

The Marshal

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



Issue No. 32 Fall 2022

PRESIDENT'S DISPATCH



By Gary Page

Time flies and here we are at the end of 2022. It's been a great and eventful year for the Robert Forsyth Chapter as things got back to normal after two years of event cancellations and virtual meetings due to COVID. Our members have participated in numerous monument ceremonies, grave markings, battlefield commemorations and state and national conferences. The Robert Forsyth chapter was well represented at the State and National level with some of our members having significant roles as follows:

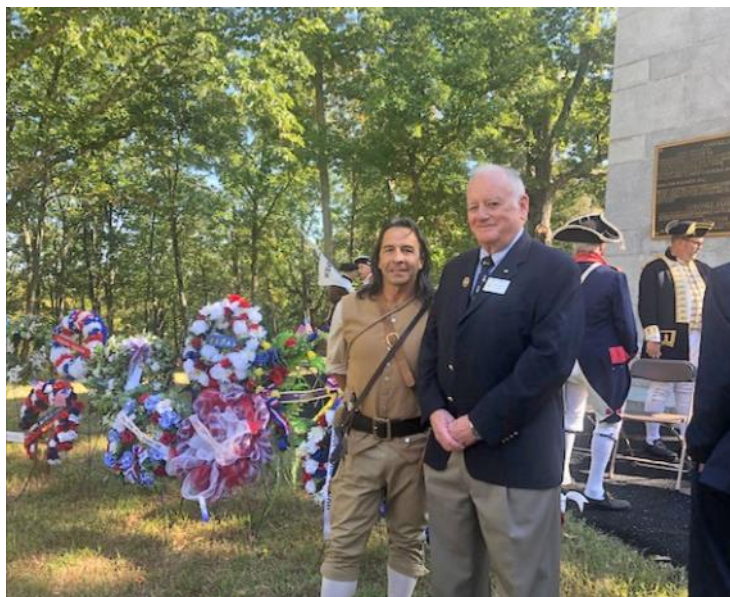
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FINALLY !! ...

Covid interfered/messed with a lot of people, some more seriously than others. We offer them and their families our continued prayers. Many endured minor inconveniences. Robert Forsyth member, Charles Meagher, has been hankering to go to the National Kings Mountain Event for several years now. Once he made up his mind, Covid stepped in. This October, he finally got his wish. Kings Mountain did not restrict or cancel the event, and the Meagher family, along with others from Georgia, and Robert Forsyth specifically, were finally able to attend once again.



David Louden and Charles Meagher at the monument where the ceremony is about to begin.

Ferguson's monument at Kings Mountain. Tradition says you should toss a pebble at it as a sign of defiance towards Ferguson and his threats.... The Overmountain Men tossed a bit more than a pebble his way.



President's Dispatch

Allen Greenly: Registrar General NSSAR, past South Atlantic Division Vice President General, past Georgia Society State President, National Trustee, past Chapter President, 2022 National Congress Co-Chair

Emil Decker: Incoming Robert Forsyth Chapter President, National SAR Editor, Robert Forsyth Chapter "The Marshall" Editor and Events Committee Chairman, Patriot Medal recipient for 2022.

Ed Rigel, Jr.: Incoming GASSAR Senior Vice President, past GASSAR Recording Secretary, past South Atlantic Division Secretary, past Chapter President, National Trustee

Chip Van Alstyne: Incoming Chapter VP, past Chapter President and VP, Chapter Medals and Awards Committee Chairman

John Flikeid: past Georgia Society State Secretary, past Chapter President

JC Hustis/Emil Decker: Education Outreach Committee and Traveling Trunk

Our members are very active at both the State and National SAR level and we should be proud and applaud their efforts and commitments.

As my time as Chapter President comes to an end, I am so proud to be a member of such an active SAR Chapter that has members serving as exemplary mentors and role models. I want to personally thank our 2022 chapter officers for their exemplary execution their duties and support to the Robert Forsyth Chapter, as without their dedication and efforts, we would not be one of the top chapters in Georgia.

In my previous dispatches, I have encouraged our members to become more active in the SAR organization. The more active you are, the more you will get out of this wonderful, patriotic SAR Organization.

As 2023 soon arrives, I welcome and pass the President's gavel to Emil Decker at our Chapter Annual Banquet on Jan. 21, 2023. Please RSVP to the Banquet Invitation and let's give Emil a big Robert Forsyth Chapter welcome as the 2023 Chapter President.

In closing, I wish all members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Let's remember our Revolutionary Patriots who fought for our Republic and the freedoms we enjoy. Let's also remember our Veterans who fought and died to keep our freedoms and be reverent in our celebration of Christmas.

God Bless America and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Gary Page,

President,

Robert Forsyth Chapter

*The Robert Forsyth Chapter
of the
Sons of the American Revolution*

*Request the pleasure of the company
of you and your guest at the*

*Seventh Annual Anniversary Dinner Meeting
and
Installation of Officers*

21 January 2023

*Tams Backstage
251 Ingram Ave.
Cumming, GA 30040
678-455-8310*

*6:00 pm - Social Hour
Cash Bar
7:00 pm - Dinner*

*RSVP by 10 January 2023
David Johnson, 770-344-837*

Mail Checks to:

Robert Forsyth Chapter - SAR

David Johnson

4725 Connie Mara

Suwanee, GA 30024

\$55.00 Person

Dress: Business

Kilt or Uniform



Community News



John Flikeid and President Gary Page present the Law Enforcement Officer Commendation Medal to Forsyth Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. John Hamilton. John is one who has dedicated himself to his profession. He has been up to any task placed before him. While placed in less than desirable situations, he has worked through adversity and persevered. He sets a very high standard for himself and expects and demands no less from his team. His leadership and work ethic have been responsible for numerous high-profile arrests and successful prosecutions of some of the county's more complex cases. It is an honor and privilege to work beside him and watch him grow.

New members are always a great addition to earn. The Robert Forsyth Chapter welcomes Edward Reimbold to the Sons of The American Revolution.



Left: John Flikeid with his father at the Celebration Village Senior Assisted Living Home, where we awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for both Flag Respect and Veteran's support.

Below Left and Right: Alex Van Alstyn returned home from college to receive his rosette and certificate of membership in the SAR.



Book Reviews by Col. George Thurmond

Community News (CONT.)

Washington's General

Author Golway begins with the unlikely emergence of Nathanael Greene as a Brigadier General, leading the Rhode Island Army of Observance. The opponents he fought in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the Carolinas represented all that the American Revolution opposed: inherited power, unearned titles and imperial militarism. Greene represented the New World notions of citizen soldiery and a merit-based society.

Growing up Quaker, his father believed that children needed only to know how to read the Bible and had little use for much schooling. Greene struggled hard to overcome the limited schooling he received under this religion. His Mother died when Nathanael was only 11 and his Father a few years later, leaving the Greene Children a fairly prosperous business.

Nathanael was eager to learn and was a frequent reader of books not approved by his religion. He even visited the book store in Boston run by Henry Knox. They would become life-long friends with both serving as the only two Generals to serve with George Washington for the entire 8 years of the war.

Greene had a knack for organization which led him to serve as the Quartermaster General for two years at the request of General Washington. Greene transformed the logistical side of warfare as much as could be accomplished with the continue shortage of men, money and materials.

After the debacle of General Gates at the Battle of Camden, Greene was assigned as Commander of the Southern Department, the Fourth to be so assigned since the start of the war. He continuously distinguished himself by "fighting, get beat, rise up and fight again" until the end of the war.

This is excellent reading and brings to life one who became the most revered hero of the Battles in the South.

Three tricorns.



ISBN 0-8050-7066-4 Washington's General by Terry Golway, Henry Holt and Company, \$26.00

George Thurmond



Left: Sometimes certificates hang around waiting for a member to return to meetings after some circumstance or event causes their absence. Dan Miles receives his 5 year certificate and pin. Welcome back Dan.

Below: J.C. Hustis (right) is a dual member with Lyman Hall. At the recent Mule Camp Days in Gainesville, Georgia, J.C. helped promote the SAR to many, many kids and adults at the pavilion in Midland Park.



Below: J.C. participated at the DAR Kickoff for the Wreaths Across America program at the Georgia State Capital.



Stoddard's Stockade

Peter Stoddard's 2nd cousin 5 times removed is Amos Stoddard. Amos was the Greatest American Hero no one has ever heard of....

Anthony Stoddard arrived in Boston around 1638. As a member of the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, he was a Constable & Selectman who got rich in the import / export business, mainly importing linens, and exporting hides and furs.



During the 150 years before the American Revolution, a series of aristocrats known as the "River Gods" ruled the Connecticut River Valley. They were William Pynchon, the Ashleys, Dwights, Partridges, Porters & Williamses. Let's not leave out the Stoddards. All were early Harvard & Yale graduates, Puritan Pastors & one soldier, Uncle John Stoddard of Northampton MA; Soldier & Politician. John commanded Deerfield's garrison during Queen Anne's War and was a survivor of the Indian attack there in 1704. He became the Province's negotiator for the captives in Canada for at least a decade after the raid. Later a lawyer, a member of the governor's council, a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, chief justice of the Hampshire court of common pleas, and colonel in the colonial militia, John Stoddard became a leading figure in Indian affairs and a promoter of Indian missions. Likely a profound influence on Amos Stoddard, who said even in his youth, "I have Stoddard blood in my veins!" No idea if anyone knew what he meant. I say that often and get only blank stares.

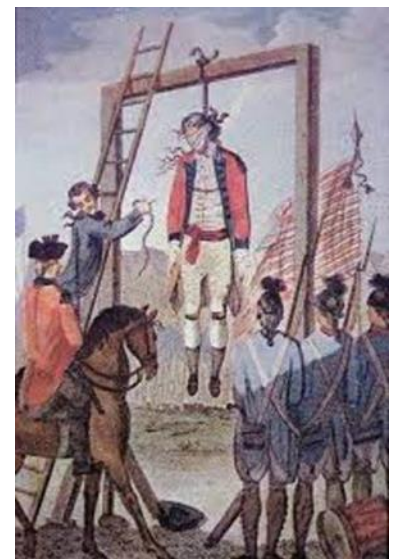


Born in Woodbury CT, Amos moved with his family to Massachusetts. Amos Stoddard's father Anthony served in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Amos joined the army in 1779. Ordered to West Point, he was short and gathered dirt under his feet during inspection. Inspector General Prussian Baron Friedrich von Steuben approached him in line, looked him over intently, and finally said, "Perhaps you may do!"

At Orangetown, he was an eyewitness to the hanging of British spy John Andre.

Assigned to an artillery unit in 1781, he served under the Marquis de Lafayette. It is said that Lafayette had a man crush on Amos. Or maybe that was von Steuben.

In 1787 he chased, caught up with and "interviewed" Daniel Shays. As a de facto spy, Amos feared he might be killed.



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Amos studied law in Boston and entered the bar in 1796. But he ached for the military life. Plus, everyone hates lawyers. Even lawyers hate lawyers.

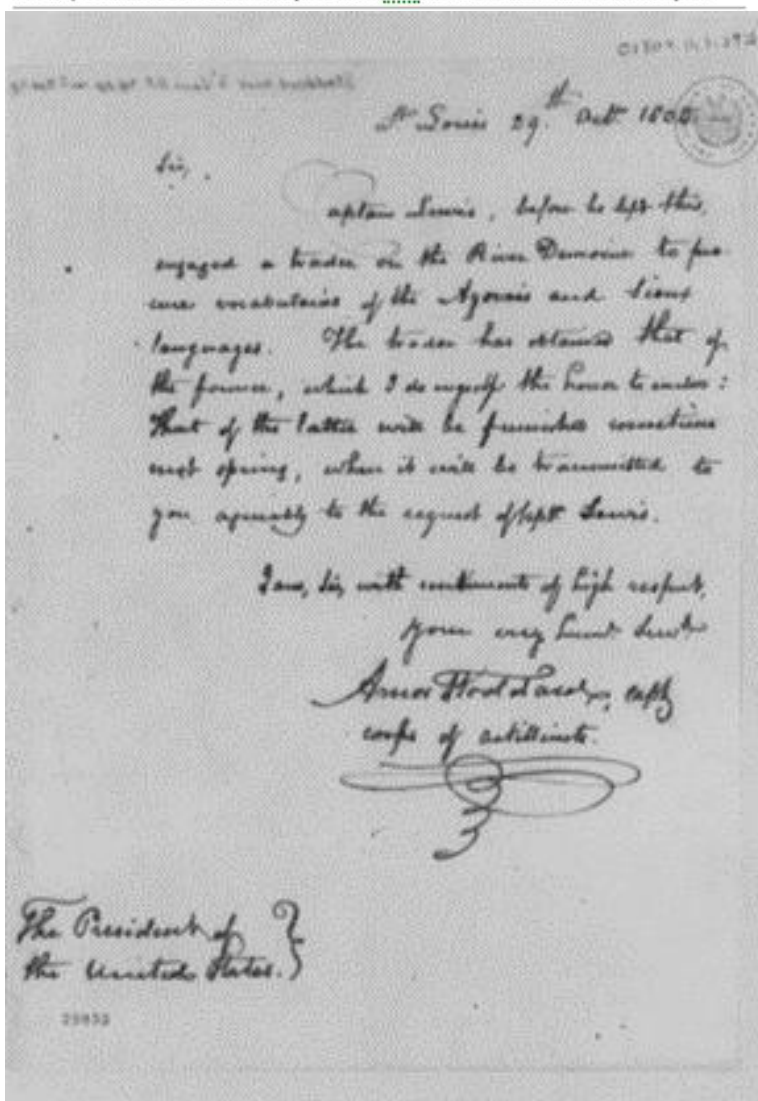
In 1802 Thomas Jefferson ordered Amos & his artillery company to St Louis in advance of the Lewis & Clark expedition. (Amos thought the Arch highly overrated just like everyone does.) Thomas Jefferson's BFF & Pen Pals in 1804. Too bad

THOMAS JEFFERSON TO AMOS STODDARD, 10 JANUARY 1811

To Amos Stoddard

Monticello Jan. 10. 11.

Th: Jefferson presents his compliments to Maj^r Stoddard and his thanks for forwarding the inclosed paper, which he now returns with his signature, altho generally declining to subscribe for new books, he has done it with pleasure in this instance, & hopes that Major Stoddard's subscriptions in this state may make it convenient for him to name some person in Richmond who may be authorised to receive the price of the work. he salutes him with esteem & respect.



Jefferson could not spell Stoddard. (Damn ignorant Virginians.)

Amos was the signatory for the largest real estate flip in world history, the Louisiana Purchase. He signed for Spain one day, the United States the next day. In 1804 he became the first civil commandant of Upper Louisiana. Amos was not a partier but had to attend and host parties. He said St Louis people sure liked to party hard and sleep late.



Amos was a close friend to Lewis & Clark, but they took his best troops. From St Louis Amos served as paymaster and more to Lewis & Clark. He

forwarded stuff from them to Thomas

Jefferson.

Lewis & Clark brilliantly negotiated with the myriad of tribes they encountered. The gist was, "We can do this the easy way or the hard way. If you do not want to be your 'new master' Thomas Jefferson's friend we will probably have to come back and kick your ass. You need not decide now. We will catch you on our way back from the Pacific."

In 1806 Amos, by himself, escorted Chiefs of the Osages, Missouri, Kansas, Ottos, Panis, Ayowas, & Sioux from St Louis to Monticello to meet their "new master". Amos budgeted 2 pounds of food per day but the Native

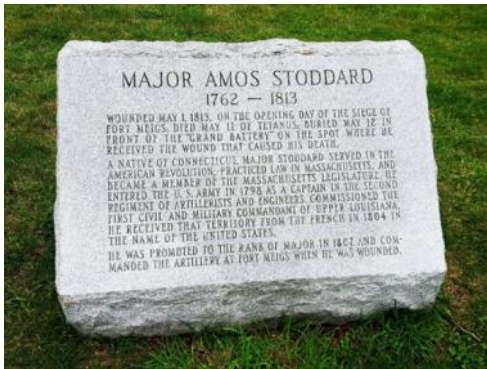
Americans ate more like 12 pounds per day. No telling if their metabolisms dictated that or if they saw an early chance to milk their "new master".

In 1809, he took command of Fort Dearborn, modern day Chicago. Like me who lived there for 14 years, Amos was a rare fan of both the Cubs and White Sox. In 1812 Amos was ordered to Fort Meigs under the command of William Henry Harrison. There he was injured by shrapnel on May 1, 1813. He died of tetanus a/k/a lockjaw on the night of May 11. His isolated marker sits alone on the outskirts of Fort Meigs.

(cont. page 7)

Another Stoddard cousin travelled west to sort out Amos's vast estate. He became wealthy in doing so and settled in Dayton Ohio. His kin founded a top quality farm implement company that led to bicycles and the Stoddard -Dayton automobile, pace car for the first several Indy 500 races.

All this is proof that genius, courage & wealth can get hopelessly watered down in a diluted gene pool. But I for one would like to shout a loud "Huzzah" in honor of Major Amos Stoddard, The Greatest American Hero No One has Ever Heard Of!



Ask the Expert:

With Lionel Hildebrand

If you have a question you would like to ask, please forward to the editor, eldecker@windstream.net. He will see that it gets to me.



In a historical fiction about the Revolutionary War I am reading, one of the sharpshooters with a Pennsylvania long gun can reliably hit the enemy at 150 yards. I can barely make out a person 150 yards away.

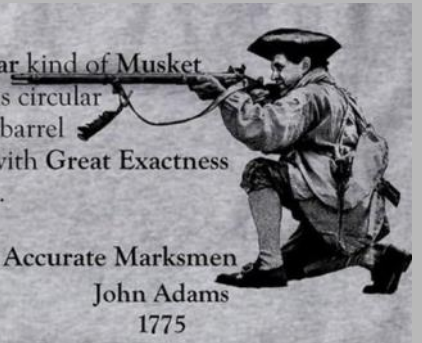
Was that marksmanship possible without modern sights?

Yes, a colonial era frontiersman, armed with a Pennsylvania rifle could kill a man at 150 yards with no issues. This is contingent on his understanding wind effect, and the drop from his particular rifle with a particular powder charge and ball load. Remember, these guys lived using their rifles to hunt, and if unsuccessful in hunting, not eating. Practice does not make perfect. Perfect practice makes perfect.

"They use a Peculiar kind of Musket called a Rifle. It has circular grooves within the barrel and carries a Ball with Great Exactness to Great Distances.

They are the Most Accurate Marksmen in the World."

John Adams
1775

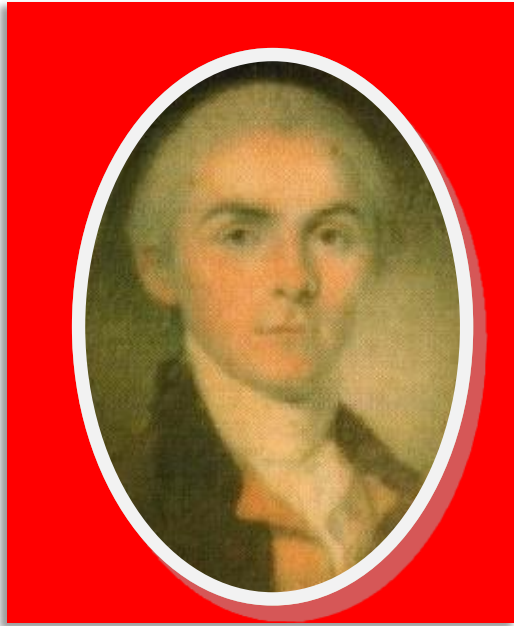


How many of the signers of the U.S. Declaration of Independence fought and died in the Revolutionary War?

None of the signers was killed in battle. The only one killed by a gun during the war was Button Gwinnett. He was killed by a Continental general in a duel.

A handful saw combat as militia officers at some point during the war. But for the most part, the signers saw their role as political leaders, the civilians in command of the army.

SAR Calendar of Events



Robert Forsyth, First Marshal of the state of Georgia & first Marshal killed in the line of duty.

| Event | Location | Date | Status |
|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------|
| General Daniel Morgan Wreath Laying | Daniel Morgan Square in Spartanburg, SC | Jan 14, 2023 | State |
| Cowpens 241st Anniv. | Chesnee, SC | Jan 17, 2023 10 a.m. | National |
| GASSAR Annual Conference | Duluth, GA | Jan 27 - 28, 2023 | State |
| Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Round Table | Camden, SC. | Feb 04, 2023 | Independent |
| Heroes of the Hornet's Nest | Elijah Clark St. Park | Feb 10, 2023 | State |
| Kettle Creek | Washington, GA Square & War Hill | Feb 11, 2023 | National |
| Colonial Worship Service | Episcopal Church of the Mediator 214 E. Robert Toombs Ave. Washington, GA | Feb 12, 2023 8:30 a.m. | State |
| Spring Leadership | Brown Hotel Louisville, KY | Mar 2, 2023 | National |
| Guilford Courthouse | Guilford National Military Park 2332 New Garden Rd Greensboro, NC | Mar 15, 2023 10:00 - 12:00 | National |
| Battle of Thomas Creek | Jacksonville, FL | Mar 24-25, 2023 | National |
| Frederika Naval Action | St. Simons Island | Apr ?, 2023 | National |
| 133rd Congress | Orlando, FL | Jul 13 - 20, 2023 | National |

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 quarterly 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 normally held on the second Thursday of each month at "The Golden Corral", 2025 Market Place Blvd., Cumming, GA 30041. Meal: 6:00 / Meeting 7:00. We are holding meetings in various locations at the present. Contact us for the most current information. 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, Charles Meagher at (404) 822-6428, via email at chasm242@yahoo.com or any chapter officer.

Deadline for the Next Issue:

The deadline for material for the next issue is Mar 20, 2023. In addition to the material, please include hi-resolution imagery. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding *The Marshal* to the Editor:

Emil L. Decker: Txt. at 706-482-8248 or via email to: eldecker@weegrr.com

