



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

# The Collins Dispatch

February 2007

## Dates to Remember

Chapter Meeting  
Tuesday February 20  
6:15PM dinner, 7PM start

NSSAR Leadership Meeting,  
Headquarters in Louisville,  
KY Feb 22-24

Saturday March 3 GASSAR  
Annual Training Meeting  
10AM Forsyth, GA Holiday  
Inn

Chapter Meeting  
Tuesday March 20  
6:15PM dinner, 7PM start

March 30-31  
GASSAR Annual Meeting  
Athens, GA

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## Collins Installs New Officers

Georgia State Society President George Wheelis installed the new slate of officers for the John Collins Chapter at the annual banquet, January 16th.

David Thompson takes the gavel as president for the new year and will be assisted by Vice President Rodney Pritchett. Other new officers include Larry Guzy, secretary; Skip Keaton, treasurer; and Jack Gibson, chancellor. John Jones continues as chaplain and David Martin steps in as historian.

Members and guests enjoyed a banquet at the Cheatham Hill Community Center, where previous annual dinners have taken place.

Speaker for the event was Dr. Tom Scott, a well known local historian who discussed the disagreements in the small population of Georgians present at the time of the Revolution. Loyalties were split between those who thought they required the protections from England in ongoing Indian wars and those who wanted to pursue the patriot cause.

Officers and the new president were installed after the speaker.

President Thompson expressed his desire for the chapter to pursue and enhance their involvement with youth during his term of office.



*David Thompson, the new president.*



*GASSAR President George Wheelis*



*Outgoing President Jim Castle received a Certificate of Appreciation and Past President's neck ribbon and medal from his successor David Thompson.*

# President's Message

A new year has begun. We all look forward to building on last year's successes to make 2007 another banner year for the Captain John Collins Chapter

This year, I would like to challenge our members to become involved in or attend one activity or program they have not previously been involved with. Our Patriotism Presentations, JROTC awards, and Old Allatoona Cemetery clean up are only three of the many programs in which the Captain John Collins Chapter is involved.

There are historic observances as well as projects dealing with veterans, active military, scouts,

and elementary through high school.

We all have different capabilities, interests, and time available for service.

Look closely and find a new activity that fits in with your interests and time constraints. The extra time and effort spent will be well worth the feeling of satisfaction that comes from being involved.

- David Thompson



(Ed. note: In addition to his new responsibilities as President, David is also taking over chairmanship of the Old Allatoona Cemetery project.)

## 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	
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. **April 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.*

## Collins Member News

The National Headquarters has had some personnel losses and as a result has gotten behind in the genealogy review and certificate issuance. They are making up for lost time, but are still behind.

The following are approved, submitted, or working on applications:

Bill Coffeen, National number 168416 approved 1/12, waiting for certificate.

Charles Covington, approved 1/31, awaiting number and certificate.

James Waide, approved 2/8/07, awaiting number and certificate

Randy Aitken application at National 1/10; and Charles Rhyne submitted 2/13; Robert and John Boushell, submitted.

Seven men are working on their applications: Jason Bretch, William Hauk, Edward Gill, Fred Buford, and Robert Adams.

At least five others are just starting their work, thus the Chapter has a number of new potential members in the works.





Collins Annual Banquet  
January 16, 2007



*Dr. Tom Scott*



The Collins Annual Meeting was attended by about 42 individuals. They were treated to a great presentation about the Debate in Georgia on the Revolution by Kennesaw State University Professor Dr. Tom Scott, PhD. Dr. Scott's knowledge about Georgia is formidable whether it is about local history or about Colonial time. If you missed it, you might be able to read about some of it in his book "Cornerstones of Georgia History".

The highlight of the Annual Meeting is the Change of Command. The new leadership is:

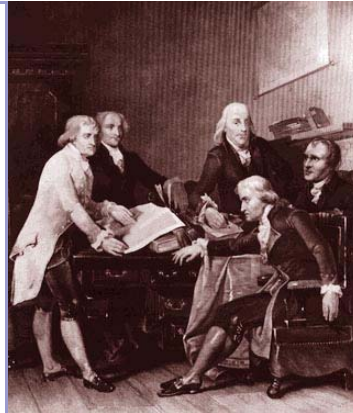
- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| David Thompson   | President      |
| Rodney Pritchett | Vice President |
| Larry Guzy       | Secretary      |
| Skip Keaton      | Treasurer      |
| John Jones       | Chaplain       |
| David Martin     | Historian      |
| Larry Guzy       | Registrar      |
| Jack Gibson      | Chancellor     |
| Larry Guzy       | Editor         |

Please note the chairmanship of other committees as shown on page 2. Note also that the request to amend the By-Laws to allow Chairmen a vote on the Board of Managers was defeated.

# Signers of the Declaration of Independence

## NAME/STATE/ORDER OF SIGNATURE ON DOCUMENT

1	John Hancock (MA)	<u>NEW JERSEY 5</u>
	<u>NEW HAMPSHIRE 3</u>	27 Richard Stockton
2	Josiah Bartlett	28 John Witherspoon
3	William Whipple	29 Frances Hopkinson
4	Matthew Thornton	30 John Hart
	<u>MASSACHUSETTS BAY 5</u>	31 Abraham Clark
5	Samuel Adams	<u>RHODE ISLAND 2</u>
6	John Adams	32 Stephen Hopkins
7	Robert Treat Paine	33 William Ellery
8	Elbrige Gerry	<u>CONNECTICUT 4</u>
	<u>DELAWARE 3</u>	34 Roger Sherman
9	Ceasar Rodney	35 Samuel Huntington
10	George Read	36 William Williams
11	Thomas M'Kean	37 Oliver Wolcott
	<u>MARYLAND 4</u>	<u>GEORGIA 3</u>
12	Samuel Chase	38 Button Gwinnett
13	William Paca	39 Lyman Hall
14	Thomas Stone	40 George Walton
15	Charles Carroll of Carrollton	<u>PENNSYLVANIA 9</u>
	<u>NEW YORK 4</u>	41 Robert Morris
16	William Floyd	42 Benjamin Rush
17	Philip Livingston	43 Benjain Franklin
18	Frances Lewis	44 John Morton
19	Lewis Morris	45 George Clymer
	<u>NORTH CAROLINA 3</u>	46 James Smith
20	William Hooper	47 George Taylor
21	Joseph Hewes	48 James Wilson
22	John Penn	49 George Ross
	<u>SOUTH CAROLINA 4</u>	<u>VIRGINIA 7</u>
23	Edward Rutledge	50 George Wythe
24	Thomas Heyward, Jr.	51 Richard Henry Lee
25	Thomas Lynch, Jr.	52 Thomas Jefferson
26	<b>Arthur Middleton</b>	53 Benjamin Harrison
		54 Thomas Nelson, Jr.
		55 Francis Lightfoot Lee
		56 Carter Braxton



We seem to take one of the most important documents of our country for granted. Without the personal risk 56 individuals took in approving and signing the Declaration of Independence, we arguably would not be the Country we are today. Fol-

lowing issues of the *Collins Dispatch* will discuss various aspects of the Declaration as well as profiles of those men who signed it.

We will open the profiles with that of a native son of South Carolina, **Arthur Middleton**.



Arthur Middleton was born June 26, 1742 at Middleton Place on the Ashley River. This river is the southern river that merges in Charleston to help form Charleston Bay. His parents were Henry Middleton and Mary Williams. At the age of twelve, he was sent to England for his schooling and was educated at Hackney; Westminster School; St. John's College in Cambridge; and Middle Temple. Nine years later, in December 1763 at the age of twenty one, he returned to South Carolina. He was home for less than five years before he sailed for Europe again. Because he was in Europe for a time during the run up to the Revolution, he played little part in the crucial events leading up to the Revolution.

The Parishes of St. James Goose Creek as well as St. Helena elected him to the 1765-1768 Twenty-seventh Royal Assembly. He chose to represent St. Helena. By the time he turned thirty, he had served in many positions even though he was in Europe from late 1768 to 1771.

These positions included: Justice of the Peace for Berkley County 1767-1769, Commissioner to cut a canal through Charles Town in 1768, Member of the Charles Town Library 1765-1787.

With the onset of the Revolution, he was elected to various assemblies and Councils of Safety from 1775-1776. He helped draft the State's first Constitution and designed the reverse of the State Seal. He was an early advocate of a complete break with Great Britain. On February 24, 1776 he was elected to the Continental Congress where he supported the Declaration and signed it on behalf of South Carolina (one of four).

When Charleston fell in 1780, Middleton was taken prisoner and exiled to St. Augustine, Florida. He was exchanged in July 1781 and immediately was sent as a delegate to the Continental Congress of 1781-1783. During the War, he incurred many losses including the theft of 200 slaves, however his family fortune was so vast that he was able to continue to live in the style he always knew. He was elected to and served in many positions from 1783 to 1787. He died on January 1, 1787 at the age of 44. His remains are in the family mausoleum at Middleton Place.



## Annual Meeting Awards

In conjunction with our Annual Meeting, we present awards to those who honored us with donation of their time and expertise during the year. The following are those who received recognition:



Skip Keaton	Bronze Good Citizenship Medal
Charles Switzer	Meritorious Service Medal
Jim Castle	Past Presidents Pin, Member badge and Neck Ribbon
Karin Guzy	Certificate of Appreciation for Dispatch Layout
Skip Keaton	Certificate of Appreciation for work as Treasurer
David Thompson	Certificate of Appreciation for serving as Vice President
Rodney Pritchett	Certificate of Appreciation for being our Sergeant at Arms
John Jones	Certificate of Appreciation for being our Chaplain
Kendall Abbott	Certificate of Appreciation for cemetery and Patriotism Week
Tony Toth	Certificate of Appreciation for Web Site development
Larry Guzy	Certificate of Appreciation for being the Dispatch Editor
Joe Vancura	Certificate of Appreciation for being our Chancellor

## What does the Chapter do?

When others ask us what we do, sometimes you may have a hard time keeping the list short. Here are the events and people involved in addition to the meetings that the Chapter supported since the last edition of the Dispatch:

Celebration of the Battle at Cowpens 1/13/07: Larry Guzy and Chuck Bragg (NSSAR Genealogist General!)

GASSAR BOM in Forsyth 1/27/07: David Thompson, Curtis McWaters, Larry Guzy, Jim Castle (State Treasurer!) and Kendall Abbott (State Registrar)

Georgia Day Celebration at the Hightower Trail DAR Chapter in Canton 2/3/07: Curtis McWaters, Everett Porter, John Jones, Larry Guzy, and Bill Teasley

Cherokee Chapter Biennial Meeting in Woodstock 2/3/07: David Thompson, Curtis McWaters, Jim Castle, Larry Guzy, and Bill Teasley

Celebration of the Battle of Kettle Creek 2/10/07: David Martin, Everett Porter, and Larry Guzy

Davis Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade presentation on the Revolution in the South 2/12/07: Larry Guzy

Chapter BOM 2/13/07: Attended by 6 of 9 members.

How will you demonstrate your support of the ideals our ancestors fought to gain and protect? Consider presenting one of the seven high schools in Cobb that we support. Contact Curtis McWaters at 770-974-4708.

The JROTC Award season is upon us. Chairman Curtis McWaters will be contacting supporters John Jones, Gilbert James, David Martin, Skip Keaton, Brian Roper, and Dares Wirt to see if they would like to participate personally at the schools. If you would like to take part in these rewarding programs, let Curtis know at 770-974-4708.



*We were honored to have a "Signer of the Declaration of Independence" at our December 19<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting. Founding Cherokee Chapter President Billy Templeton seems made for the part of Ben Franklin. His presentation on the famous Signer was informative and interesting as depicted in the photo.*

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

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**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.  
**Those Americanism points can add up fast!**

## Jamestown Partnership

SAR President General Nathan White recently signed a Letter of Agreement, whereby the National Society SAR and Jamestown 2007 have become partners in the celebration of America's 400th anniversary.

This Letter of Agreement allows the SAR to use the National Partner logo, shown at right. This logo can and should be used on all official SAR publications and letter head from now through June 2008.

The 2007 National SAR Congress in Williamsburg will feature several tours to the Jamestown settlement.

