

The Marshal

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

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LISTEN MY CHILDREN AND RAISE NO FUSS, AND I'LL TELL OF THE MIDNIGHT RIDES OF HUSTIS...

OK, I admit, I am no Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, but I did read his poem while staying at a Holiday Inn Express.

J.C. Hustis has been an active part of the Robert Forsyth, Georgia Society, and National Sons of the American Revolution Color Guards for some time now.

It has been J.C.'s ambition to attend as many different National Events as he possibly can, and to that end you will find him riding out to various states, events, and Commemorations to fulfil his goal.

This quarter alone, J.C. could be seen representing the Robert Forsyth Chapter at Cowpens National Battlefield in South Carolina, as well as at the accompanying ceremony honoring General Daniel Morgan, hero of the Cowpens engagement.

Next he was riding off to Cowan's Ford in North Carolina. Mind you, these events are not one day following the next, so his horse surely was given a workout. As we settled into February, it was back to Georgia for Heroes of the Hornet's Nest at Elijah Clark State Park, and the multiple events in Washington, Georgia surrounding the Kettle Creek National Ceremony. These two actually were back-to-back events, so perhaps his horse did get some rest in the stables.

Once back in town, it was a short ride to Gainesville, Georgia and the Washington's Birthday celebration. That was soon followed by a jaunt to the Southeast region of Georgia for the inauguration of the Brier Creek Commemoration as a National Event. The Colonial Dames were holding their Annual Event in Madison, Georgia on the same weekend, so a quick stop there, then on to Scriven County.

Another local event followed, which was the Liberty Tree Installation at Mars Hill Church's Cemetery in Acworth, Georgia. J.C. finally ended back in Forsyth County for our weather delayed annual chapter meeting, wearing his newly acquired "Finest Frock in Forsyth".

Whew! And it won't end there. J.C. has already planned April rides up to Halifax, North Carolina for the "Halifax Resolves" celebrations, then back down south to Saint Simons Island for the Fort Frederika Naval Engagement.

There are many other opportunities for events in the second quarter of this year, and I can't wait to see where J.C. will be found riding up, ready to take his place in the flag-line. Maybe you would like to get your quarter horse saddled up and join J.C. for a "fun filled flight on a filly." I am sure he wouldn't mind the companionship.



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General Morgan's and Cowpens S.C.



Cowan's Ford, N.C.



Heroes of the Hornets Nest, Elijah Clark State Park



Washington Square, Kettle Creek Celebrations

Washington's Birthday, Gainesville, GA

Colonial Dames, Madison, GA





Brier Creek, Sylvania, GA



Liberty Tree, Mars Hill Cemetery, Acworth, GA.



Robert Forsyth Annual Banquet

COMMUNITY NEWS



Ed Rigel Jr. spent the year 2024 not only representing the Robert Forsyth Chapter, but all of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, as he served his term as President of the State Society.

Turning the position and the responsibility over to William Floyd at the Annual Conference and Banquets was a high point, as well as a relief from the travel demands placed upon him by the honor of serving.

Pictured here with President General Darryl Addington, Ed can be seen wearing a "Cheshire Cat" grin.



Ed Rigel Jr. received several certificates and medals processed by the National and State Color Guard Commander, Scott Collins. Ed also received the Commander's Award. His wife Brandy received the State Lydia Darragh Medal.

Ed received a parting gift from the new President, and seemed to beat feet as fast as possible once given the opportunity.



In addition to Ed's accomplishments, Compatriot Decker received the State Meritorious Service Medal.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Not sure of how coincidences work, but for the second time in less than a year someone ask about the meeting we were conducting. [This was at the Annual meeting.] I informed him of our Society, and he informed me that his name was John Adams..... Yes, this makes the second J.A. I have met this year. Where and when will I meet # 3?

Lincoln Co. students learned of 18th century life, death, and medical treatments at Heroes of the Hornets Nest held at Elijah Clark State Park.



Ed looks to be passing in review in this photo during the raising of the Betsy Ross flag. Washington Square was bustling with the parade, the flagpole ceremony and musket salutes.



COMMUNITY NEWS

The C.A.R. even got involved with our Patriots of Liberty boys capturing a Tory sympathizer at the battle re-enactment.



With our January Annual Meeting postponed, we first met this year in February, where our guest speaker was Rob Ufford who told us about "Spy Techniques" employed during the Revolutionary War.

J.C. added another OLC to his Education Medal.



At the Gainesville Washington's Birthday Celebration, Ed Rigel Jr commanded the Color Guard, which included J.C., while Emil Decker brought the program message on the history of how Washington's birthday has been celebrated over the years.





While collecting the flags at the Dawsonville Home Depot, I found this George hiding in the flag bin. We've had yard banners, clothing and debris deposited before, but this is the first donation we've received.



Perrie Tucker, Regent of the Chestatee River NSDAR Chapter arranged for the Cumming Library to host a presentation regarding the 2025 Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Marquis de Lafayette's Tour through Georgia.



A number of books were donated to the library, as well as displayed to the public, along side of some limited "Patriot" branded wine available for acquisition.



SAR Compatriot Decker gave a presentation on the Franco - American Hero beloved throughout the United States, while Mrs. Tucker informed the assembly of the upcoming opportunities and tour locations throughout Georgia.

Always eager to learn something new, Emil quickly started to read about the Marquis.



In March, we finally found time and a location to hold our annual meeting. With Past GASSAR President Ed. Rigel Jr. swearing in the officers, and current President Bill Floyd bringing greetings. Ed Jr. presented a look at "The Scotts in the American Revolution", and we toasted the three members who left us in the past year. President Russo presented the Chapter Distinguished Service Medal to Compatriot Carl Jackson, The Lydia Darrow Medal to his wife Sherrie, and the C.A.R. Service medal to the President of The Patriots of Liberty Society, who also happens to be his daughter Eva. Eva has been a huge part of supporting our Chapter.



Book Reviews by Col. George Thurmond

A Narrative of a Revolutionary Soldier

This is a story of Joseph Plumb Martin who enlisted in the Connecticut Militia at age 15 and later the Continental Army and fought during the entire eight-year war! Written almost 47 years following the war, young Martin writes remarkably well having missed so much of a formal education. His recollection of the events experienced is very detailed, even after so long a time.

The events are centered mainly in the Connecticut, New York and New Jersey areas. However, this did not limit his enduring the hardships at Valley Forge and participating in the battle at Yorktown. One amazing incident, while in the trenches at Yorktown, a stranger approached him late at night and gave him some comments about remaining safe behind cover. The stranger was later found out to be General George Washington himself!

The story is primarily about the foot soldier living in the field and the boredom days while not engaged with the enemy. There is plenty of room to understand how tough the times were for young soldiers being under fed, under clothed, under paid and the hardships they met while in the service of their country.

One interesting sidelight – Patriot Martin's narrative goes into 1883, well beyond what most people think was the actual end of the war. The story was first published in 1830.

Four Tricorns



Signet Classics; Reprint edition (September 1, 2001) Softcover : 272 pages ISBN-10 : 0451528115
ISBN-13 : 978-0451528117

Patriots of the American Revolution By Richard M. Dorson

This is a collection of first person events of Patriots who served in the American Revolution. True accounts by great Americans from Ethan Allen to George Rogers Clark are included.

Stories are told by those serving at the start of the Revolution, some while serving as prisoners of war, some Loyalists, some while serving in the Navy. Of particular interest are three stories of individuals who participated in the crucial winter of 1777-1778. Little known stories about the war in the West are included. Even a story about an individual taken prisoner and shipped to England who did not make it back to the United States for forty years holds the readers attention.

Recollections of prisoners in the infamous *Jersey prison ship*, stories about the battle between the *Serapis* and *Bonhomme Richard* make this interesting reading.

Two Tricorns



Publisher : Gramercy; First Edition (December 15, 1998)
Hardcover : 352 pages
ISBN-10 : 0517202743
ISBN-13 : 978-0517202746

George Thurmond



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.

Were any Jacobites involved in the American Revolution?

Yes. There were a number of persons active in the Jacobite movement in Scotland who were also active in colonial America. However, most among them were quite elderly by the time of the revolution.

There were a lot of Scots and Scots-Irish in colonial America and it is not always possible to separate them. Moreover, the Scots were caught between the concepts of Jacobitism (*Divine Right of Kings*) and independence (*no king at all*). I guess it might be based on whether you felt you and your family had been slighted or bless by the association. Some on the side of a monarchy by mutually opposite and unacceptable royal families (Stuart vs. Hanover). There were Scots who supported King George III and those who opposed George of Hanover (and supported the revolution) because he was not a Stuart.

Historian Kevin Phillips in "*The Cousins Wars*" goes into great detail on Scottish allegiance, and he seems to suggest that there was a correlation between Scots whose ancestral origins came from pro-Jacobite and pro-Cavalier areas of the British isles (e.g. Ireland outside of Ulster, the Scottish Highlands, Northern England) being pro-Loyalist and those from anti-Jacobite, pro-Roundhead areas (East Anglia, Midlands and parts of the West Country) being pro-American. The ultimate "family feuds".

American Patriots did not look kindly on the Jacobite cause, even going to far as to compare Parliament's acts to Jacobitism, while the Scottish Highlander communities in North Carolina tended to support the Loyalists.

Hugh Mercer was an assistant surgeon in the Jacobite army at Culloden in 1746. Hugh was born in Aberdeenshire and served with the Jacobite's before fleeing to America in 1747. Mercer fled Scotland for America after months in hiding. Several of the Virginia officers serving in provincial forces in the French and Indian War may have been fugitives from that rebellion (Wm. Polson, James Craik, Adam Stevens, and Peter Hogg).

Some, like William Polson remained in the British army during the American Revolution but did not see action in North America, while Dr. James Craik joined the American army in 1777 when his old friend Washington offered him a position as a medical officer. He eventually rose to the position of Chief Hospital Physician and Surgeon of the American army.

Adam Stevens was a Scottish-born doctor and military officer. He came to North America, where he served in the Virginia colonial militia under George Washington during the French and Indian War, and again in the American Revolutionary War, rising to lead a division of the Continental Army.

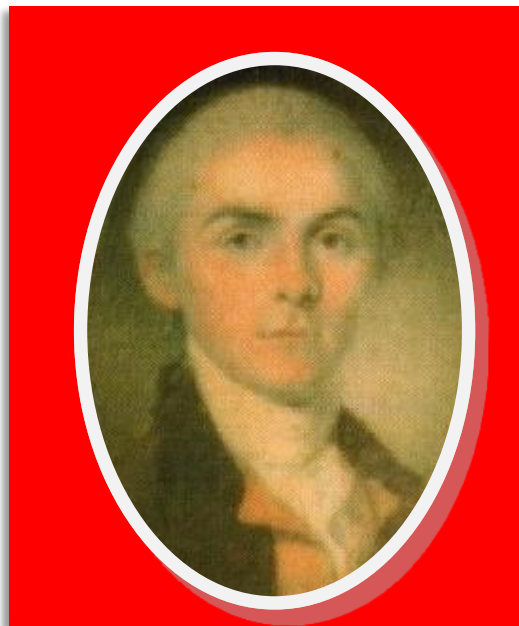
Peter Hogg (Hog) — Captain Peter Hog (so spelled in his will) came to America with his brothers, James and Thomas, about 1745, and located in Augusta county, Virginia. He was something of a mentor to Washington, who corresponded with him. If Peter Hog was born in Scotland in 1703, as has often been stated, he was older by nearly 30 years than George, as were most of his fellow officers in the Virginia Regiment. He practiced law from 1760 to 1782.

People of Scottish descent also made up a significant proportion of the early American population and the soldiers who chose the Revolution. Notable naval captain John Paul Jones, Declaration signers James Wilson and John Witherspoon were all born in Scotland. So yes, there were, but no, for the most part, they did not play a part greater than any other individual from merry old England, or Scotland, or Ireland, or any other country's whose people came to the New World, faced their destiny, and chose a side.

Did Scots wear kilts on American soil during the American Revolution?

According to the Museum of the American Revolution, yes, some did. Forming a large portion of Britain's armies by the 1760s, Highland soldiers served in the French & Indian War and the Revolutionary War, wearing Scottish uniforms of kilts, hose, bonnets, etc. Not very comfortable running through the woodlands and amongst briars and brambles, so I imagine the choice was one of location of battle, ceremony, or other consideration. I am sure that alternate clothing was worn at times.

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
Patriots Day - Frederica Naval Action	Saint Simons Island, GA	Apr 19, 2025 10:00am	National
Commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Lexington	Lexington, Concord, MA	Apr 19, 2025 8:00am	National
Georgia Society BOM	Barnesville, GA	Apr 26, 2025 10:00am	State
Midway Church Service & Grave Marking (5)	Midway Cemetery Midway, GA	Apr 27, 2025 8:00am	State
Battle of the Waxhaws (Buford's Massacre)	Buford Battleground 262 Rocky River Rd, Lancaster, SC	May 24, 2025 - 12:00 pm	National
Memorial Day Wknd	Various	May 24 - 26, 2025	National
Memorial Day Oconee Veterans Park	Watkinsville, GA	May 26, 2025	National
NSDAR – Chestatee River Chapter – America 250 Commemorative Marker Dedication	Cumming City Center at Lou Sobh Amphitheater, Cumming, GA	Jun 9, 2025 11:30 am	State
Flag Day - Flag Retirement Ceremony	Ingram Funeral Home Cumming, GA	Jun 14, 2025 10:00am	National
Flag Day	Various	Jun 14, 2025	National
Battle of Alligator Creek Bridge	Jacksonville, FL	Jun 28, 2025 8:00 am	National
Independence Day	Various	Jul 4, 2025	National
135th National Congress	Uncasville, CT	Jul 12 - 18, 2025	National
Georgia Society BOM	Barnesville, GA	Jul 26, 2025 10:00am	State

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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. 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 Jun 20, 2025. 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@weeegr.com



Don and Donna Loudermilk represented the Robert Forsyth Chapter as Ambassadors welcoming the Marquis de Lafayette back to Georgia in March.