



The Collins Dispatch

August 2008

Dates to Remember

**Meetings—Spaghetti Warehouse, Delk Rd, East of I-75
6 pm to eat, 7pm meeting**

August 12 Teasley Elementary
8a.m. Flags Presentation

August 17 Patriotism Week
Practice 2 pm

August 19 Chapter Meeting
Earl Cagle, "DNA-ID's-MIA"

August 25-29

Patriotism Week

(see schedule within)

Volunteers Needed

Sept. 20 8:30 a.m. Old Allatoona Cemetery Cleanup

Oct 4 Fall outing to New Echota State Park. Gather at 8 a.m., Chili's parking lot on Barrett Pkwy.

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2009 National SAR Congress

Having just returned from the 118th National Congress held in Sacramento, California, we can reflect on how important the local members were in making it a success. The heart and soul of Congress is the involvement of local SARs and their wives in welcoming compatriots from across the country and the world!



We will be proud to welcome visitors to the beautiful Renaissance Waverly hotel.

The 2009 Congress could not be closer. It will be held from July 3 through 9 at the Renaissance Waverly at Galleria, right here in Cobb County. Voting delegates will be chosen by the state from those who chose to register, on a first come, first served basis. Based on current Georgia membership, 29 delegates may represent GASSAR. Additional members may attend and, in fact, will find this the best possible opportunity to do so.

The cost of registration has not yet been determined. Registration includes participation in all business sessions, the youth

awards luncheon and two banquets, as well as the Memorial Service. Optional tours are also reserved for those who are registered.

Members who do not register could still attend the Host Society Reception, to be held at the

hotel on Saturday, the Fourth of July. All GASSAR members have already contributed to its success. This informal reception is planned to take place from 4-6 pm. Georgia members will be given the opportunity to be matched up with visiting members after the reception to join in a Dutch treat dinner at a restaurant of their mutual choice. One-on-one time with new SAR friends is memorable for the host and the guests.

Another way that local members will interact with visitors is at the registration table, which will be staffed by volun-

(Continued on page 5)

Send your articles and photos to Larry Guzy for inclusion in the next edition of the Collins Dispatch. Write the next Signers of the Declaration profile or profile a fellow chapter member. Have you studied a Rev War battle? Explain it to us.

President's Message

As school starts and Fall just around that corner we have three great opportunities for you to get involved.

We start with the next cemetery clean up. **WE NEED HELP!** It will be on September 20th starting at 9:00am. We need a good turn out because of a large dead Oak that we need to remove. Please come and help out. The Old Allatoona Cemetery is located off of County Line Road near Acworth in north-west Cobb County. See David Thompson for more details.

Next, the Annual Fall Trip will be to New Echota Historic Site. The trip is scheduled for October 4th with everyone meeting in the Chili's parking lot off of Barrett Parkway at 8:00am. We will depart at 8:30am. New Echota is 3.68 miles north of Calhoun, Georgia and south of Resaca, Georgia. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to see a part of history that Georgia has to offer.

Finally, we the Captain John Collins BOM, agreed to supplement



any member's new purchase of a period uniform by paying for the hat that would go with the uniform. **FREE MONEY!** So why do you need a period uniform?

We are having the first, in a series of school presentations, on August 26th at Paulding High School. **PRESENTERS ARE NEEDED!** See Larry Guzy for details.

And a side note, plans are underway for the Annual Dinner in January. David Thompson will be looking into booking the Marietta Conference Center (last years meeting place) for this years meeting. Please plan to attend.

Remember, Perpetuate the Revolution, Maintain the Institutions of American Freedom, and Promote Fellowship.

Stuart "Skip" Wesley Keaton,
President

To learn more about the New Echota Historic Site go to: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Echota

Officers and Committee

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

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. **October 4th** will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Larry Guzy by email lg_adjservices@mindspring.com, or regular mail at 4531 Paper Mill Rd SE, Marietta, GA 30067-4025.

If you have new member leads, contact Registrar Bill Teasley.

Collins Member News



G. David Meyer

G. David Meyer was approved 7.11.08 National #172008 Georgia #4734

Applications are also at National for Robert and Ryan McGehee. Applications are being submitted for Rich Morrison and his father. Dennis Rebman, father of our member Michael Rebman also is submitting his application.

NOTE: Applications approved after 10/31 count toward next years dues

Calling Post

The chapter takes advantage of an automated calling service to remind members of meetings and notify them of important news. If you want your name added or deleted from this list, call or email David Thompson. Sabl356256@aol.com

Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Francis Hopkinson (1737-1791)

Though physically a man of diminutive stature, in accomplishment and acuity, Francis Hopkinson was a giant by anyone's yardstick.

The Age of Enlightenment was not so named without good reason. It produced, and in great number and frequency, men whose likes these days are too seldom seen.

Founding Father and Declaration Signer Francis Hopkinson was born September 21, 1737, in Philadelphia. His father, Thomas, who migrated from England, became fast friends with Benjamin Franklin, through their mutual affinity for science and philosophy.

Thomas Hopkinson died, most unfortunately, in a hunting accident about six months before Francis was born. Most fortunately, however, for Francis, his mother was a woman of vast resources; money, alas, not being one of them. She nonetheless saw to it that his education was the best possible. He was one of the first, if not the first, graduate of the College of Philadelphia, which later became the University of Pennsylvania. His subject was law, and in short time he rose to high eminence in that field. He was appointed, by the Royal Government, Collector of the Customs, and Executive Counselor. As his allegiance to England waned, and his feelings toward the cause of American freedom waxed, he resigned those posts, and was soon engrossed, body and soul, in the Revolutionary effort. He represented New Jersey as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1776. After the war he was a judge of the Pennsylvania Admiralty Court. President Washington, already a friend, appointed him Judge of the United States, Pennsylvania district.

Mr. Hopkinson is credited by many, not the least himself, as having designed

the United States flag, as well as several ornaments, devices, and checks appearing on bills of exchange, ship papers, the seals of the boards of Admiralty and Treasury, and the Great Seal of the United States. Since he had not been in any way remunerated for this work, he at last submitted a bill to Congress asking "whether a quarter cask of the public wine" might be a reasonable and proper reward for his toils. After extraordinarily lengthy red tape, perhaps setting a federal precedent never to be broken, there was never reached any satisfactory conclusion, but a resultant plenitude of animosity. The journals of the Continental Congress show that it was indeed he who designed the flag.

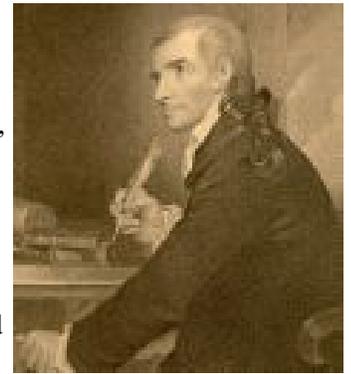
In partial summation, Francis Hopkinson was a distinguished lawyer, scientist, and Signer of the Declaration. But, true to the spirit of that magnificent Age, he was also a poet, humorist, satirist, accomplished harpsichordist, and America's first composer of secular music. He even is credited with having written the first American opera, Temple of Minerva. Musicologists since then have qualified it as rather a cantata, or perhaps oratorio, but it was nonetheless a formidable accomplishment, sung throughout the work, not simply mixed with spoken recitative.



and songs listed on the World Wide Web. His popular ballad, "The Battle of the Kegs", sung to the tune, Yankee Doodle Dandy, describes a set-to between the Yanks and the British. A Pretty Story, published in 1774, is

He had a naturally gifted facility with poetic verse, and there are numerous examples of his accessible and agreeable poems

a satirical, anti-British sort of nursery tale; both biting and humorous.



John Adams, in a letter to his wife Abigail, wrote after meeting Hopkinson, "He is one of your pretty, little, curious, ingenious men. His head is not bigger than a large apple...I have not met with anything in natural history more amusing and entertaining than his personal appearance, yet he is genteel and well-bred, and is very social."

Gilbert Chase, writing in "America's Music", says: "[Francis Hopkinson] represented the Golden Age of American culture, in which men of affairs, successful in business and in the conduct of government, thought it no shame not only to love music and practice it in private, but also to make public their love of the "Divine Art."

The above description has long been true of leaders of European governments and society, for hundreds of years. When it was also the case here, the country was in much better hands, in this writer's humble opinion.

Francis Hopkinson died suddenly and unexpectedly, of an epileptic fit, in 1791, the same year, in fact, as another great mind of the Age of Enlightenment, Mozart.

His place in the pantheon of America's heroes and Founders is fixed and secure. Harry F. Hagan

The information in this paper was gleaned from material researched on the World Wide Web. Some of the writers whose works I have read included D. E. Vitale and John Vinci.

August 7, 1782

Washington Creates the Purple Heart

On this day in 1782, in Newburgh, New York, General George Washington, the commander in chief of the Continental Army, creates the "Badge for Military Merit," a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk-edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word *Merit* stitched across the face in silver. The badge was to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" and permitted its wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. The honoree's name and regiment were also to be inscribed in a "Book of Merit."



Washington's "Purple Heart" was awarded to only three known soldiers during the Revolutionary War: Elijah Churchill, William Brown and Daniel Bissell, Jr. The "Book of Merit" was lost, and the decoration was largely forgotten until 1927, when General Charles P. Summerall, the U.S. Army chief of staff, sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." In 1931, Summerall's successor, General Douglas MacArthur, took up the cause, hoping to reinstate the medal in time for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth.



On February 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, the U.S. War Department announced the creation of the "Order of the Purple Heart."

In addition to aspects of Washington's original design, the new Purple Heart also displays a bust of Washington and his coat of arms. The Order of the Purple Heart, the oldest American military decoration for military merit, is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who have been killed or

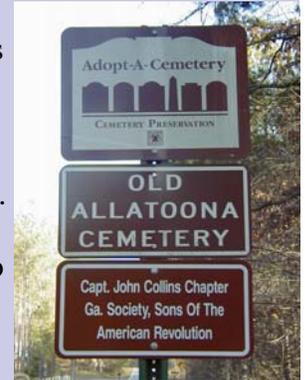
wounded in action against an enemy. It is also awarded to soldiers who have suffered maltreatment as prisoners of war.

Source: <http://www.history.com>

Prepared by Jack Manning, New Hampshire Society SAR

Old Allatoona Cemetery

Our last Cemetery workday for the year will be **Saturday, September 20**, at 8:30 AM. The weather is cooler and we will be cutting down a 12 inch in diameter oak which died as a result of the recent drought. Five or six volunteers are needed to complete this job in a timely manner. Please contact David Thompson (cell 404-583-4604) with any questions.



Collins Member Elected General Officer



Chuck Bragg

Member Chuck Bragg was elected Treasurer General of NSSAR at the 2008 National Congress in Sacramento, CA. Chuck most recently served as Genealogist General.

He was also recognized as National Color Guardsman of the Year.

Although Chuck lives in Indiana, he has driven to Marietta for chapter meetings and attended annual dinners of the chapter in the past. Chuck has already begun his campaign for Secretary General 2009-2010.

Your editor, Larry Guzy, initiated a campaign in July to follow in Chuck's footsteps, running for Treasurer General in the 2009-2010 term. Three other compatriots are running for the same office.

Fall Outing

To New Echota

Mark your calendar—October 4th

Registrar's Report

Bill Teasley

There have been several inquiries about membership and applications. Kenneth Allen Donaldson, Sr. submitted his completed paperwork which was approved and mailed to Dr. Christopher Stokes on 20 February. In a change of state registrars the paperwork was briefly lost. It has been recovered and forwarded for final approval which was recorded on 2 May. We welcome Compatriot Donaldson.

Shelly Rogers attended the meeting on 20 February. However, since he lives in Kingston, he decided to apply to the chapter in Rome which is much closer to his home.

Rich Morrison has completed his paperwork and submitted his application. Approval is pending. Rich's father, who lives in another state, is also submitting an application. We look forward to hearing of Rich's and his father's application approvals.

Jeffery Benson has made an inquiry about membership and how to submit an application.

The application of George David Meyer was approved on July 11. Applications of Robert and Ryan McGehee were submitted at National June 19 and should be reviewed shortly.

The most recent inquiries have come from David Michael York and Danny Shelby. They have been invited to come to a meeting.

And finally the application of Samuel William Keaton, the father of our President Skip Keaton, was submitted to the state registrar on 11 June.

As you can see interest continues to grow. If you know of those who are interested in becoming a member of America's premier patriotic organization, please invite them to a meeting.

*(Continued from page 1)
2009 National Congress*

teers. A Day Captain will be chosen to coordinate and GASSAR volunteers will hand out registration packets and information to arriving compatriots. Each Day Captain will also be responsible for checking room readiness for the day's meetings and events—audio visual, chair setup, podiums, tables, etc.

WOSARs (wives of SARs) will be asked to participate in hosting the Ladies Hospitality Room, a refuge for visiting wives. The hospitality room offers beverages and snacks throughout the day when there are not other activities planned. The men often stop in for a Continental breakfast.

A volunteer function on Thursday evening will give local members a chance to spend relaxing time with general officers of the National Society, who will be invited to attend.

Members who do not choose to register, may still attend the Genealogy workshop on Friday, which is open to the public. Members may also attend the Memorial Service at the First Baptist Church in downtown Marietta on Sunday, featuring the combined SAR Color Guards, but would need to provide their own transportation.

The hotel has contracted with National for a basic room rate of

\$95 a night, an amazing price for the Atlanta area.. Reservations are already being taken at the hotel and those making reservations should indicate that they are members of the Sons of the American Revolution.

High points of the general schedule:

TH 7/2 Volunteer reception

FR 7/3 Arrivals, genealogy workshop, possible golf tournament

SA 7/4 Planned tours, Host Society Reception

SU 7/5 Memorial Service at First Baptist of Marietta, Youth Orations Contest

MO 7/6 Opening Session of Congress, Youth Awards Luncheon, Recognition Night

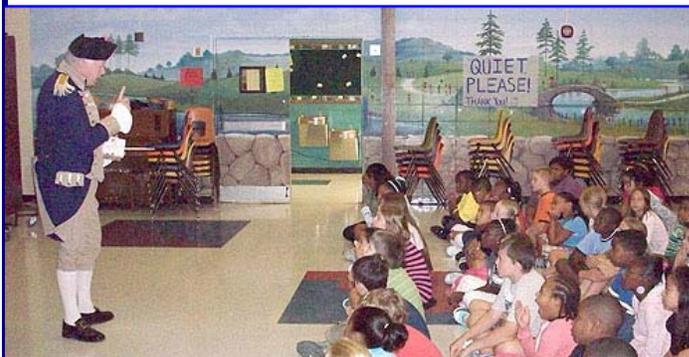
TU 7/7 Business Session and Committee meetings, Ladies Luncheon, Banquet with speaker

WE 7/8 Closing Session of Congress, planned tours, President General's Banquet, Installation of new NSSAR officers

More detailed information, including hints for first time attendees and schedules, will continue to be posted at <http://www.sar.org>

click on the 119th Congress link.

- Larry Guzy



Charles Switzer and Larry Guzy made their annual visit to Teasley Elementary School in Smyrna on August 12th.

Larry told students the history

of the flag, with pictures of earlier versions, and answered many questions. Fifth grade students at Teasley are responsible for raising and lowering the flag each school day. Principal Joanne Robblee also attended the presentation.

Friends of the SAR Library Award

The Franklin Flyer Award will be presented for the first time at the Annual Congress in Atlanta to the State Society who has recruited the most Friends of the SAR Library (FOL) members in 2009 compared to that State's membership as of December 31st. So the best percentage increase will apparently decide the winner to the Society with a total of more than 499 members. This will include a \$200 award, flag streamer, and certificate.

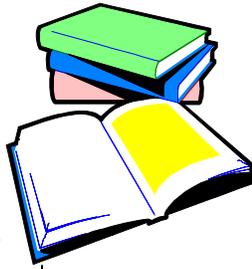
In addition to counting individual members that become FOL, each SAR chapter or State Society that becomes a FOL member will be counted as one new member. The application form can be downloaded at www.sar.org/news/FoL.html and a minimum \$25 donation is requested. Gifts of \$300 or more receive special recognition at the National level.

The Georgia Society has the largest FOL membership presently with about 58 members, but the Florida Society is close on our heels. We hope each chapter will vote a donation to the Library and that Chapter Presidents will encourage their members to join this worthy educational project.

In lieu of an application form, you may send your name, national and state number, address, chapter and State Society name to Friends of the SAR Library, 1000 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40203.

American History Scholarship Program

The Georgia Society has created the JRW American History Fund from which the interest earned will be used to support scholarships to students of American History. As a new fund, the current principal is less than \$6,000, thus the amount of interest presently is not sufficient to fund any scholarships. It is our goal to see donations made to this fund in order to develop it to the point where earned interest can be used to generate scholarship funding.



The Georgia Society Education Committee Reorganizes

With a more aggressive emphasis on education outreach at the national level, our State Society again plans to be in the forefront of meeting this new challenge and in providing leadership to our members in promoting the many new initiatives being considered. Many of our local chapters have already started rising to the challenge.

This quarterly newsletter will provide one means of keeping members that are interested in education outreach programs up to date on any new activity. Initial plans are to mail a copy of this first issue to Chapter Presidents and in the future to e-mail them or their designee with copies. To make downloading easy, we will avoid using photographs and limit the amount of artwork. Our copy will be a WORD format using Times New Roman script.

Queries, comments, and corrections may be sent to the **Education Committee Chairman**, Terry Manning, at 1201 Timber Glen Court, Lilburn, GA 30047 or at temanning@aol.com or by phone at (770) 564-8822.

New American History Teacher Award

The National Society has initiated over the last couple of years the *Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award*. One national winner is recognized each year based on teacher performance and an essay entry by the teacher. The Georgia Society has not entered this contest to date.

To encourage future participation in this program, our Education Committee encourages local chapters to begin this year to recognize at least one local American History teacher and/or elementary school teacher that exemplifies the qualities for effectively teaching about the Revolutionary War. Initially we are not proposing any specific guidelines for selecting or recognizing local winners. We do not recommend requiring an essay at the local level. However, from among the local winners we hope that some may be interested in entering the national competition by fulfilling the additional requirements of the National Society to compete (i.e., a 500-word essay, letters of recommendation, etc.).

Let us know your method of recognizing these community leaders that are very often the key to interesting our students in the study of American History. The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal may be an appropriate choice for recognizing local teachers.

These articles are reproduced from

Education Program Tidbits

A Publication of the Education Committee of the
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Poster Contest Guidelines



Revised for 2008-2009

The **Elementary School Americanism Poster Contest** will see several changes this year regarding submission of entries and judging at the state-level competition. Not much will change at the local level, but we hope to provide you input from the national level on information that might be of interest to you.

2008-2009 Theme - “Paul Revere’s Ride”

Kids love to draw horses, so this is a no-brainer from a popular theme viewpoint. We had hoped to attach a summary of the national rules, as well as the application form that should be placed on the back of each poster, but as of July 30 these were not current on the national website. Keep checking at www.sar.org under the Youth programs.

Your Local Contest

Every chapter should have an entry in this contest! You can take the simple approach and have a local teacher in just one classroom use the theme and tell you who they selected as the winner, or you can be very involved by giving a lecture (in uniform or not), returning to judge the entries, and presenting certificates to each student participant (at 1 school or 20). Just one classroom participating will provide the maximum allowable points under the Americanism contest (but it’s only fair to warn you that you’ll have so much fun with this project that you’ll soon encourage more classes to participate). Need some pointers? Like someone to help you the first time out? Contact our chairman and we can arrange a nearby chapter with experience in the program to give you some pointers or to help with a presentation.

Art or Research?

The contest judging calls for making a selection based on five different factors – one of them being evidence of research. Judges from schools, SAR chapters, and state societies differ on how this evidence of research should be reflected in the poster entry. Some contend that the artwork itself can express the level of research and that written remarks other than a few words destroy the concept of “poster art,” while others believe the inclusion of dates, name of the battle (if any), and similar written material in a limited amount is necessary to represent evidence of research. We can only tell you that it kind of depends at the national level on which of the Americanism Committee judges that show up for the National Congress as to which line of thought prevails. In the most recent judging at National, many of the posters from the 10 states entering the contest were judged down in points because of “lack of evidence of research” according to one of the judges. We suggest you make it clear to the teacher(s) how your chapter wants to judge their local contest.

State-Level Administration

In the past, chapters submitted their entry to the State contest by bringing it to the annual conference and judging was by popular vote with ballots at one of the banquets, sometimes by members only and sometimes including guests, using a variety of point systems for coming to a conclusion. This year the chapter entries will be submitted to the State Education Committee when the local entries are determined and prior to the annual conference. Entries must be submitted prior to March 1, 2009. The January 24 Board of Managers meeting, the annual Spring Training Conference, grave dedications, chapter meetings, and historic site celebrations offer opportunities on which to submit entries to the Committee.

A panel of three judges from the art community will be used to judge the poster art and recommend a winner to the Education Committee based on National judging guidelines. The winner will be determined by the committee in order to allow the winning student to attend the annual state banquet and to use the winning poster in promotional material.

Promotional Opportunities

The Joseph Habersham Chapter has developed a promotional flyer useful for advertising the poster contest in the community and among teachers and schools. It shows examples of posters from last year in full color and leaves space at the bottom of the page to give a local contact point for questions about entering the contest. The format will be e-mailed to each chapter.

We hope to see a PowerPoint presentation created in the near future to provide teachers detailed information on the poster contest and to assist local SAR chapters in participating in the program.

**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.

Patriotism Presentations Schedule

Monday, August 25 9 a.m. Lithia Springs High School, 2520 E. County Line Rd. Speaker: Major General William T. (Terry) Nesbitt, Asst Adj General for the GA Army Natl. Guard, former head of Homeland Security for Georgia.

Tuesday, August 26 9:10 a.m. & 11 a.m. Hiram HS 702 Ballentine Dr. Speaker: Dick Yarbrough, syndicated columnist and author, assisted with 1996 Olympics PR and former VP of BellSouth.

Thursday, August 28 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Paulding County HS, 1297 Villa Rica Hwy., Dallas Speaker: General Stewart Rodeheaver, Commander of Georgia's 48th Brigade Combat Team, recently returned from Iraq

Friday, August 29 8:45 a.m. Kennesaw Mountain HS 1898 Kennesaw Due West Rd. Speaker: Karen Handel, Georgia's Secretary of State and previous White House Deputy Chief of Staff.

NEEDED: video tape and still photographers, crowd control, speakers from script, and program distributors.

FALL OUTING OCTOBER 4th

Mark your calendar for the fall outing, which will be to New Echota State Park, site of the original Cherokee Nation Capitol in Calhoun, GA. Artifacts and buildings shine a light on the culture that preceded the Trail of Tears. Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Chili's parking lot on Barrett Pkwy.

Rich Morrison recently updated the picture of Captain John Collins' gravestone on www.findagrave.com, and shared the new and improved image. He also has added information to the site about this patriot's family.

