



The Collins Dispatch

February 2009

Dates to Remember

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

Kettle Creek Events: 13 Feb—
Social gathering, Washington,
GA 6PM

14 Feb – Parade, Washington,
GA, 10AM—2PM Wreaths

15 Feb – Colonial Church
Service, Washington, GA,

Feb 17-Chapter Meeting-Alan
Wind Chatt. HS American
History Teacher

Feb 19-Davis Elem. 6PM
Wax Museum of the Am Rev

Mar 14—Guiliford Ct. House

Mar 17-Chapter Meeting-
Phyllis Tanner

Mar 25-Chapter BOM at
Charles Rhyne’s home 6PM

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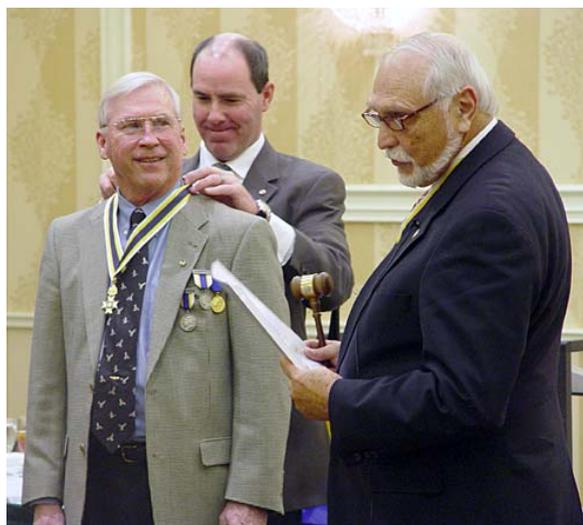
Awards and Installation

The 2009 Annual Banquet was all about fellowship and recognition. As we prepared to install new officers for the upcoming year, many of our members were recognized for past service.

(Photo montage within)

Members enjoyed a talk and slide presentation by Marietta Daily Journal Editorial Page Editor Joe Kirby, who recently released his book “The Bell Bomber Plant”. Kirby shared many historic details of this facility that is so central to life in Cobb County.

Former President Skip Keaton passed the gavel to David Martin. New officers were installed by GASSAR President Bobby Towns, who attended with his wife, Robin, the current president of the Ladies Auxiliary. President Towns invited all to attend the Annual State meeting in Athens in April.



Skip Keaton fastens President’s ribbon for new President David Martin who was sworn in by GASSAR President Bobby Towns.

Regional Vice President Roger Lamb also attended.

Eagle Chair Bill Coffeen awarded a \$100 check to the chapter’s Eagle Scout winner, Carter Schock, who attended with his parents. His essay is reprinted on page 4.

Colors were posted by our hard-working Color Guard, Jim Castle and Joe Vancura.



New officers were sworn in.



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

More Than One Deficit

All of us are aware of the federal monetary deficit. But there is another deficit facing our nation.

A recent Cal Thomas Commentary reported on the civic literacy of many US citizens. He learned from the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, after a 3 year study, that a large number of Americans cannot pass a basic 33 question civic literacy test about this nation's history and institutions. He learned that those without high school diplomas and those with advanced degrees scored the same in civic literacy.

It is known that ignorance of history and heritage is a setup for politicians who want to manipulate us into a way of thinking that will allow them to lead us into unconstitutional ways that are harmful to the nation. "Knowledge of the past prepares us for the future based on unchanging principles". That is why knowledge matters and ignorance endangers.

So what does that have to do with the SAR? Well, we just happen to be in the business of preserving heritage and patriotism. Very little of it is being



taught to the young people in our schools and the aliens in this country have little desire to learn it.

So you can see that our work, as descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution whose sacrifices established the USA, is waiting for us.

I want to thank you all for the privilege of being your President for 2009, I look forward to working with everyone to accomplish the tenants of our being as an organization. I encourage you to get involved with a committee or program. There is where the action is, where you will find a feeling of accomplishment and fellowship with your compatriots and at the same time fill in that other deficit.

I want to thank every one involved with the Annual Dinner. Collectively, you made it a great success and a fun time. Our speaker put icing on the cake by mentioning our Dinner in the MDJ. That mention gave us some important Americanism points.

Best Regards throughout this year,

David Martin

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. **April 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 & Happenings

Rich Morrison and his father's applications are at National as is Dennis Reberman's. Other applications are in the works for Terry Gibbs, Charles Sanger, Stephen Pocalyko, and Joseph Austin. David Meyer is submitting a supplement on another Patriot Ancestor.

HAPPENINGS: David Thompson has called two Cemetery Cleanup days—Saturdays April 18 and May 16. Both will be from 8:30 to 10:30AM.

The GASSAR Annual Meeting is April 3 & 4 at the Holiday Inn in Athens on Broad Street. Check the website for more information

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

2009 Congress: Time to Commit

The Collins Chapter is uniquely positioned to shine at our National Congress. It is right here in our own territory—The Waverly Hotel at Cumberland.

The attached interest sheet will assist us in completing our last stage of organization. Please take a few minutes to **let us know if you plan to attend in any way**.

Note that to fully participate, you will need to register. Full Registration is \$285.00 for each attendee including spouses, HOWEVER, there will not be another Congress for a long time that will be so close that you would not need to be at a hotel. You would never be able to fully attend for so little. We encourage your full participation, but even if you do not register, you can help and participate by working.

There are several ways to participate without fully attending as a GASSAR Registered Member. The best way to get a sense of what happens at a National Congress without Registering is to **volunteer to staff one of the Host Committee Positions**. These range in time from a full Day Captain to staffing a registration table for a few hours or to **wear your uniform**. Regardless, we need your support. **Please complete and return the form included elsewhere** by fax, email, or regular mail.

The Friday events include **Genealogy Seminars** and a **Golf Tournament**, both do not require Registered attendance and are open to non-SAR people. Besides participating, there is a need for volunteers as well.

By far, the most exciting participation by non-Registered members and Spouses will be the **Saturday July 4th Host Reception** starting at 4PM and ending at 6PM. Since all GASSAR Members have supported this by their dues over the last 5 years, you are welcome to attend however we only ask that you let us know you plan to come so we will have a proper count for refreshments and provide you with a ticket.

In conjunction with the Host Reception, we are planning to offer **“Dutch Treat” rides to dinner** to attendees. If you are attending the Reception you will need to eat dinner somewhere afterwards as will everyone else. A great way to meet members from across the country is to offer them a ride to dinner with you. We have a plan as to how to coordinate this, but need you to volunteer to drive. This is also part of the volunteer sheet attached. What better way to meet fellow compatriots from around the Country than to have dinner with them.

The last way to participate is to attend the **Memorial Service at the First Baptist Church off the Square in Marietta on Sunday July 5th**. You would need to be there by about 2:00PM and could offer rides to attendees who do not have their own transportation.

GASSAR needs to work on an Orations Candidate and locate a recipient for the Law/Fire/EMS Medal. We need to identify these recipients. You can help by locating worthy recipients or participants.

July 2009 will be our time to shine in the eyes of our National Community. I hope all feel honored by this opportunity. Our Chapter already has the National spotlight by the fact that The Host and National Chairman is from the Chapter. Your support is truly appreciated.

Larry T. Guzy, 2009 Chairman for the Host Committee

The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and Its Significance to the American Revolution

By Carter Schock

As Americans, we are all very familiar with the struggle that our nation faced to gain independence from the oppressive reign of Great Britain. The adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4th, 1776 was one of America's key milestones that it reached on its way to becoming the wealthy, powerful, and freedom-loving country that it is today. The Declaration of Independence is a pinnacle of American courage and commitment, and it was something that united the nation in a common cause; to gain status as an independent nation that was free to govern itself as it saw fit.

As significant as the Declaration of Independence was, it was not the first act of political dissention taken against the British Government. There was, in fact, a Declaration of Independence that stemmed from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, that preceded the official Declaration of Independence. Although there is a degree of controversy surrounding the authenticity of the Declaration, many professional historians agree that the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was a genuine document that listed many grievances against King George the third and the parliament of Great Britain. Most historians agree that the Document was drafted on May 20, 1775 by a committee that consisted of two men from each militia company in the Mecklenburg area who came together to discuss what should be done in response to the recently fought battles of Lexington and Concord. It was signed and thus lent support by the members of the committee that created it as well as a few dozen citizens of Mecklenburg County.

Although it fell short of actually declaring independence for Mecklenburg, or any other area of the colonies, the document expressed that Great Britain had invaded the inalienable rights of the American colonies and could no longer be looked at as a "mother country." The declaration indeed states that anyone who sympathized or

sided with Great Britain "is an enemy to this County, to America, and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man." (Graham) Another key point that it makes is that the colonies and their citizens should do their best to dissolve their ties with Britain and "use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout America." (Graham)



Carter A. Schock of Acworth is the chapter's 2008 Eagle Scout Scholarship winner. He and his parents attended the chapter's annual banquet. Eagle chair Bill Coffeen presented Carter with a check for \$100.00

The significance of the Mecklenburg Declaration lies in its timing. Although it was not as potent as the Declaration of Independence, it shows that anti-British sentiments were at a boiling point well over a year before the colonies officially became the United States. The fact that it was written by common militiamen and signed by ordinary citizens is a sign of the true

grassroots movements that initiated the Revolutionary War. The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence signifies that in addition to physically fighting the British government in the battles of Lexington and Concord, factions of the American colonies were willing to make permanent political changes. The most important of these was a complete separation with Great Britain.

Bibliography

Graham, William A. *The Address of the Hon. Wm. A. Graham on the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence*. E. J. Hale, 1875. Accessed via Google Book Search

Current, Richard M. "That Other Declaration: May 20, 1775–May 20, 1975." *North Carolina Historical Review* 54 (1977): 169–91.

Carter's essay has been submitted for state competition.

COLLINS DISPATCH
RECOGNITION FOR
CHAPTER SERVICE



**CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER
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AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

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LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For those who attended the Annual meeting, there was a small **black handbag found**. If you know who may have lost it, contact David Martin 770-529-4787.

The Chapter 2008 **Scrapbook is missing**. It was brought to the Annual Meeting . If you know where it is, please contact Bill Coffeen 770-641-9960

Volunteer sought to takeover the **Collins website**—contact GUZY@MINDSPRING.COM

AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING
WILL BE LISTED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE
DISPATCH

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.

GASSAR Nominations—to be voted upon at the April State Meeting—Athens

Position	Current Holder	Nominee	Chapter	Phone Number
President	Bobby Towns	Terry Manning	Button Gwinnett	770-564-8822
SVP	Terry Manning	Mike Tomme	Marquis de Lafayette	678-432-1161
NE Regional	Larry Wilson	Larry Wilson	Samuel Elbert	706-283-1627
NW Regional	Roger Lamb	Roger Lamb	Cherokee	770-591-4528
SE Regional	Bill Ramsaur	Bill Ramsaur	Marshes of Glynn	912-634-1293
SW Regional	James Edward Willis	James Edward Willis	Valdosta	229-242-7706
Central Regional	Buddy Bridges	Christopher Stokes	Ocmulgee	478-335-8947
E Regional VP	Ron McCrosky	Ron McCrosky	Mill Creek	478-494-9109
W Regional VP	Hugh Rogers	Hugh Rodgers	Coweta Falls	706-561-2832
Metro VP	Walker Chewning	Walker Chewning	Button Gwinnett	770-972-7890
Secretary	Kline Pugh	Kline Pugh	Joseph Habersham	706-865-3345
Treasurer	Jim Castle	Charles Hampton	Ocmulgee	478-994-2708
Editor Hornet's Nest	(Open)	Bobby Towns	Athens	706-548-7291
Recording Secretary	Keith Larson	Ted Golab	Lyman Hall	770-965-3143
Registrar	Mike Tomme	Clark Johnson	Lagrange	706-884-0291
Chaplain	Dan Gates	Dan Gates	Coweta Falls	706-323-5229
Genealogist	Bob Sapp	Bob Sapp	Piedmont	770-971-0189
Chancellor	Gordon Smith	Phil Curtis	Atlanta	404-233-3838
Sergeant-at-Arms	Charles Bausch	Charles Bausch	Coweta Falls	706-322-4019
Historian	Charles Hampton	Bruce Maney	Button Gwinnett	
BOM Member-at-Large	Curtis McWaters	Billy Templeton	Cherokee	770-410-0015
BOM Member-at-Large	William Barnes	Bill Neely	John Milledge	478-453-1134
BOM Member-at-Large	Hall Martin	Hall Martin	Lyman Hall	770-503-0913
BOM Member-at-Large	Rev. Nelson Kittle	John McCutcheon	Coweta Falls	706-568-7329
National Trustee	Charlie Newcomer	Bobby Towns	Athens	706-548-7291
Alt. National Trustee	George Wheelless	Charlie Newcomer	Athens	706-543-3977

2009 Congress Interest

Friday 7/3 through Wednesday 7/8

Congress was last in Georgia in 1983, 26 years ago. This summer, it is the closest it will be in a long time.

You as a member of the Georgia Society have helped fund the Host Reception on Saturday July 4th and thus are welcome to attend that function even if you do not plan to Register. As part of that function, held from 4-6PM at the Waverly Hotel at I-285 & I-75 in Marietta, there will be a special program. After it is over, around 6PM, we are offering a “Dutch Treat” dinner at local restaurants. The plan is to match local attendees with others from out of State who do not have vehicles. Since the whole idea of the Host Reception is to welcome attendees to Georgia, your participation could be an excellent way to continue this welcome.

1. If you feel you will **register to attend** the whole Congress, please provide the following information:

Name, Chapter, cell/home # and email address—if you would drive during the “Dutch Treat” Dinner fill in 3 below

2. If you feel you will **attend** the Host Reception **but not register** please provide:

Name, Chapter, cell/home # and email address

3. If you could participate in the “Dutch Treat” Dinner how many could you take in your vehicle? (2 additional, 3 additional, etc) _____

4. Would you volunteer to work during Congress? Day(s) and Time(s) (check all that apply)

	A.M.	P.M.
Friday 7/3		
Saturday 7/4		
Sunday 7/5		
Monday 7/6		
Tuesday 7/7		
Wednesday 7/8		

This preliminary information will help us properly reserve food/drink for Saturday and assess manpower needs. **Please mail or email this information to:**

Larry Guzy 4531 Paper Mill Rd Marietta, GA 30067-4025
Larry@AdjustmentServices.com Fax: 1-866-860-4403