



The Collins Dispatch

August 2009

Dates to Remember

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

Aug 11 Teasley Elementary
Flag Presentation

Aug 18 Chapter meeting
Speaker Col. Clifford Lowery
speaking on the “Faith of Our
Fathers”

Sunday Aug 23 American Legion
Parade in Louisville, KY
for all Color Guardsmen

Patriotism Week: Mon. Aug 24
Allatoona HS; Thu. Aug 27
Harrison HS

Sept 12 Annual Chapter Fall
Outing Tellus NW Georgia
Science Museum, Cartersville

Sep 15 Chapter Meeting
Speaker Dr. Joe Kitchens Ex.
Director Funk Heritage Ctr.,
“The White Tail Empire”

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Chapter Comes Through—Congress a Success

Over 500 people attended the National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution, held at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel at Galleria in July.

You probably have heard that the 2009 Congress was a success. The Renaissance Waverly Hotel was wonderful. The layout on one level, with plenty of rooms for meetings, was commented on by many as “perfect”. The beautiful Atrium certainly lent flavor to the elegance of the setting. No one could recall the food at the banquets being as good as what we experienced, and the hotel personnel certainly put the icing on the cake with their immediate response to any minor changes needed so that the whole event went seamlessly in the view of the attendees.



Curtis McWaters holds down the fort at the registration window during Congress.

The Georgia volunteers truly made “Southern Hospitality” a reality. Those Collins members who were working are listed in this *Dispatch*. **Curtis McWaters**

(Continued on page 4)



It has been the tradition of the Collins Chapter to plan a Fall Outing to allow members and their spouses and families to spend time together and see nearby points of interest.

In years past, the short trips have taken us to Andersonville, New Echota, the Booth Museum, Funk Heritage Center, and twice to Justin Roberts’ historic home for picnics.

This year we will visit the newly opened Tellus Northwest Georgia Science Museum, in Cartersville, full of well advertised “jaw dropping” sights.

Members will meet in the parking lot behind Chili’s restaurant on Barrett Pkwy. just



west of I-75 at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, to carpool to the museum which opens at 10 a.m. Admission is \$12 (\$10 if 65+). With 15 people **committed** to attend, reservations would reduce the cost to \$8. To visit the planetarium there is an additional \$3 charge, with shows at 10:15 and 11 a.m. Lunch at 12 or 12:15 pm.

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

After The Party's Over.....

The big attraction so far this year has been the 119th National Congress. It was a grand event, conducted in a Grand Hotel, the Waverly at Cumberland, everyone who attended seems to have had a grand time and it was conducted so well as to make Georgia look grand in the eyes of visitors and residents alike.

Larry Guzy had a lot to do with creating that perception. He was the Captain of that ship and he set a tone that was exemplary. Many thanks to he and Karin for their efforts in making the Congress a success and a great one to remember. Theirs was a job well done.

Larry also was recipient of a second place national certificate for the *Collins Dispatch* publication. Again, well done and congratulations.

That party is over and before us now is our best opportunity to express what we stand for, to promote Patriotism.

Schools will open their doors for the fall Session this month and that means we, committee Chairmen or designee's, need to visit selected schools as soon as possible to arrange for a time or schedule for their particular program.

Our cooperation with the Sons of Liberty in the Patriotism Program is important and is an obligation. It begins this month, 8/24 at Allatoona HS, a school in our area. The next date come quickly, Harrison High School on 8/27. Do your best to find time to participate in these presentations. Vol-



unteers are needed for jobs ranging from reading script to handing out brochures. It will not take much of your time but you will be glad you participated. The presentation on 8/27 is also in our area at Harrison HS. You will hear speakers such as Karen Handel, Generals Nesbitt and Rodeheaver and Casey Cagle.

We are looking for a few good establishments that fly the flag correctly. For their patriotism we would like to present them with an attractive SAR Flag Certificate on which we can print their name. in bold letters. If you see a likely candidate and are not sure about what action to take, contact me or Jason Bretch.

Curtis McWaters has completed the Directory. The next step is getting it printed and then get a copy to you.

Mark your calendar for the outing on Saturday, September 12, at the Tellus Museum of Science in Cartersville. I'll bet you did not know about their planetarium. The place and time to rendezvous will be in Chili's parking lot on Barrett Parkway at 09:15. Museum opens at 10:00.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the August meeting.

David Martin, President

Officers and Committee

President	David Martin
Vice President	Bill Coffeen
Secretary	Jason Bretch
Treasurer	Charles Covington
Registrar	Bill Teasley
Chancellor	Jack Gibson
Chaplain	John Jones
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	Charles Rhyne
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	Skip Keaton

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 at larry@adjustmentservices.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 & Happenings

New Members Richard Morrison, 174373/GA4836, and his father George 174372/GA4835, were registered at National June 18th. Richard's father recently passed away in California. He was age 91, our condolences on Richard's loss.

New members Joseph Austin, Jr. of NJ 174033/GA 4825 and his grandson Stephen Phillip Pocalyko of Atlanta 174034/GA4826, were Registered May 28th.

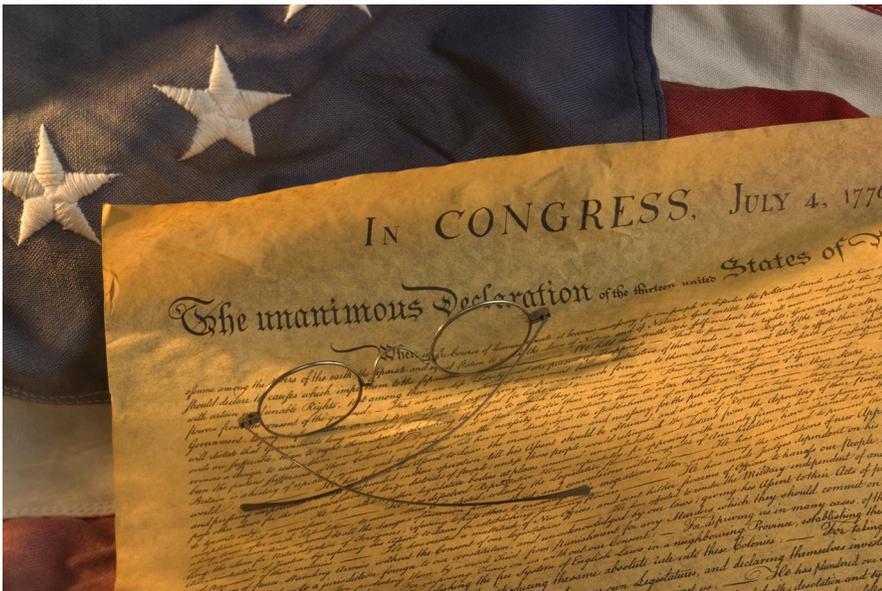
Applications are at National for Dennis Rebman and John Ragland. Application is on the way for Wayne Brown. Several applications are in the works for Terry Gibbs, Robert Adams, Doug Talley, John McAskill, Charles Sanger and his son, and others.

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

August 2, 1776

Delegates Sign Declaration of Independence



resolution put forward by Richard Henry Lee that stated "Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

Congress adopted the more poetic Declaration of Independence, drafted by Thomas Jefferson, two days later, on July 4. The president of Congress, John Hancock, and its secretary, Charles Thompson, immediately signed the handwritten draft, which was dispatched to nearby printers. On July 19, Congress decided to produce a handwritten copy to bear all the delegates' signatures. Secretary Thompson's assistant, Philadelphia Quaker and merchant Timothy Matlack, penned the draft.

On August 2nd in 1776, members of Congress affixed their signatures to an enlarged copy of the Declaration of Independence.

Fifty-six congressional delegates in total signed the document, including some who were not present at the vote approving the declaration.

The delegates signed by state from North to South, beginning with Josiah Bartlett of New Hampshire and ending with George Walton of Georgia. John Dickinson of Pennsylvania and James Duane, Robert Livingston and John Jay of New York refused to sign. Carter Braxton of Virginia; Robert Morris of Pennsylvania; George Reed of Delaware; and Edward Rutledge of South Carolina opposed the document but signed in order to give the impression of a unanimous Congress. Five delegates were absent: Generals George Washington, John Sullivan, James Clinton and Christopher Gadsden and Virginia Governor Patrick Henry.

Exactly one month before the signing of the document, Congress had accepted a

Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, free and independent states,...

Timothy Matlack, penned the draft.

News of the Declaration of Independence arrived in London eight days

later, on August 10. The draft bearing the delegates' signatures was first printed on January 18 of the following year by Baltimore printer Mary Katharine Goddard.

www.history.net
Jack Manning
National Trustee
New Hampshire Society

SCOUTS

Certificates will be sent out this month to approximately 120 Eagle Scouts within Cobb County.



(Continued from page 1) Congress

even lent a hand, driving some members from out of town to catch up with their bus tour. Curtis was a fixture at Registration. Not so visible, but working all the time



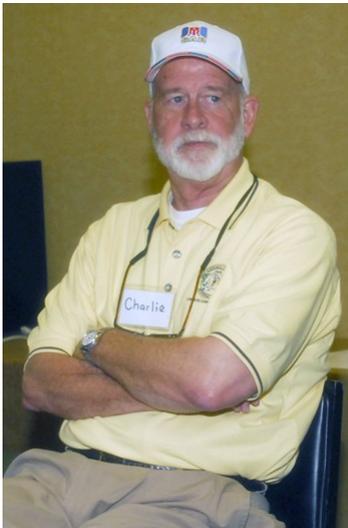
Larry Guzy accepted Bessent Award from PG David Appleby.

Collins Dispatch Receives Award

During Recognition Night at the National Congress the *Collins Dispatch* was awarded second place and a \$75 check in the Carl F. Bessent competition for multi-sheet chapter newsletters. This is the third time that the *Dispatch* has won second place. With more input from the chapter membership, perhaps first place is within reach for 2010!

Thanks to the following Collins members who volunteered their time for the National Congress:

- Bill Coffeen
- Charles Covington
- Karin Guzy
- Larry Guzy
- Allen Henson
- Kathy Henson
- David Martin
- Curtis McWaters
- Charles Rhyne
- Charles Switzer
- Joe Vancura
- Kathie Vancura
- Betsy Vancura



Charlie Rhyne waiting for customers at registration.

was **Joe Vancura**, Credentials Chairman and voting ballet monitor. Joe's sister Betsy, and mother Katie, also got in volunteer time in the ladies hospitality room, as well as doing a video of the Host Reception reading, by 32 voices, of the Declaration of Independence.

The main item passed at Congress was an increase in dues. There has been no increase since 2000. The State dues increased by \$3 and the National dues increased by \$5. The application fees also

increased to \$80 from \$60 effective for applications received AFTER December 31st.

Guests took advantage of bus tours before and after Congress to visit Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield, Stone Mountain, Cyclorama and the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw. Many came early and stayed late.



Joe Vancura was one of 32 speakers who read the Declaration of Independence at the Host Reception on Fourth of July. Behind him (left) former state president George Wheelless and (right) former Piedmont Chapter President Bob Sapp listen.

National Officers installed at Congress include:

Judge Ed Butler, TX, President General; J. David Sympton, KY, Secretary General; Larry Magerkurth, CA, Treasurer General; James Say, IL, Chancellor General; Joseph Dooley, VA, Genealogist General; Stephen Leishman, NH, Registrar General; Lindsey Brock, FL, Historian General; Miles Dechant, PA, Librarian General; Dr. Lee Crandall Park, Surgeon General; Rev. Clark Wisner, NC, Chaplain General, as well as District Vice Presidents General.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations are in order for past Chapter President **Jack Gibson**. Jack and Marjorie Carol Chambers married June 14th in a ceremony in Richmond, VA in a Manakin Huguenot Church founded by their Huguenot ancestors. Both are Officers in the Manakin Huguenot Society. Marjorie is a professor of English at Kilgore College in Kilgore, TX. Jack indicates that a move is in the works. We wish you a long and joyful life.

Become a fan of the Bone-A-Fide Slides Trombone Quartet on Facebook. Yep, **Harry Hagan** and **Rodney Pritchett** have made the leap to social media with their musical quartet. Ask them to send you a link in your email and you too can become a Bone-A-Fide Fan!

Cobb County Firefighter Honored at National Congress

The State Society that hosts the National Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution has the honor of selecting a local public servant to receive the National Fire Safety Award.

Charles Switzer pursued three awards for Recognition at National Congress. His submission for the Fire Safety

Award was accepted. Congratulations Charles. The recipient was:

Lt. Tom Hancock of the Cobb County Fire Department.

Following is the letter of nomination that was written for Firefighter Tom Hancock:



Lt. Hancock received a certificate and medal from Sheriff Warren Alter, chairman of the committee, and President General David Appleby.

“The Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services (CCFES)

Awards Committee would like to nominate Tom Hancock for the SAR Commendation Medal for an Outstanding Job Performance. Lt Tom Hancock is currently a Fire Lieutenant assigned to Station 30. He joined CCFES in March of 1997.

Prior to being assigned to Fire Station 30, Lt Hancock was assigned to the Training Division. While Lt Hancock was assigned to Training, he was the Recruit School Supervisor for one recruit school and was an assistant instructor for several others. Lt Hancock also organized and facilitated several training drills for the Fire Department during his time in Training.

However, probably the most significant accomplishment Lt Hancock made during his time in the Training Division is the development and implementation of the Portable Firefighter Sur-

vival Maze. Tom devised the concept after observing several stationary mazes in other agencies. He observed that if the maze could be made in a portable fashion, it could be utilized by more firefighters without taking companies out of service. The portable maze incorporates many different

firefighter survival techniques.

The impact of the maze is unlike any other training device used by CCFES in many years. The maze takes the techniques that firefighters are taught and combines them into one training evolution. Firefighters are often taught different survival techniques as individual exercise, but the maze provides firefighters with the opportunity to apply these techniques in a controlled and challenging evolution. The feedback on the maze by the firefighters who have participated in training has been overwhelmingly positive.

The maze has provided a great deal of training experience here in Cobb County, as well as other fire departments in the Metro Atlanta area. The portability of the maze is one of its strongest features. It can be disassem-



bled and moved to be deployed in any location.

Every single firefighter in CCFES was able to train using the maze because the unit was easily transported to each Battalion. When CCFES was completed with our own firefighters through the maze, every other city fire department within Cobb County was provided access to the equipment for their personnel.

Lt Hancock has not ended his practice of deploying the maze as a training tool just in the Metro Atlanta area. He has an article published in Fire Engineering Magazine on the subject. This journal is highly popular within the fire and emergency services profession, and has thousands of readers each month. Lt Hancock presented a class on the maze at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in April 2009. FDIC is the premier fire conference in the nation and is attended by thousands of participants, as well as attracting the top practitioners in the field. He plans on returning to FDIC in 2010 to again present the maze concept. It goes without saying that Lt Hancock has definitely gone a step above to make sure that firefighters all around the nation have the opportunity to take advantage of such a great training device.

Sincerely,

Lt. Williams (Bill) Johnson
CCFES Award Committee Member”

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

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Signers of the Declaration of Independence

June 24, 1803

**New Hampshire Patriot
Matthew Thornton dies**

On June 24, 1803, Matthew Thornton, one of New Hampshire's delegates to the second Continental Congress and an ex post facto signer of the Declaration of Independence, died at age 89 while visiting his daughter in Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Born in Ireland in 1714, Thornton immigrated as a child to Wiscasset, in the Massachusetts territory that is now the state of Maine. He was educated in Worcester, Massachusetts, and began a medical practice in Londonderry, New Hampshire, in 1740. In 1745, Dr. Thornton traveled with the New Hampshire militia in the successful seizure of Fort Louisbourg, in what is now Nova Scotia, from the French. Thornton's success as a physician allowed him to purchase significant land holdings in Londonderry, and he established himself among the political elite of the community, serving as justice of the peace and a member of the Provincial Assembly. In 1760, he married Hannah Jack, the 18-year-old daughter of fellow Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. The couple had five



Delegates in session for a business meeting of the National Congress. The primary meeting room was decorated with the flag collection of former state president, Compatriot George Thurmond, Piedmont Chapter.

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!

children, of whom four survived until adulthood.

In 1775, Thornton became the first president of the Provincial Assembly and chairman of the Committee of Safety, as relations between Britain and its American colonies deteriorated.

Thornton penned the document that would serve as New Hampshire's first state constitution. In 1776, he was elected to the second Continental Congress. Because he did not arrive in Philadelphia until September, he missed the debates and initial approval of the Declaration of Independence, but later added his signature to the document.

Upon his return to New Hampshire, Thornton became a high judge and colonel in the militia. In 1779, he moved to Exeter, where he served the new state in the Assembly and Senate, before retiring to a farm in Merrimack 10 years later.

<http://www.history.net/>

Jack Manning, National Trustee
New Hampshire Society

