



# Captain John Collins Chapter Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

## The Collins Dispatch

December 2007

### Dates to Remember

**Meetings—Spaghetti Warehouse, Delk Rd, East of I-75**

#### Chapter Meeting

Tuesday 12/18 6:15PM for Dinner & 7PM meeting start

#### Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 15 6:30 pm  
Marietta Conference Center

#### Cowpens

January 19th Annual Commemoration of the Battle

**See inside for list of other activities** in State and around the South you can do

### Inside...

Annual Dinner Mtg	1
New Member News	2
President's Message	2
Officer Listing	2
Signer Hopkinson	3
Veterans Remembered	3
Report from the President General	4
Action Opportunities	5
By Laws Amendment	5
Officer Nominees	7
Flag Retirement	7
Meeting Speakers	8

## Time for Our Annual Meeting!

This year, the Chapter will meet at the **Marietta Conference Center** the third Tuesday, January 15 at 6:30PM for our annual Meeting. Come help us celebrate our successful seventh year with recognition for those who helped make 2007 a good year.

Our 2008 officer installation will also take place after a vote on a By-Law Change, and our banquet speaker, Dr. Joseph H. Kitchens, Executive Director of the Funk Heritage Center. His topic will be "The Scots-Irish Influence in Georgia".

Please send in the attached registration form as soon as possible so we can reserve the proper space.

2008 will be a year with lots of officer changes and new faces. The meeting programs are now lined up for the next four meetings as well.

Our December family gathering will feature some of our musically talented folks who will entertain us while we socialize. See one of these compatriots featured inside for a hint of what we have in store.

Our January meeting is, of course at the Marietta Conference Center, and features Dr. Kitchens as indicated. Our February meeting will return to our usual location, the Spaghetti Warehouse, and will feature Jim Lance, a member of the Cherokee Chapter whose topic will be "The Great Locomotive Chase". The March 18 2008 meeting speaker, Vince Exley "The Story of the



*Chapter members gathered outside the Funk Heritage Museum on a bright Fall morning. Left to right, David and Patricia Thompson and their son, Don Huie, Karin Guzy, Jim Castle, Margie and Charles Switzer, Bill and Karen Coffeen, Addie and John Jones and their daughter.*

## President's Message

My final installment.

Another year has flown by and this will be my last message as President. This has been a successful year, not due to me, but due to our many members who get involved in our various programs. The future looks bright for next year. We will have a new slate of officers with several familiar faces in new positions.

Our Annual Banquet is next month. We will have Dr. Joseph Kitchens, the Executive Director of the Funk Heritage Center, as our speaker. This will be our first ban-



quet at the Marietta Conference Center and I am excited about both our speaker and banquet location. Please make your plans to be there.

Finally, I would like to thank all our members who made this such an enjoyable and memorable year for me. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

David O. Thompson  
President

## Officers and Committee Chairmen

President	David Thompson
Vice President	Rodney Pritchett
Secretary	Larry Guzy
Treasurer	Skip Keaton
Registrar	Larry Guzy
Chancellor	Jack Gibson
Chaplain	John Jones
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	David Martin
Editor	Larry Guzy
Americanism	Charles Switzer
Cemetery	David Thompson
Dinner meetings	Bill Coffeen
Flags/Law/Fire	Curtis McWaters
Eagle Scouts	Bill Coffeen
JROTC & Veterans	Curtis McWaters
Membership	Larry Guzy
Patriot Grave	Brad Jones
Publicity/phone	David Thompson
Schools	Rodney Pritchett

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. **February 4th** will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Larry Guzy by email [lg\\_adjservices@mindspring.com](mailto:lg_adjservices@mindspring.com), or regular mail at 4531 Paper Mill Rd. Marietta, GA 30067-4025.

*If you have new member leads, contact Registrar Larry Guzy.*

With the following, you can see that we are already working on membership for many. The following are to note:  
Applications pending:

John Jones's supplement; Earl Cagle's and Ken Farris's original already submitted; and David Meyer's and Jamie Moore's just completed new applications. (4)

Others in the works:

Robert Adams, Ken Donaldson, Edward Gill, Bob Haley, Gary Hardy, Bill Hauk, Don Huie, and Dennis Rebman (8)

## Collins Member News

Our Renewals have gone well. We should have all but 16 (total of 57) renewed by the December Chapter Meeting. We started the year with about 63 after transferring 10 to the newly formed Sons of Liberty Chapter. We generated new members and transfers and ended the year with 73, a gain of 10. We have several men with applications in progress and one reinstatement. With renewals, we get a chance to catch up on what is happening.

Here are a few items:

Ken Cutshaw, attorney, went to work for Church's Chicken (no attorney joke here—Corporate, not one of the drive-thrus!) His son, Kenneth Andrew, Jr., Drew, is working on his Eagle Scout Project.

Peter Lyon, our Charter member and original Directory Editor, has had his position eliminated with his company and with potential relocation may be leaving us.

Jason Bretch is still pursuing the Navy as a potential career.

Spencer Talley, our resident Veterinarian, usually has Tuesdays booked with his practice, Pet Vet Clinic in Cartersville, but hopes to make one of our meetings in the near future.

Glenn Harris, retired, but with an industrial engineering degree, is working as a restaurant consultant now; and everyone knows they work every evening.

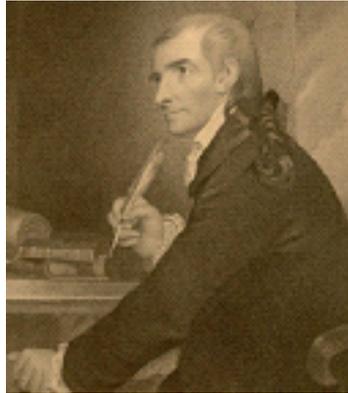
James Bergeson, is reinstating his membership in the Chapter. We first asked about reinstatement during our Charter process, so it just goes to prove that no effort, no matter how small, may sow seeds that someday mature. Welcome James!

# Signers of the Declaration of Independence

## Francis Hopkinson

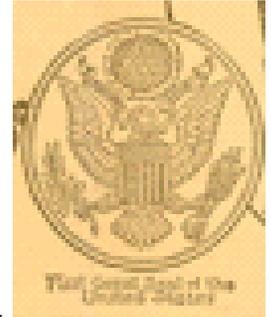
by Ken Farris

*A Patriot, Poet and  
Political Pamphleteer*



Seal of the United States that is now impressed upon the reverse of the United States one-dollar bill.

Hopkinson died, while serving as a federal judge, in Philadelphia at the age of 53 from a sudden epileptic seizure and was buried in Christ Church Burial Ground in Philadelphia. His son, Joseph Hopkinson, also served as a member of the United States House



of Representatives and a Federal judge.

Francis Hopkinson was one of *America's Founding Fathers* and a great American patriot.

Sources:

Wikipedia

<http://www.infoplease.com/biography/us/congress/hopkinson-francis.html>

<http://www.usflag.org/history/francishopkinson.html> [ushistory.org/declaration/signers/rush](http://ushistory.org/declaration/signers/rush)

Francis Hopkinson was a man of extraordinary talents and a loyal patriot during the American Revolution. He was born at Philadelphia in 1737, the son of Thomas Hopkinson, and became a member of the first class at the College of Philadelphia (now University of Pennsylvania) in 1751, graduated in 1757, and earned a masters degree in 1760. He entered the legal profession working for Pennsylvania attorney general Benjamin Chew and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in 1761.

Francis married Ann Borden on Sept. 1, 1768 and they had five children. He and his family moved to Bordentown, NJ in 1774, he became an assemblyman for the state's Royal Provincial Council, was admitted to the New Jersey bar on May 8, 1775 and represented New Jersey in the Continental Congress from June 22 to Nov. 30, 1776 where he signed the Declaration of Independence.

As part of the fledgling nation's government, he served on the Navy Board at Philadelphia in 1777; was treasurer of the Continental Loan Office in 1778; was appointed judge of the Admiralty Court of Pennsylvania in 1779 and reappointed in 1780 and 1787; helped ratify the Constitution during the constitutional convention in 1787; and was a judge in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania 1789-1791.

Throughout his political career Hopkinson wrote poetry and satire on the politically derisive issues of the day. He penned a popular and humorous work on the 1787 Constitutional Convention. He was also an accomplished harpsichordist and composer.

He almost certainly was the person who designed the first American flag, with seven red and six white stripes and featuring six pointed stars arranged in rows on a blue field.



He also provided assistance to the committee that designed the Great



Veterans Chairman **Curtis McWaters** took the following donations to the Veterans Hospital just before Thanksgiving. Your donations do go to a good cause. Anyone interested in giving Curtis a helping hand next time call him.

210 magazines

45 paperback books

237 toiletries

1 lap blanket

# New Headquarters Report from the President General

## Proposed Headquarters Move

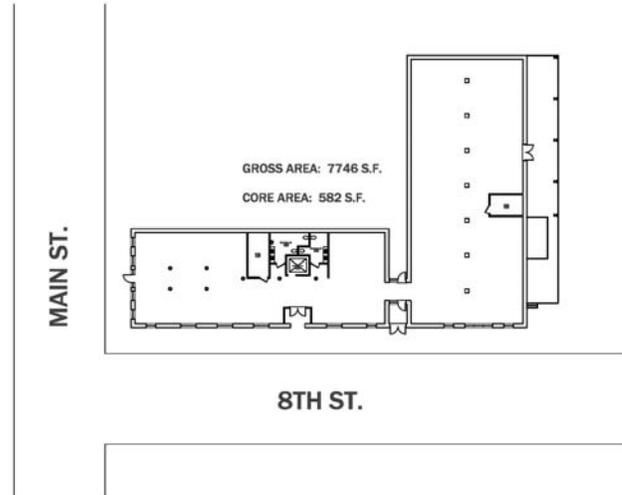
### A Report of Status and Recommendation for Action

From: The President General

To: All NSSAR members

Date: November 26, 2007

1. **Introduction.** At the Fall Leadership Meeting I reported to the Trustees that an opportunity has been presented to the SAR to purchase a building in a downtown urban renewal district and move the Sons of the American Revolution, the Center for Advancing America's Heritage, including our library, museum, and merchandise operation to that location. To accomplish that, we would need to sell our existing building and the adjacent property that we now own. The Trustees voted to authorize an investigation of the proposal and make a recommendation for action at the Spring Leadership/Trustees Meeting. This is a report of progress of the investigation at this date and a preliminary recommendation. A final recommendation will be made to the Trustees in February as authorized and will include consideration of additional information collected in the next two months.



2. **Why Should We Move?** We have been raising funds to support a new facility for an expanded library, museum, and expanded outreach education operations in addition to our existing headquarters for nearly ten years. As of this date we are still several years away from reaching our funding goal necessary to start construction. The proposed purchase would allow us to move in the near future into a facility with space equivalent to our previously planned facilities in a location near other museums. This would allow us to take advantage of significant tourist and school traffic that is already visiting these other museums. The building purchase would qualify us for approximately \$750,000 in tax credits that would convert to cash to help fund the build-out of the new building. In addition, because our move would be in support of city, state, and federal goals for urban renewal and educational support, we would strengthen our case to receive additional funding support from those agencies of government. Also, immediate action to support education would become more attractive to potential funding from both individuals, corporations and interested foundations than the promises we have offered up to now. This move should stimulate foundation support for outreach education activities that would apply throughout the nation.

**The Proposed Building.** The building proposed for our new headquarters is located at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets in the "museum district" of Louisville, KY. Other museums within one block include the Louisville Slugger Museum, the Frazier International History Museum, the Louisville Science Museum, The Muhammad Ali Center Museum, Glassworks, and the Kentucky Art and Craft Gallery. Several other galleries are all within a two-three block radius. In the near future a 62 story building housing a Contemporary Art Museum, the Masters of Fine Arts of the University of Louisville, an office complex, Westin Hotel and Conference Center and high end condos will be built between our location and the river. Clearly this is the up and coming section of downtown Louisville.

1 Our proposed building is a five story brick corner building circa late 1890s. It is located in a Historic District but it is not designated as a Historic Building. Total area is 39,327 square feet plus a basement of 7,559 square feet. The building was completely updated in 1990 including a new large elevator, new exterior fire stairs, new mechanicals, new restrooms, sprinklers, and electrical service. A new roof was recently completed. A preliminary building analysis conducted by A. L. Post, Inc, a construction, planning and engineering firm in Louisville, not affiliated with the building owners, concluded that "Generally, this structure has been well maintained and it is feasible for a new user to occupy the building with minimal improvements. However, an owner that is willing to expend the time, cost, and effort into a complete restoration and modernization of the building and its systems will create a monumental facility in an area of the City of Louisville that is being transformed with new developments." The complete report by A. L. Post, Inc is included as Appendix A.

4. **Alternate Locations.** A thorough search is in process of alternate Museum District and Entertainment District locations on Main Street with the same advantages as the location under consideration. As of press time there is only one identifiable building and an investigation as to its suitability is underway, the results of which will be shared as they become available.

5. **Timeline for Actions.** The following subparagraphs outline the actions and progress necessary to make this move.

(Continued on page 6)

**At our Annual Meeting, we will vote on the following amendment which was presented to the membership.**

**By-Laws Amendment Proposed**

The Chapter Chancellor, Jack Gibson, has proposed that the By-Laws be revised to simplify our Annual Meeting. This had been the only place that the By-Laws could be changed. The proposal does away with these changes at the Annual Meeting and allows them at other regular meetings with the proper notification. The BOM has endorsed the change. It will be published again in the December Dispatch and voted on at the Annual Meeting in January. The proposal is as follows:

**ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS**

(Proposed changes to the text to get Constitution /Bylaws business out of the Annual Meeting and into any Regular Meeting. Changes proposed are in **RED** to highlight them. Underlined for those receiving the *DISPATCH* in black and white.)

This Combined Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Regular Members present, or by proxy, and voting at any **Regular** Meeting of the Chapter, provided that the proposed amendment or amendments have been submitted in writing to the BOM, and at a regular meeting at least forty-five days prior to the **vote**. The BOM shall make its report recommending approval or disapproval of the proposed amendment (s) at the **Regular** Meeting where the vote is to be taken. The President shall cause notice of any proposed amendment to be delivered to all Chapter Members, at least thirty days prior to the **vote**.

Vote Early. Vote Often!



*The remarkable Sellers Tool Collection covered walls and walls of display space at the Funk Heritage Museum, site of the chapter's Fall Outing. Each group of related tools are mounted on their own panel.*

**Fall Outing 2007**

**GENEALOGY: MORE THAN A LIST OF NAMES**

As we move through life, we literally move often. Think about all the times you left one place you called home to go to another. Didn't you feel a little out of place when you arrived?

Genealogy is about Belonging.

It's about finding a way to talk to others.

It's about a sense of ownership.

**Opportunities to Participate**

You may not know it, but there are many things happening in which you can participate. Nearly every weekend starting in January, there is either a grave marking, celebration of a Battle, or some other event where the Color Guard participates.

The following is a current list of such activities. Mark your calendar for these events, especially the Cowpens ones in January. It gives you a sense of what cold was really like for our ancestors who had to walk to the battles much less participate in them in conditions at which we would cringe:

- 19 Jan – Daniel Morgan Statue, Spartanburg, SC, 10:30AM
- 19 Jan – Cowpens, Chesnee, SC, 2PM
- 26 Jan – Board of Managers, Forsyth, GA, 10AM
- 9 Feb – Kettle Creek Parade, Washington, GA, 10AM
- 9 Feb – Kettle Creek Monument, Washington, GA, 2PM
- 10 Feb – Colonial Church Service, Washington, GA, 9AM
- 10 Feb – Elijah Clark State Park Ceremony, Lincoln, GA, 11AM
- 23 Feb – Medal of Honor Ceremony, Cornelia, GA
- 1 Mar – Leadership Training, Forsyth, GA, 10AM
- Mar – 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Last Naval Battle of Rev War, Cape Canaveral, FL, 10AM
- 15 Mar – Guilford Courthouse, Greensboro, NC, 11AM
- 29 Mar – Lumsden Grave Marking, Shady Dale, GA, 10AM
- 4-5 Apr – Georgia Society Annual Meeting, Athens, GA
- 12 Apr – Halifax Day, Halifax, NC, 2PM
- 19 Apr – Patriot's Day, St. Simons, GA 10AM

These events are all opportunities to meet new friends who share your love of history and patriotism.

(Continued from page 4)

**a. Due Diligence.** A maximum of information about every aspect of the proposed purchase and build-out is required to minimize risk of failure to meet our requirements and expectations for this project at reasonable cost. An initial assessment has been conducted as previously described. Based on that assessment the projected build-out cost was estimated by the Louis and Henry Group to be \$2,767,437 including construction and architectural and engineering fees. A more refined cost projection can only be achieved after some initial architectural design work has been conducted. Funding for that purpose as well as selected studies that are deemed of critical importance will be considered by the Foundation for approval.

**b. Sale of SAR property.** The first step in the process is the sale of the current SAR headquarters and adjacent property. Investigation has revealed that two adjacent institutions have expressed interest in the purchase of our property. Furthermore, one of them has tentatively agreed that if we were to sell it to them they would be agreeable to buying the property and leasing the building back to us long enough for us to build out the building we purchase prior to occupancy. Both prospective buyers have been requested to consider a lease back option on the current headquarters building so as to give time to ensure only one move is necessary. Since we have two motivated buyers we anticipate saving the cost of a realtor and sell directly to the highest bidder.

**c. Purchase of the new building.** Louis and Henry has offered us the property at 8<sup>th</sup> and Main, called the Kentucky Opera Building, for a fixed price of \$2.65M. For a nonrefundable deposit of \$30K they will hold it for us until March 31, 2008. The deposit would apply to the purchase price if we buy the building. Since no alternative building may be available for our purposes it is essential that we make this deposit to ensure that our building is available to us when we have Trustee approval of the purchase. Therefore I have asked the Foundation to fund this risk abatement action pending further negotiations with Louis & Henry, review of viable alternatives and based on the assumption that the Trustees will approve the project.

**d. Contracting for the build-out.** We propose to engage Louis and Henry as architects for this project. They know most about the building and can provide initial design plans which will be the basis for an initial estimate of construction costs and will support competition for the Construction Management Task. As soon as we obtain the initial design we propose to select a Construction Manager from invited bidders for that job. After Trustee approval we will fund completion of the build-out design. When the design is complete, bids will be taken from required trades for subcontracts (construction, masonry, windows, roof, HVAC, electrical, miscellaneous studies) and the low responsive bidder for each element of the job will be selected. The Construction Manager will then be directed to include subcontracts from the selected subcontractors based on low cost. This allows us to minimize total cost of the job. With Trustee approval we can then sign a contract with the selected Construction Manager and select subcontractors allowing us to obtain a more refined cost of the job. Construction can begin as soon as we have finalized sale of our property and purchase of the new building.

**e. Tax Credits.** Louis and Henry, in their proposal, estimated tax credits available to us with our proposed project as follows: Federal Credits \$536,883, State Historic Credits \$138,372, State Sales Tax \$50,000 for a total of \$725,255. In addition, a new market tax credit is expected to be available. These credits equate to cash available to us to fund build-out. We have been assured by other informed professionals in the Louisville area that these estimates are reasonable. Competent assistance in filing for these credits has been personally promised by the Mayor of Louisville.

**f. Project Management.** I propose to continue to be the project manager for this project through the remainder of my term as President General and on to completion if requested by my successor. I have the advantage of being in a leadership role in both the Foundation and Executive Committee until the end of my term and probably to serve as a member of both bodies during the next year. My qualifications include a graduate degree in Aeronautical Engineering and 31 years of experience in major government acquisition programs including airplanes, submarines, missiles, and sensor systems working both within and in support of various government commands within the Defense Department. I have no prior relationship with or financial interest in any contractor in Louisville who might seek to participate in this project. I have no other demands on my time nor do I seek any financial compensation for this work.

**Summary.** This is a report of planning and progress as of November 26, 2007. There may be further developments that would change either the planning or recommendations of this report. A thorough review of planning and progress will be presented at the Spring Leadership/Trustees Meeting in February. For us to proceed we need a 3/4 vote of the Trustees. This is an opportunity for the Society to achieve our goals that have been developed and dreamed about over the past 10 years. I urge you to express your support of this proposal to your Trustee.

**Building Analysis by A. L. Post, Inc**  
**101 South Main Street, Louisville, KY**

**November 12, 2007**

On October 17, a visual inspection was conducted on various building systems and assemblies that established the following findings:

**Building Configuration**

The building is a five level structure with an additional basement level. The first floor is 7,746 square feet and the upper floors are 8,026 square feet each. The total building area is 39,850 square feet excluding the basement level. Approximately 582 square feet per floor are dedicated to core areas that include elevator shaft, restrooms and stairwells. The usable floor area after these spaces are deducted from the overall plans is 36,940 square feet excluding the basement and canopy.

## New Officers Proposed

The Nominating Committee, chaired by **Bill Coffeen**, proposes the following slate of Officers for 2008. The nominations will be open at the December Meeting for anyone who wishes to add their name. Thereafter, a vote will be taken with installation at the Annual Meeting in January. The nominees are:

President Stuart (Skip) Keaton

Vice President David Martin

Secretary James (Jim) Waide

Treasurer L. Charles Covington

Sergeant-at-Arms Rodney Pritchett

Registrar William (Bill) Teasley

Chancellor John (Jack) Gibson

Chaplain John Jones

Historian William (Bill) Coffeen

Editor Larry Guzy

Vote early and often!

## A Tough Job

Member Harry Hagan had a great job playing trombone aboard a cruise ship recently and reported on his adventure.

"We had the best rooms, the food was beyond belief, the weather tied for the best in all

history, and the band was super, as was the reception. The ship is huge and opulent. Crystal has been voted "best" 12 years running. There was always something to do, such as concerts, lectures, games, puzzles, food, paddle tennis, computers, and so on. Or you could just chill. We stopped at Ponta Delgada, Port. Azores, and



*Ponta Delgada, the town square, cathedral*

## Flag Retirement



Jim Castle, Larry Guzy and Bill Coffeen joined Boy Scouts from Troop XXXX for a flag retirement ceremony on a chilly, breezy autumn day in Kennesaw. Also present were President David Thompson, Americanism Chairman Charles Switzer, and wives of members. Troop leader \_\_\_\_\_ read the years in which each state entered the union, as scouts delivered the 50 stars individually to the flames.

Hamilton, Bermuda, UK. It was a dream vacation, and we got paid for it! I would do it again with utter alacrity!"

Harry's only complaint, "It would have been even better, of course, if Mary could have gone. I guess that's why I got paid." Ask Harry about the rest of the adventure.

**CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER  
GEORGIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Publisher: David Thompson  
2610 Zachary Court  
Canton, GA 30115

Editor: Larry T. Guzy  
4531 Paper Mill Rd.  
Marietta, GA 30067-4025

Telephone: 678-860-4477  
Email: lg\_adjservices@mindspring.com



**Chapter Website** <http://www.captainjohncollins.org>

Don't forget, if you go to an historical celebratory event, make a donation of money, items, or self to a veteran's charity, or even solicit a potential new member, please send a note to an officer or let us know at the next meeting.



At the November chapter meeting we heard about the adventures of **Mark Bowen** as he marched the route of the Over Mountain Men. He has made the trip several times, taking a different portion of the march each time.

We were also fortunate to have **Grady Pritchett** join us, recently returned from Iraq. Grady was introduced by his proud father, member **Rodney Pritchett**.

