

The Marshal

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

Issue No. 6 Winter/Spring 2016



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Picture courtesy of ushistory.org

The Rising Son Challenge

By Edward P. Rigel, Jr.

[Upon swearing in, Compatriot Rigel gave his Induction Speech. Below is an edited version of that speech. Ed.]

It is an honor and a privilege to stand before you tonight as the new President of the Robert Forsyth Chapter. How many Chapters can say that in their first two years of existence they have been the recipient of some of the State and National awards that we have received?

During the year, we received the Carl F. Bessent award for best newsletter, and were one of only two Chapters in the state recognized for contributing to the Patriot Biography initiative. That initiative is ongoing and the Chapter can continue to submit biographies to earn additional stars to decorate our streamer.

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2016 Officers of the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the SAR are called to be inducted.

2016 LEADERS INDUCTED

By Emil Decker, Editor. The 2016 swearing in of the new officers of the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution took place at Tam's Backstage in Cumming on January 9, 2016. The Head Table was piped in by The Honorable John Mortison. President Thomas Davis called the meeting to order, with an Invocation provided by Chaplain Mike Jones. Sergeant-at-Arms Ed Hooper led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Georgia Society President Thomas Owen leading all in the Pledge of the SAR. The Chaplain blessed the meal and the delicious fare from Tam's Chefs was consumed with relish.

The program began with President Davis providing the 2015 report (Ed. see page 3). Chairman of the Youth Awards, Edward Rigel Jr. presented the certificates, followed by President Davis presenting the Chapter Awards and then his Outgoing Remarks.

Officers for the coming year were called forward and installed by Georgia Society President Owen. Following his installation as President, Edward Rigel Jr. gave his President's Comments (Ed. see side bar) and introduced our Guest Speaker.

(Banquet continued on page 3)



2016 President Edward P. Rigel, Jr. takes the Oath of Office

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

When I was elected Vice-President last year, I started thinking about what I wanted to accomplish. On the SAR Facebook group a post described the chair that General George Washington sat in during the Constitutional Convention of 1787. That chair featured a carved sun as the headrest. Benjamin Franklin said "I have often looked at that behind the president without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting. But now I ... know that it is a rising...sun." The Compatriot who posted this came up with the Rising Son, S.O.N., Challenge. He had three goals, and I feel those goals are applicable to our Chapter as well.

S: Support the President General's Initiatives. The Chapter has recognized winners in the Eagle Scout Contest, the Knight Essay Contest, the ROTC Outstanding Cadet, and the Brochure Contests. While participation in four of the eight contests, we have the opportunity to greatly increase the number of entries in those contests. Our primary goal should be to raise awareness of these contests through continued outreach to schools and Boy Scout troops.

O: Offer assistance to a Committee. There are several at the Chapter level where we would like to see increased participation from the Membership at large. Too often the problem is twenty percent of the members do eighty percent of the work. President General Lawrence also wants to increase participation at a National level. There are 55 National committees, and while participation on some of those is restricted, there are plenty who are looking for a few good Compatriots. There are committees at the State level looking for new Compatriots. Like Chapter committees, State committees need help and they welcome any assistance you can offer.

Editor's Note:

Thank you for the confidence you have shown by electing me as your editor for *The Marshal*. I have looked at other newsletters and can say that ours is equal to the best of them. Perhaps this year we can set a new standard for them to follow. To do this, I need your help. Articles about your patriot, events you participated in, photos, history, and general interest stories can only be published if you send them in. This is the 6th Issue, since Fall of 2013. It is my intention to have triannual issues each year. The first edition will be published in Feb. with a submission date of Jan. 25. Subsequent issues will be posted in Jun. (submissions due May 25,) and Oct. (submissions due by Sep. 25) each year. Special Editions are possible if enough content is provided. Recommendations cheerfully accepted.

N: Net one new member. Membership retention and growth is an issue we deal with at all levels. State Registrar Bob Sapp challenged all members to earn the Liberty Medal, which is given for recruiting and signing up ten new members. That is certainly ambitious. I issue the challenge of one new member per Compatriot. When I give my year in review at this time next year, I hope to be able to report a membership that doubled.

Finally, Patriot grave markings. I received the 2016 Color Guard schedule which listed a Grave Marking in Hall County, sponsored by the Lyman Hall and Robert Forsyth Chapters. This will be for the ancestor of our own Compatriots James, Phil, Jonathan, and Stephen Henderson. The marking will be held on April 30, and you are all encouraged to attend as we honor the service of Patriot Robert Henderson. Compatriot Chris Russo has identified another Patriot grave in Hall County and efforts to restore the site and arrange a marking will soon be underway. I hope we will be able to sponsor a second marking by the end of the year.

The Hendersons are also working on marking 28 Patriot Graves in South Carolina.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Robert Forsyth Chapter. I look forward to working with you as we continue to grow what I believe is the best Chapter in the Georgia Society. Thank you.

Edward P. Rigel, Jr.

BANQUET (CONTINUED)

Georgia Society President Thomas Owen entertained the assembled compatriots and guest with a detailed explanation of how the Battle of Kettle Creek was fought. Benediction by Chaplain John Flikeid and Recessional by Sergeant-at-Arms Hooper led to the adjournment by President Edward Rigel, Jr. and we were piped out again by the Honorable John Mortison.



Ga. Society Pres. Thomas M. Owen presents "Kettle Creek—History and Celebration"

Tam's Backstage is located within the 1923 Cumming Public School, a structure named to the National Register in 2000. It also houses "The Historical Society of Forsyth" County, "The Col. Hiram Parks Bell Center for Southern History and Genealogical Research" and a performing arts venue, "The Cumming Playhouse".

PHOTOS FROM THE 2016 MEETING AND BANQUET



Above: Excellent food and great company was enjoyed by all who attended
Left: The Honorable John Mortison, Piper extraordinaire.

Below: Cumming Public School Building's Banquet Rooms were decorated in theatrical themes of *A Midsummer's Night Dream* and *Phantom of the Opera*.





Above: Members & Guests enjoying the fellowship of the Second Annual Dinner Meeting of the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution



Left: Edward Rigel Jr. presents Youth Award to Jack Flikeid for 2nd place in King Eagle Scout and Knight Essay Awards. Eric Danielsson (not present) took 1st place in both Awards.

Below: From left, Charles Meagher, Bill Walker, Allen Greenly, Chris Russo, & Ed Rigel, Jr. Receive Bronze Sherman Medals from President Thomas Davis





Above Left: Lydia Darragh Medal presented to Elizabeth Elaine Davis



Above Right: Allen Greenly receives Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service



Left: Tom Davis receives 10 year membership pin. Tom was also awarded the Bronze Roger Sherman Oak Leaf Cluster.

Right: Ed Rigel, Jr. receives regalia of Chapter President



Below: 2016 officers sworn in. [L. to R.] Editor Emil Decker, Registrar Christopher Russo, Chancellor Charles Meagher, Sergeant at Arms Ed. Hooper, Chaplain John Flikeid, Treasurer William Walker, Secretary Allen Greenly, & Vice-President Edward Dewey.



2015 OPERATIONS REPORT

(BY FORMER PRESIDENT THOMAS DAVIS)

2015 Membership as of 1 Jan. 2015	-	57
New members years end	-	7
Reinstatements years end	-	3
Transfers-in years end	-	2
Membership as of 1 Jan. 2016	-	67

Contests Supported

King Eagle Scout recognition/Scholarship
Knight Eagle Scout
Americanism Middle School Brochure Contest
JROTC

Observances Attended

Washington's Birthday
Patriot's Day
4th of July
Constitution Week
Flag Day
Veterans Day
Flag Retirement Ceremony

Points Received this year

Americanism Points	3,532	+ 4%
President General Points	2165	+ 63.5%
Stark Awards Points	7,717	+64.3%
Brochures Judged	25	
Speaker Certificates	12	
Flag Certificates	3	
Bronze Good Citizenship	6	
Police, Fire, EMS Medals	3	
Military Service Medals	7	
War Service Medals	2	
Certificate of Appreciation	12	
Supplementals received	3	

Law Enforcement Medal to US Deputy Marshal
James Smith
Fire Safety Commendation Medal to Tommy
Coleman Forsyth County
EMS Medal to Katie Bardo Forsyth County

Medals Received by Chapter Members

Allen Greenly Silver Color Guard Medal
Bronze Color Guard Medal
Silver Roger Sherman Medal
Color Guard Commander award
State Certificate of Appreciation
Liberty Medal Oak Leaf Cluster
Friends of the Library Pin

Ed Rigel, Jr. Silver Roger Sherman Medal
State Certificate of Appreciation
King Eagle Scouts Scholarship Gold Palm
Supplemental Ancestor Certificate
Patriot Grave Marking Medal

Tom Davis Bronze Roger Sherman Medal

The Marshal Newsletter Carl F. Bessent Award

Streamers Received For Robert Forsyth chapter

Battle of Kettle Creek
Battle of Cowpens
Battle of Guilford Courthouse
Battle of Thomas Creek
President General's Initiative

Note: participation in the President General's Initiative was for submitting Patriot Ancestor Biographies. Robert Forsyth chapter was one of two in the state to receive this streamer.

Other Notable Events

Flag Certificate Presentation
U.S. Flag Recycling Bin Project – bins placed in Home Depot Stores
Flag Retirement Ceremony Held at Ingram Funeral Home
June 13, 658 flags retired.

Roswell Funeral Home donated an American Flag for our use in SAR activities.

Did you know our meeting location and dates have changed? We now meet every second Tuesday at "The Ridge" in Cumming.

WHY THE MARSHAL?

Have you wondered why our Newsletter is called The Marshal? A little research provides the answer. After service in the American Revolutionary War, Robert Forsyth was appointed Marshal of the State of Georgia in 1789 by President George Washington. One of the first thirteen marshals, Forsyth's work consisted mainly of a series of routine administrative duties in support of the federal court. In January, 1794, the Marshal with two deputies went to a Mrs. Dixon's house to serve civil suit papers on the brothers Beverly and William Allen. Interestingly, Beverly Allen was a Methodist Minister from South Carolina.

They found the Allens talking with friends, and wishing to spare the brothers embarrassment, Forsyth asked to speak to them privately outside. The brothers, instead of following Robert outside, turned and ran up the stairs, and into a room, bolting the door. Forsyth and his Deputies followed, and upon hearing their knock, Beverly aimed a pistol towards the door and fired. The ball splintered the door, and stuck Forsyth in the head, killing him instantly.

The two Deputies promptly arrested the Allen brothers, but they later escaped and were never brought to trial. Forsyth was the first Marshal killed in the line of duty.

Forsyth was survived by his widow, and two sons. One, John, served at various times as Governor of Georgia, the Minister to Spain, and Secretary of State under Presidents Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren. The Georgia county of Forsyth is named for him.

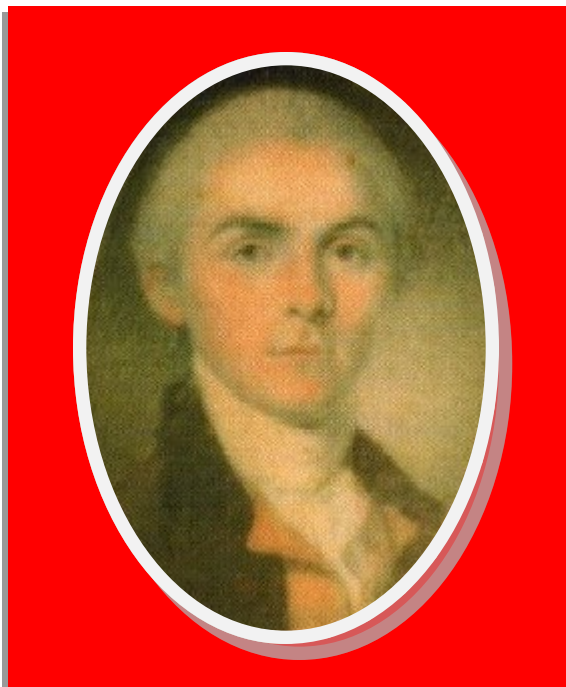
Additional Information about the Marshal Service is available at

<http://www.usmarshals.gov/history/timeline.html>

Do you have a great idea for an article for the Newsletter? Tell the Editor about it. Better yet, why don't you write it up and submit it.

23rd Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek is fast approaching. Events take place in Wilkes County on Fri.—Sun. Feb. 12, 13, & 14. Contact Tom Owen at: thomj50@gmail.com for more info, or see the flyer:

http://www.georgiasocietysar.org/pdf/2016_kettle_creek_flyer.pdf



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



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 three 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 Tuesday of each month at "The Ridge", 1035 Turner Rd., 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 May 25, 2016. In addition to the material, please include hi-resolution imagery. Please direct all inquiries or suggestions regarding *The Marshal* to Editor Emil L. Decker at 706-482-8248 or via email at eldecker@windstream.net.