, 770-475-3564, miles-daniel@att.net
- ★ **Historian:** Roland Jarrell, 6278 Bentley Rd., Cumming, GA 30040, 770-887-6187, rjjarrell@comcast.net
- ★ **Genealogist:** Timothy Bassett, 2430 Spring Harbor Dr., Cumming, GA 30041, 770-889-8795, bamatram@bellsouth.net
- ★ **Chancellor:** Charles Meagher, 6135 Lakeaires Dr., Cumming, GA 30040, 770-889-6562, chasm242@yahoo.com
- ★ **Editor:** Matthew T. Patton, 4798 Abberley Ln., Johns Creek, GA 30022, 215-285-0920, matthewtpatton@yahoo.com

CHAPLAIN'S REFLECTIONS

Georgia: Rooted in Crime, Religion

By John Flikeid

GEORGIA WAS FOUNDED by James Oglethorpe as a refuge for criminals. Along with criminals, in the early colonial times, Jews found refuge in the colony. The main church in colonial Georgia was the Anglican Church. The church constituted the most influential and largest congregation of Christians. It, though, was never the official religion of the state.



George Whitefield was a prominent English preacher in the early 18th century. He founded Bethesda, which was a home for orphans near Savannah in the 1740s. He also was a major evangelist for the Anglican Church. Bethesda continued until 1805 when it burned down, but it was revived in 1855.

First African Baptist Church
Another big church in Savannah was the First African Baptist Church. It is one of the oldest Baptist churches in America. It was formally established in 1788 for a small congregation of Black Baptists. During the revolutionary war, one of the main preachers, Georgia Liele encouraged his congregation to help the British Army near Savannah and Tybee Island, in South Georgia. The church has continued still to this day.

Many different religions practiced in colonial Georgia. It eventually became a melting pot of beliefs. The only religion, though, that was not welcomed was Catholicism. It was banned in Georgia until 1777, but people still practiced in separate communities.

Religious Tolerance

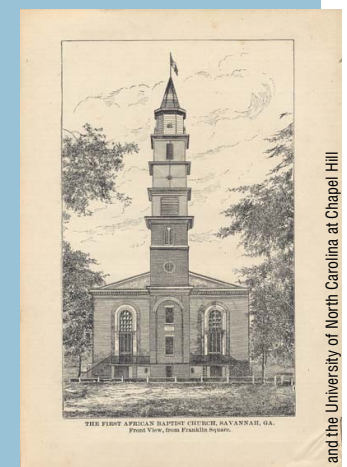
Today, Georgia is a "Bible Belt" state where it is not unusual to see public prayer and symbols of different faiths in business. This assuredly stems from the fact that religion played a huge role in the lives of the early colonists and that Georgia was a religiously tolerant state. ■

Resources

- **City Data:** Georgia Religions. Available at: <http://tinyurl.com/khqr56d>. Last accessed June 9, 2014.
- **New World Encyclopedia:** Georgia. Available at: <http://tinyurl.com/mijj9k4>. Last accessed June 9, 2014.
- **New Georgia Encyclopedia:** First African Baptist Church. Available at: <http://tinyurl.com/lqfo74h>. Last accessed June 9, 2014.



James Oglethorpe founded Georgia as a debtor's colony. He believed debtors deserved to leave prison on better footing, advocating for many reforms of the broken system. This statue of Oglethorpe is in Augusta.



The First African Church in Savannah houses items in its museum dating back to the beginnings of the church in the 1770s. The upstairs pews were built by slaves and include tribal markings.

Photos/courtesy of Sir Mildred Pierce (CC) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill