

The Marshal

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

Issue No. 13 Winter/Spring 2018



PRESIDENT'S DISPATCH

By John Flikeid

Greetings
Fellow
Compatriots;

As I stated at the banquet this month,

this year, our chapter will build off the successes of previous administrations, with particular focus on the following areas:

1. Membership

Membership is always the lifeblood of an organization such as ours. We've seen ongoing growth, but we must do more.

I am calling this program, PlusOne, which, as you can imagine, is where I will ask each of our members to bring in one new member, or prospective member, this year.

We will also introduce more events to drive membership opportunities. Membership is vital to our organization, and will be a major emphasis this year.

2. Participation

As has been my rallying cry this past year, to me, SAR is more than chapter meetings. Camaraderie is a great draw to our meetings, as are our speakers.

I will continue to urge our members to, steal a phrase from a popular cruise line, GET OUT THERE!



GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD REQUESTS HELP FROM THE ELIJAH CLARKE MILITIA

By Emil Decker, Editor

Talk about Home Guard. The Elijah Clarke Militia was "called up" in November by the Georgia National Guard. We mustered at the site of the Battle of Kettle Creek, atop War Hill. After maneuvers, we returned home, with fond memories, and expectations of being able to relive those memories again and again. You can too.

The Georgia National Guard, in an effort to boost recruitment, and help preserve heroes and legends of Georgia's history, decided to produce several documentary films for Georgia Department of Education. Our mustering was to support the filming of the segment covering The Heroes of the Hornet's Nest and the Battle of Kettle Creek. Filmed on location, we staged and shot segments of the battle, fired our muskets, and had a great time.

We had many takes of certain scenes. One in which I participated, involved the fiery temper of Elijah Clarke. He got to slug me in the chin. They reshot that scene over and over from different angles. And over....and over..... boy, did my chin hurt! *[just kidding. Ed.]*

Eventually the National Guard got all the shots they needed, and we headed home. Once the film was edited and released, our Chapter received the youtube url for the episode. You can check it out at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3TxN3s38OE>

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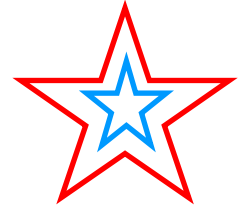


Members of the award-winning Georgia Society SAR Color Guard and Elijah Clarke Militia filming on top of War Hill. Photo by Emil Decker

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NATIONAL GUARD FILMING (CONT.)



Photos by Emil Decker:

From top, clockwise:

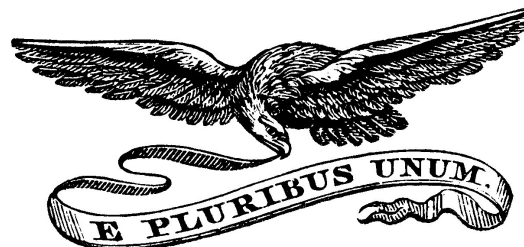
*Militia musters for filming.
Over 25 members showed up.*

*Kaytee Conner, narrator for the video with
film crew member.*

*Militia huddles for instructions before climbing
War Hill.*

Camera crew preps an introduction to Kettle Creek shot.

*Director/Producer Bruce Wittman called all the shots and lead us in
the scenes we participated in.*



ROBERT FORSYTH CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT'S DISPATCH (CONT.)

President's 2017 Annual Report *By Allen Greenly*

The Chapter's Annual Report:
We added four new members giving us a year-end total of 49 members.

In the National Contests, we reported 3,341 points in the Americanism contest, an increase of 2.2%. We reported 2,500 points in the President General's Cup contest, a decrease of 42%. We reported 2,570 points in the Stark Award contest, a decrease of 65%.

In Youth Award areas, we presented two Eagle Scout Certificates, and one entry to the Chapter's Eagle Scout Contest, who won second place in the state contest. We had one entry in the Knight Essay Contest, and our Chapter winner also won second place in the state contest. We recognized one JROTC outstanding cadet.

Our Education Outreach program made five presentations to over 1300 students and parents. We collected approximately 2,000 flags for retirement and presented three Flag Certificates.

The Chapter sponsored its second Patriot Grave Marking as part of five chapters sponsoring 5 grave markings in Midway, Georgia.

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By that, I mean get out there and EXPERIENCE the history that first brought us into this fine organization. Go out and experience the moments around patriot grave markings, experience the aura around marking the anniversary of famous revolutionary war battles, experience the history of the towns that surround these events. These have been the highlights of my time in SAR, and if you have not experienced these events yourself, you are missing out.

But participation is more than attending meetings, and more than participating in events. It is about bringing more strength to our chapter. How do we accomplish that? Two ways.

Leadership – Compatriot Greenly began a program this year to develop a succession plan for our leadership. He has actively been establishing, along with our Board of Managers, a plan to establish leaders in our chapter as we grow and progress. It is essential that we move beyond our current roles, and grow ourselves into these roles. If you are currently an officer, I ask that you think of the future, and roles you can see yourself in. If you have not been an officer previously, I encourage you to move out of your comfort zone, and seriously consider a role next year. There are roles to fit each person.

Flipping 80/20 rule. Most of us have been in plenty of organizations, and what we always see is that 80% of the activities around that group are performed by 20% of the members. I want to take a musket to that rule, and take it out. We need to continue to drive more activity and participation by more of our members.

Community outreach and scholarship

Fundraising – We will continue our foray into fundraising, after two successful programs this year. I will ask our Vice President will bring a committee together to put forth another program this year to support our youth scholarship program.

We will also continue our extraordinarily successful community outreach programs to drive our place in the community. Whether awarding medals to fire, law enforcement and EMTs, delivering programs to area schools, or our poster program, we will continue and expand these programs. Compatriots Decker and Russo would gladly welcome your help.

We must also ensure all of our efforts are being heard from a state and national perspective. We certainly track all of our activities via our Americanism Report and Stark Awards. We have much to be proud about, and we have such an active chapter, and incredible DNA from both our members, and icons such as Compatriot Greenly and Compatriot Thurmond.

I want to thank each of you for your membership, your participation, and your friendship. I thank you for your efforts this past year, and offer blessings to you and your family this coming year.

This is an exciting time of growth and development in our chapter, again, building off the tremendous foundation that has been laid for us, with cornerstones set just right, built to support the further growth of this great institution.

Thank you
John Flikeid



ROBERT FORSYTH CHAPTER MEMBERS ATTENDS ANNUAL BANQUET



Photos by Linda Decker:

From top:

Lydia Darragh Medal awarded to Linda Sue Meagher (Brenda Henderson was not present, and was awarded her medal at the next Chapter meeting. Ed.)

John Flikeid sworn in by Georgia President Wayne Brown

New Chapter Officers sworn in include President: John Erik Flikeid, Vice-President: Gary Lynn Page, Secretary: Edward P. Rigel, Jr., Treasurer: David Johnson, Historian: Jason Lewis, Genealogist: Charles Nixon Haywood Meagher, Chaplain: Byron Tindall, Sergeant-at-Arms: Edward Reid Hooper, Chancellor: William Allen Greenly, Registrar: Christopher Michael Russo, Editor: Emil Decker



Photos by Chris Russo:

Compatriot Emil Decker and wife Linda, after being awarded the War Service Medal for active army service in SW Asia Campaign.



ROBERT FORSYTH CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT (CONT.)

Chapter Awards

The Bronze Roger Sherman Medal awarded in recognition of outstanding services rendered to a Chapter: Compatriots Byron Tindall, Emil Decker and Charles Cox.

Individuals that have served over two years as an officer or committee chairman award an Oak Leaf Cluster to be worn with their Bronze Roger Sherman medals: Ed Rigel, Jr., Christopher Russo, Charles Meager and William W. Walker.

The Lydia Darragh Medal awarded by the incumbent Chapter President to individual ladies who have provided significant service to the chapter during his term: Linda Sue Meagher and Brenda Henderson.

The Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service. For a Compatriot's conspicuous service to the Chapter, the highest medal that can be awarded by a Chapter President and can only be received once: Edward P. Rigel, Jr.



GASSAR ANNUAL MEETING

By Allen Greenly

At the Georgia State Society Annual Conference, Ed Rigel and I had the honor of accepting several awards on the Chapter's behalf. We were recognized as a Georgia Society Distinguished Chapter for meeting 9 of 10 goals in program areas such as membership recruitment and retention, chapter reporting, Flag respect, Board of Manager attendance, scheduling regular meetings, community involvement, and youth program activity. For that we received a certificate and flag streamer.

We were awarded a Certificate and Streamer as a President General's Chapter of Excellence for earning more than 4,000 points in the PG Contest, and a Certificate and Streamer as a President General's Chapter of Distinction for increasing our PG Contest score by more than 20%. We received a Certificate for marking a Revolutionary War Patriot Grave. We also received, for the second year in a row, the BG Robert L. Scott, Jr. Veterans Award (25-49 members) for supporting the SAR Veterans initiatives.

There are Chapters with twice our membership that have been around ten times as long as ours, and they can't boast of some of the accomplishments I just listed. Everyone should be very proud of what we've done this past year. Thanks to you all for your contributions.



Photos by Rick Reese III

From top Clockwise: 1. Past Georgia Presidents include Our own Allen Greenly, Ed Rigel Sr., & George Thurmond. 2. Emil Decker designated as Color Guard / Militia "Rookie of the Year". 3. Allen Greenly collecting Veterans Service streamer 4. Ed Rigel Jr. and Brandy join his Ed Rigel Sr. and Joan, along with other Compatriots for the GASSAR Banquet meal.

Chapter and Community News

Law Enforcement Commendation MEDAL

By Ed Rigel Jr.

On December 21, the Robert Forsyth Chapter presented the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Deputy Jon Beival of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. The presentation took place at the Forsyth County Commission Meeting .

On July 16, 2017, deputies of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to an address in north Forsyth County for a domestic violence call. Upon arrival at the location, it was learned that a male had barricaded himself in the house with a firearm. Deputy Beival was summoned to the incident to communicate and negotiate with the male. While trying to establish communication with the male, the male fired at the deputies with a AK-47. The male fired close to 70 rounds at the deputies. Deputy Beival was struck in the leg during the exchange of gun fire. He subsequently recovered and is doing well.



*Photo by Gary Page
Compatriots Ed Rigel Jr., Allen Greenly, Officer Beival,
and Compatriot Emil Decker*



MUSKET FROM OUR RAFFLE ARRIVES IN TEXAS

By Emil Decker.

Patrick Henry Chapter #11 of the Texas SAR was pleased to welcome Ruth Garza to join them at their December monthly Chapter meeting in Austin, Texas. Ruth was the winner of the Robert Forsyth Chapter's Educational Fundraiser Raffle. She was thrilled with winning the Brown Bess Musket prize, which was shipped to her after the drawing on December 14, 2017.

Left to right are Past President James Nelson, Ms. Ruth Garza, Past President Henry Shoenfelt, President James Clements.



MULTIPLE EVENTS AT WASHINGTON, GA & KETTLE CREEK

By Emil Decker

The weather forecast for the long weekend of Feb. 9 - 12 was for rain. Lots of it. Washington, Ga was preparing for their annual Kettle Creek celebration, as well as a dedication ceremony for newly acquired acreage at Kettle Creek. The Friday at “Heroes of the Hornet’s Nest” was a glorious sunny day, with the clouds holding off just over the horizon.

Held at Elijah Clark State Park, the Heroes Ceremony was very informative, with Dr. David Noble presenting information on recent investigations and discoveries. John Dooly, Georgia patriot leader, was murdered in his home by Tories. He was buried outside the fort there, in land the family called “Egypt”. After this land changed hands, ultimately, the Army Corp of Engineers moved multiple graves to another area to allow for the flooding of the area in creating the Lakes and Parks present in the area today. Based on extensive research, not only has the area of the Elijah Clark State Park been determined to be within the original Dooly property, but investigation of where the graves were moved has resulted in Dr. Noble determining which of them belong to the Dooly family. John and family will ultimately be exhumed, and repatriated to their homestead within the Elijah Clark State Park in the near future.



Saturday morning dawned with complete coverage of fog so thick you could figuratively cut it with a knife. Smoke from muskets hung low in the air, and their reports were loud and crisp. The few who braved the forecast, had a grand old time where it never rained all day. Nope. Not a drop. I did not encounter any rain until I arrived back home in Dawsonville, and that after I was settled in for the evening .

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Photos from top:

Heroes of the Hornet’s Nest Ceremony, Elijah Clark Park. Photo by Emil Decker

Washington Parade around the Square. Photo by Gregory Smith

Robert Forsyth representatives at Washington festivities include John Flikeid, Emil Decker, Ed Rigel Jr., Allen Greenly, and George Thurmond. Photo by Brandy Rigel

WASHINGTON, GA & KETTLE CREEK (CONT.)



Sunday was a complete rain soaked affair, but by the time of the Monday Dedication Ceremony at War Hill, rain was again in abeyance. The Dedication Ceremony celebrated an addition of acreage bringing the total to 252 for the site.

Dignitaries at the event included former UGA Coach and Athletic Director, Vince Dooley and Congressman Jody Hice.

Coach Dooley spoke about how the British were on a recruitment mission into the Georgia backlands. Dooley remarked that he knew something about recruitment. *[it is well that Coach Dooley was not there as a Loyalist recruitment agent, or the war may have ended differently. Ed.]*



Above: Pres. John Flikeid renders honors during the Kettle Creek Wreath presentation. Once again, the Greene County JROTC drill team provided sabre arches which the delegates marched through. Photo by Emil Decker



Photos by Chris Russo
Left & Right: New signs and markers were posted at War Hill giving warning and interpretation to the site.

Bottom: Camden Military Academy Fife & Drum.

Congressman Hice was responsible for the introduction and passage of a bill that provides financial support for preservation of historic places such as Kettle Creek. With the help of Campaign 1776, The Civil War Trust, the Georgia Battlefields Association, The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association and others, the Kettle Creek area was not only expanded, but many improvements have been made.

The Monday dedication was eventful, but my favorite part was the sound of fife and drum, provided by the Camden Military Academy Corp. out of Camden SC. These young men not only looked dashing, but really stole the show. Oh,and it did not rain again until I returned home.



GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BAR TAB

SAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

By Gary Page

The bar tab of a 1787 farewell party for George Washington is still intact. This was just days before the signing of the Constitution. According to the bill, the Founding Fathers drank:

- 54 bottles of Madeira
- 60 bottles of Claret
- 8 bottles of whiskey
- 22 bottles of Porter
- 12 bottles of beer
- & 7 bowls of alcoholic punch

There were only 55 attendees at this party.

Event	Date	Location	Level
Brier Creek	Mar. 3, 2018	Sylvania , GA	State
Robert Forsyth Chapter Mtg.	Mar. 8, 2018	Cumming, GA	Local
Guilford Courthouse	Mar 17 -18, 2018	Greensboro, NC	National
Patriot Grave Marking	Mar. 24, 2018	TBD	State
Robert Forsyth Chapter Mtg.	Apr. 12, 2018	Cumming, GA	Local
Frederica Days	Apr 14-15, 2018	St. Simons Is., GA	State
Patriot Grave Marking	Apr 21, 2018	TBD	State
Ramsour's Mill	Jun 9, 2018	Lincolnton, NC	National
2022 Congress	TBD	Savannah, GA	National



CAN YOU SERVE ???

Our Chapter President recently asked rhetorically, “What can I /You do?” and gave some options. One answer was to submit an article on behalf of the Chapter in the local newspaper. We could really use some help with the creation of a Publicity committee. The chair of this committee would help ensure that upcoming events and activities of the Chapter be made known to the community before the event, so interested persons could attend, (unlike this publication, which celebrates what has happened in the past.) It would entail an ongoing occasional contact with local media, and would be a great service to the Chapter. Consider offering yourself to this rewarding position.

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 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.

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 chapter officer.

Deadline for the Next Issue:

The deadline for material for the next issue is Apr 30, 2018. In addition to the material, please include hi-resolution imagery. Please direct all inquires or suggestions regarding *The Marshal* to the Editor: