

The Collins Dispatch

Winner of the Carl F. Bessent Newsletter Award 2011 & 2013

July 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Chapter meeting starts at 7PM the third Tuesday every month. We are currently meeting via Zoom video conferencing.

- Aug. 17 – Chapter Meeting
- Sept. 21 – Chapter Meeting
- Oct. 19 – Chapter Meeting
- Nov. 16 – Chapter Meeting

Additional events and activities, see the GA SAR website www.gasocietysar.org

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Dates to Remember	1
Memorial Day at Mars Hill	1-3
President's Message	4
New Chapter Members	5
Flag Retirement	5
Marietta Nat. Cemetery	6
Road Trip of Recognition	7
SAR War/Service Medal	10
Monthly Meeting Recap	12



Memorial Day at Mars Hill Cemetery

On May 29, 2021 thirteen members and eight guests of the Capt. John Collins Chapter Sons of the American Revolution gathered at Mars Hill Cemetery, 2850 Mars Hill Church Road in Acworth, Georgia, at the gravesite of the chapter's namesake, Capt. John Collins, to commemorate and remember the sacrifices and patriotism exhibited by our ancestors.

<Continued on page 2>

Officers and Committees

President – Stallings Howell Jr.

Immediate Past-President – Gary Hoyt

Vice President – Bruce Wampler

Secretary – Christopher V. Seavey

Treasurer - Wayne L. Brown

Registrar – William Edelen

Chancellor - Joseph L. Vancura, Jr.

Chaplain - Lloyd Blackwell

Sergeant-at-Arms - Rodney Pritchett

Historian - Earl Cagle Sr.

Editor – Michael Reither

Americanism/Fire/Law/EMS - Wayne L. Brown

Flags and Knight Essay - Terry A. Gibbs

Cemetery – Michael Reither

JROTC - Earl Cagle Sr.

Eagle Scouts / Education - Bill Coffeen

Veterans - Gary Hoyt / Patrick Reese

DAR Liaison - Earl Cagle Sr.

Membership / Welcome - Bill Coffeen & Lee Hulsey

Chapter Directory - Gary J. Hoyt

Memorial Day at Mars Hill Cemetery (continued)

In years past, the Chapter has held this memorial observance, but due to coronavirus and other circumstances the chapter has not been able to gather at the cemetery. Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who died while in the military service of our country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. In other words, the purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize and remember the Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It is fitting that so many members gathered to pay tribute to Capt. John Collins, a Revolutionary War soldier buried on this site.

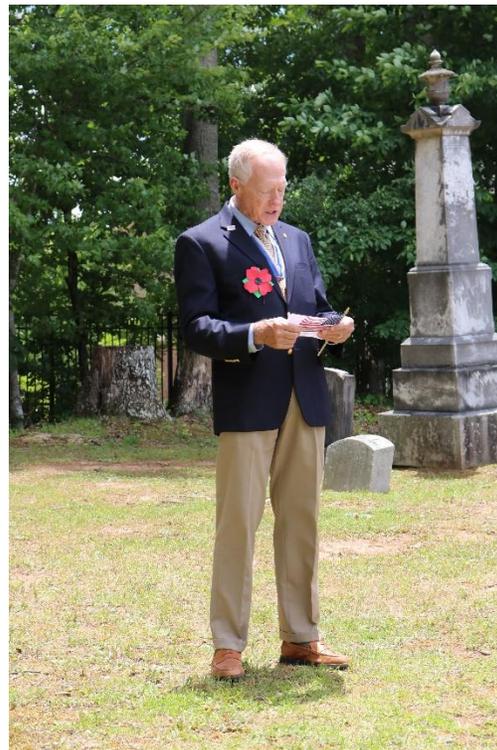
The program led by President Stallings Howell, included a four-member Color Guard composed of Commander Wayne Brown, assisted by Earl Cagle, Sr., Jim Castle, and Bill Coffeen. A fitting invocation was presented by Lloyd Blackwell, and the pledge of allegiance and SAR pledge was led by Gary Hoyt. Bill Kabel, a Viet Nam veteran, said a prayer of thanksgiving for all U.S. veterans; and Larry Guzy gave a wonderful tribute to Capt. John Collins, our namesake. The wreath-laying ceremony included the laying of five wreaths led by Stallings Howell and followed by Gary Hoyt and three ladies representing DAR, UDC and NSDAF.

See photos of this event on the next page.

Memorial Day at Mars Hill Cemetery (continued)



President Stallings Howell



Past National President Larry Guzy



SAR Color Guard

President's Message

Dear Compatriots,

Half of the year has gone, and the Covid-19 pandemic appears to be subsiding. We held our first in-person meeting on May 18th at the Hudson Grille, 2500 Cobb Place Lane, Kennesaw, Georgia 30144 where 48 members and guests came out to attend in person with 7 participating by Zoom. Thanks to Compatriot Wayne Brown and his team, the audio portion had a few problems; but they were solved for the next meeting. Having a great speaker, Brooks Lyles, also meant that the attendees were rewarded with a patriotic presentation about the Battle of Yorktown and for their effort to come out and be reunited with friends and compatriots. We also reinstated the traditional Memorial Day event at the gravesite of Capt. John Collins. Our June 15th meeting continued our high attendance with 39 in person attendees and 7 attending by Zoom. Congressman Barry Loudermilk did an outstanding job of explaining how the Bible has influenced the writings of our Forefathers in the wording of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and in the artwork and statutes located in our Capitol and throughout Washington, DC.

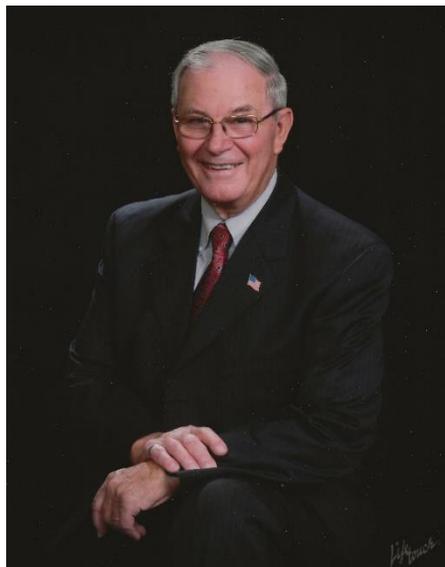
We look forward to the remainder of the year, and we want to keep our high attendance. Bruce Wampler has been able to obtain some exciting speakers for the remainder of the year. Invite friends to our meetings, and we know our Committee Chairs will continue their hard work in keeping Capt. John Collins Chapter alive and well. I hope all of you enjoy your summer months, but do not forget our meetings and outside activities supporting our chapter. We are looking forward to July 2022 when Georgia hosts our National Congress in Savannah. Please contact Joe Vancura if you would like to volunteer for this event.

Patriotically yours,

E. Stallings Howell

President

Captain John Collins NSSAR



Flag Retirement Ceremony (June 14, 2021)

Compatriot Dan King had the honor of assisting in a Flag Retirement Ceremony in commemoration of June 14th Flag Day. The event was organized by Marcia Sasser and hosted by Peter and Kate Sklikas. In addition to Dan, Pat Bauer, Brenda Harris, Brenda King, Marcia Sasser and Kate Sklikas, some DAR members who regularly attend Capt. John Collins SAR meetings, attended the ceremony. Title 36, Section 176 of the Laws of the United States of America reads: "No disrespect should be shown the flag of the United States of America." Furthermore, Paragraph K of Title 36, Section 176 states: "The Flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning."



Dan King cutting up the flag according to protocol



Flag burning barrel



DAR members (Pat Bauer, Brenda Harris, Brenda King, Marcia Sasser, Kate Sklikas) holding the flag for cutting.

Flags at Marietta National Cemetery for Memorial Day

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, it was not known if flags would be placed at Marietta National Cemetery for Memorial Day this year. At the last minute, flag place was approved in small groups and volunteers, veterans, neighbors and public service workers all helped early Friday morning (May 29th) in laying thousands of flags at each and every headstone in the Marietta National Cemetery. Thanks to compatriot William Edelen for attending and sending these photos.



Road Trips of Recognition

Several days before Memorial Day and without events to attend, I suggested to my wife, Marguerite, we do a road trip. This trip had an objective of visiting my relatives' grave sites to pay our respects for their service and leave an American Flag. We left home in Marietta, GA. the morning of May 31st. The first site was in Cobb County at the grave of a Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter compatriot and distant relative (Mallory). We left our respects and an American Flag that carried "Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter" on the staff.

This process was repeated throughout the day with Cherokee County being our next site, with one grave recognized. Pickens County, two cemeteries and four graves one of which was my great grandfather, a Union soldier. Included was an uncle that was awarded a Bronze Star for rescuing a unit on Christmas Night in the Battle of the Bulge, I still miss Uncle Jim (Dad's brother). On to Gilmer County and my Mother's people. Three cemeteries and six relatives along with a classmate/neighbor. We hunted together as boys, he died in a munition factory explosion. Irwin was twenty-one. Mom has four brothers sleeping here.

One of the main goals was in Union County, the grave site of John Nicholson, Revolutionary War Patriot and my eighth-generation grandfather. I had never visited here before. John served in a North Carolina Regiment. He was involved during his life with the efforts to get the "Orphan Strip" adopted by one of the adjacent States.

It was getting late as we headed South to make our last recognition. In Dawson County my efforts to locate the grave site of Richard Bearden, another eighth-generation grandfather. I had been there before. However, I took an incorrect intersection, that coupled with failing memory we decided to return to Cobb County. On the way home I told Marguerite we did not have any plans for July Fourth and we could go back then, which we did. I looked at an aerial view of the grave site area and realized we had been within two hundred yards of the trail that led to the Bearden Family Cemetery. On the Fourth we made the return trip, climbed over a gate, followed the trail and found the tiny cemetery. In less than a week we completed our road trip. I placed the customary Flag on the grave of Dragoon Richard Bearden who served in Sumpter's Brigade in South Carolina.

Richard Bearden was a man of longevity. He was born in Virginia in 1760, moved with his family to South Carolina and volunteered in 1781. He served in the Company of Capt. William Smith (brother-in-law), Regiment of Col. John Thomas and Brigade of General Sumter. He was at the defeat of Congaree Fort, and was hospitalized for a month in Camden with smallpox. He joined his unit and served in several skirmishes near Charleston. His

unit joined General Nathaniel Greene at the high hills of the Santee prior to the battle that sealed the fate of the Crown at the Battle of Eutaw Springs. He served his ten-month contract and filed two applications for a pension, both of which were denied, due to the lack of documentation. Richard died a few days shy of his one hundred and first birthday. Many years later a prominent researcher by the name of Landrum found records of his service in Columbia, SC that supported his claims. Richard moved many times in his lifetime and found a final resting place in the mountains of North Georgia. The Bearden name is well known in North Georgia, two sons came to Gilmer County, Jacob and Willoughby (my ancestor). Our drawn-out trip completed, we feel our time was well worth it.

May all those valiant souls that served our Country, rest in peace.

Earl L. Cagle, Sr., Past President



Earl Cagle standing at the grave of Patriot John Nicholson



Earl Cagle saluting Patriot Richard Bearden

War and Military Service Recognition

Honor your departed family Compatriots, the Chapter added recognition for War Service to our existing Military Service program a few years ago. We had several members respond and it was an honor to recognize them, "Thank You". This article is a reminder of our ability to continue recognition should you choose to participate. We have the medals and supporting certificates to award should you apply. There is an application form that can be e-mailed to you that enumerates the process and identifies the service documentation required. The illustration of Certificate and Medal I hope will encourage you to participate. Contact me for the necessary information and it will be my pleasure to send you the first step in receiving your recognition.

Earl Cagle, Sr., ecagle1@bellsouth.net, 770-579-2748.

Submitted by Earl Cagle, Sr., Chapter Historian



The "War Service Medal" and certificate

The National Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution®



Capt. John Collins Compatriot

has been awarded the

Military Service Medal

In grateful recognition for service in
the United States armed forces.



DATE

PRESIDENT



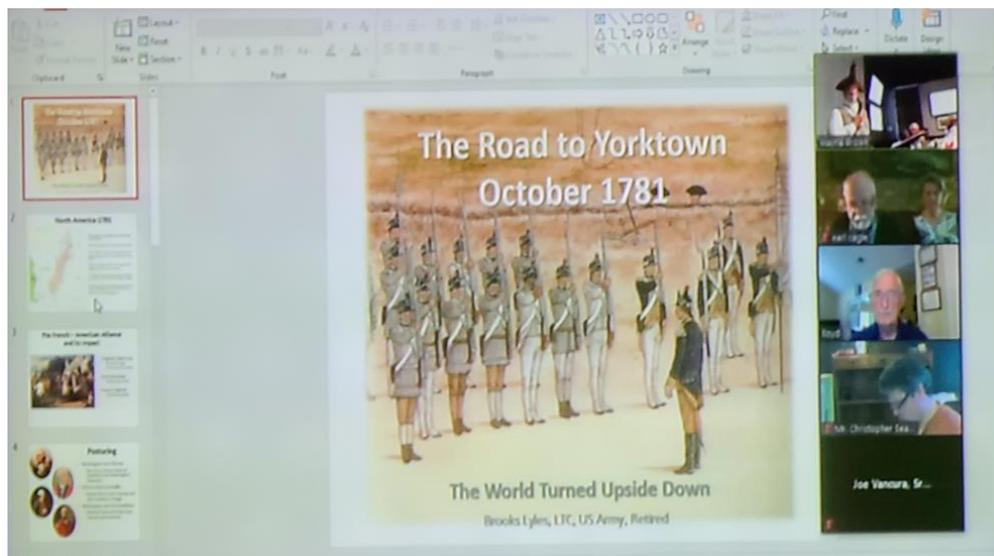
The "Military Service Medal" and certificate

May 2021 Monthly Meeting Recap

Our guest speaker in May was Mr. Brooks Lyles, Vice Commander of the NSSAR National Color Guard. The topic of his presentation was “The Road to Yorktown” which discussed the timeline of events from April to November 1781. Fifty-five members and guests either gathered in person or listened by Zoom for this meeting. Brooks Lyles did an excellent job of explaining the events that led to the battle at Yorktown between General George Washington and British General Cornwallis that led to the end of the American Revolutionary War. Brooks did not fail to pay tribute to the Southern Campaign that no doubt contributed to the victory at Yorktown.



Speaker Brooks Lyles



The Zoom display of “The Road to Yorktown”

June 2021 Monthly Meeting Recap

Our speaker was Mr. Barry Loudermilk, U.S. Congressman of the 11th District. The topic of his presentation was “The Influence of the Bible on the Constitution.”



Representative Barry Loudermilk



President Stallings Howell addresses our Chapter (July 15)

July 2021 Monthly Meeting Recap

Our speaker for the July meeting was Susan Sloan on the topic of “James Monroe, More Than a President”.



Guest speaker Susan Sloan on the virtual screen



Photo of our Compatriots in attendance at the July 20th meeting