



## Captain John Collins Chapter

### Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

# The Collins Dispatch

*Winner of the Carl F. Bessent Newsletter Award 2011*

December 2013

The Chapter meeting starts at 7PM the third Tuesday every month. We gather at the Golden Corral on Barrett Parkway about 6 for dinner and fellowship before the meeting. Family and friends are welcome.

Dec 17 Holiday Meeting Harry Hagan and Rodney Pritchett will provide holiday music.

Jan 17-18 Cowpens

Jan 21—Collins Annual Meeting

Jan 24-25 GASSAR Annual Meeting, Sonesta Hotel, Gwinnett Place

Feb 7-8 Kettle Creek

Feb 18—Chapter Meeting Bruce Maney, President of the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR, will speak on "The Lost Fort McClusky"

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## Winter, The Start of a New Year

Many think of winter as the end of a season of growth and a time to celebrate what we have accomplished. True, but it is also the exciting time of beginnings. As President Gibbs says in his message, without your joining us, we would find it difficult to do all the things we do.

If you have yet to send in your renewal of active membership, do it now so we can begin the year with a record number of members. We all do our small part, often not seeing the big picture. If you have heard of "Swarm Theory" you may know how this applies. The whole of what we do is part of a team. Being guys, we relate differently than the ladies, we do things together and produce friendships in the doing.

We miss all of those who are absent for awhile, or forever, but knowing you through our genealogy and doing things keeps you in our memory. Plan to come to our December meeting early to enjoy the food and fellowship and to let us get to know you better. Happy Holidays

December brings not only our Holiday event, but also our vote for Officers for the following year. This year, the nominating committee, chaired by Wayne Brown, has put together a slate to be recommended to the membership. There will be nominations open from the floor, but the recommendations are:

President-- David Ludley

Vice President-- Harry Hagan

Secretary-- Bert Christy

Treasurer--Jim Castle

Registrar--Robert Van Blackwell

Chancellor-- Chandler Vreeland

Chaplain-- Larry Lines

Historian-- Vann Beasley

Sergeant-at-Arms--Rodney Pritchett

Editor--Larry Guzy

### Upcoming Battle Commemorations

Two winter-time battles are commemorated early in the year. Both are easily accessible by car and include impressive color guard displays and interesting presentations, as well as an opportunity to meet and mingle with compatriots of nearby states.

January 17 and 18 are the dates for the always chilly Cowpens Commemoration, near Gaffney, SC. Members gather for socializing the evening before and then gather at the National Park for ceremonies on Saturday. Re-enactors have an encampment at the park offer-

ing a glimpse of Colonial life for the soldiers.

Kettle Creek, Feb 7 & 8, is remembered in Washington, GA, a short drive from the metro area. Again, members gather the evening before for a meal with old and new friends. A battle re-enactment takes place behind the square. The Washington library is the site of a film viewing that details the battle. On the historic square, members portray Revolutionary War characters. Wreath laying ceremonies are held on the hill that was at the center of the Kettle Creek battle, where participants names are engraved on a large memorial.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos to Larry Guzy for inclusion in the next edition of the Collins Dispatch. Deadline February 4th.

## President's Message

The Captain John Collins Chapter had many opportunities and successes in 2013. We honor our patriots, both past and present, by our contributions to our community and our dedication to our country.

A few of our recent activities were:

- In cooperation with the Sons of Liberty Chapter several John Collins members participated in the Veterans Day Parade in Marietta on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Jim Castle and Wayne Brown were a part of the color guard that led the SAR contingent along the parade route.
- Cemetery Chairman, Lee Hulsey, coordinated cleanup at the Old Allatoona Cemetery. With the assistance of some neighbors two large dead trees were felled and removed. With the exception of a few sore backs and aching muscles the cleanup was a huge success.
- Recently, our chapter honored Old Glory by participating in Flag Retirement ceremonies at the Due West United Methodist Church and at the Boy Scout "Christmas

in the Woods" camp out.

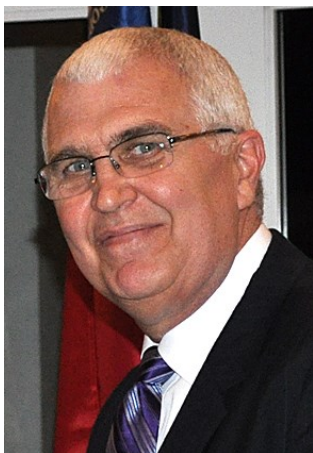
Let me take this opportunity to tell all of you that it was an honor to have been elected President of the Captain John Collins Chapter for the year 2013. Thanks to all of you that helped me "learn the ropes" of being a SAR Chapter President. Thank you for all for your trust and support. Thanks to all of our members that contributed their time and talents to make our chapter's projects a success. Special thanks to committee chairmen for your contributions. I am grateful for all that have served.

This time of the year is a busy time for many of us. Don't forget to include in your year-end activities a plan to renew your SAR dues for 2014. I encourage all of you to support our new officers.

Our new officers will be installed January 21<sup>st</sup> at our annual banquet at the Hilton Marietta Conference Center. Please make your plans to be there. Our chapter's future is in your hands.

Finally, I'd like to sincerely wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Terry Gibbs



## Officers and Committees

President	Terry Gibbs
Vice President	David Ludley
Secretary	Bert Christy
Treasurer	James Castle
Registrar	Van Blackwell
Asst Registrar	Earl Cagle
Chancellor	Larry Lines
Chaplain	Larry Lines
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	Vann Beasley
Editor	Larry Guzy
Americanism	Wayne Brown
Cemetery	Leland Lee Hulsey
Law/Fire/JROTC	Curtis McWaters
Eagle Scouts	Earl Cagle
Veterans/Flags	Lamon Smith
Membership	Bill Coffeen
Patriot Grave	Leland Lee Hulsey
DAR Liaison	Bert Christy
Welcome/Education	John Mattingly
Public Relations	Lamar Cheatham & Rich Morrison
Schools	David Martin

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. **February 4th** will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Larry Guzy at [larryguzy47@gmail.com](mailto:larryguzy47@gmail.com) or regular mail at 4531 Paper Mill Rd SE, Marietta, GA 30067-4025.

*If you have new member leads, contact Registrar Van Blackwell.*

## Collins Member News & Happenings

William Cary (WC) Pickens was approved 11.1.13 188931 GA 5687 from Patriot John Mayes

David Beam was approved 11.2.13 189022 GA 5690 from Patriot James Carlile

Jerry (Jerome) Anderson was also approved 11.2.13 189027 GA 5695

Jim Hollifield's ancestor, Phillip Null was approved by National

Frank Riley of Cartersville has signed his application for Patriot Abraham Waterman

Welcome back to member Stephen Pocalyko

## 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

Bert Christy 770-640-7617

[christyb@bellsouth.net](mailto:christyb@bellsouth.net)

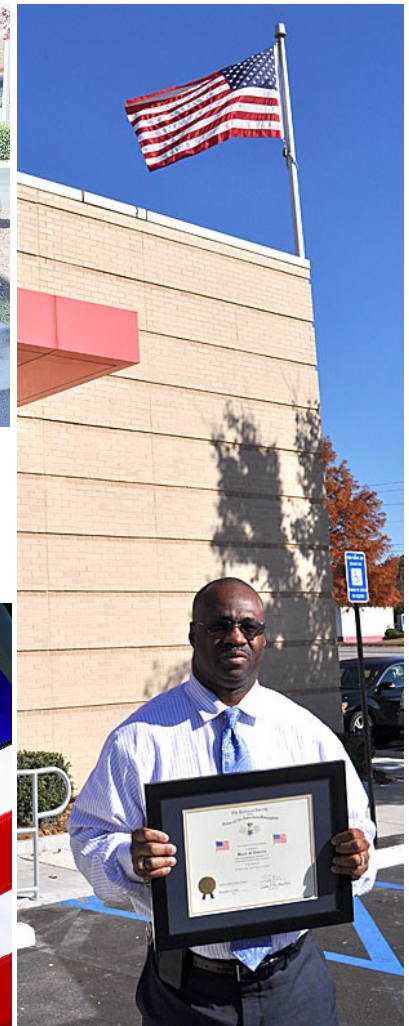




A flag certificate was presented by **President Terry Gibbs** at the St. Joseph Catholic School. "The students that raise and lower the flag each day are VERY serious about what they do, Terry reported. Pictured are: Assistant Principal Jill Ramsey and Principal Patricia Allen.



Lina Rozier, Manager of Regions Bank at Piedmont and Upper Roswell Rds. accepted a flag certificate presented by **Larry Guzy**.



**Larry Guzy** presented a flag certificate to Stevie Buckles, Manager of Bank of America, 2465 Roswell Rd., Marietta

## Flag Certificates...



A flag certificate was presented at Atherton Place in Marietta, just prior to a concert by Compatriot **Rodney Pritchett**. Accepting was Atherton resident, retired Cobb Superior Court Judge Watson



## Just the Headlines...

Compatriot, Life member, and former President **Joe Vancura** (2004) was recognized at the September National Leadership Meeting for joining the group of Center for Advancing America's Heritage donating from \$1000 to \$4999--Thank you Joe.

Compatriot, Life member, and former President **Larry Guzy** (2000/2001) was the speaker at the 11.14.13 Button Gwinnett Chapter Meeting on the topic "The Civil War the South Won"

## FLAG CERTIFICATES

Curtis McWaters, Wayne Brown, Terry Gibbs and others who have made presentations of certificates of appreciation for proper display of the Nations Flag know the satisfaction of the presentation to the recipients. On Thursday two certificates were presented to two banks catty-corner from each other on Roswell Rd and Piedmont. Bank Manager Stevie Buckles at Bank of America 2465 Roswell Rd. was thrilled since he is a 12 year Air Force Veteran and was going to display the framed certificate immediately. Branch Manager Lina Rozier of Regions Bank 2486 Roswell Rd. also thought it a special honor since their flag had just recently been damaged in a storm and had been replaced. She also was going to display the certificate right away.

Make a resolve for 2014 to locate someone who lovingly displays their Patriotism with a proper display of our Flag. If you do not want to present it, let the chapter know where it should be presented and it will get done.



## Old Allatoona Cemetery Cleanup

What started out as an idea by Charter member Doug Frey on April 7, 2001 has continued for 12 years and turned into a great project to serve the community. The 2.3 acre site was first attacked by Chairman Doug Frey, Bert Christy, Rodney Pritchett, Laymon Smith, and Larry Guzy. The amount of brush and dead fall was nearly overwhelming. With perseverance and many returns to clean and detail, the Cemetery is now in great shape.

We returned on November 9th and, with the help of neighbors and Scouts, 13 people in all, some large trees were taken down. Lee Hulsey, the current Chairman, has done a great job of keeping us focused on this project. The future will bring some work to restore the cedar fence put up by an Eagle project in 1996, and of course the winter deadfall clean up.



The names of those that helped and those in photographs are :

Caleb Post - boy in khaki Boy Scout uniform shirt  
 Trey Hobson - boy in grey hoodie  
 Jacob Minert - boy in red shirt  
 Greg Post - adult in photo and one who began to help cutting up first tree with chainsaw-west neighbor  
 Ken Grass - adult that took photo-east neighbor--just came to visit and to use some of the wood  
 Adam Toomey - adult that cut down tree

From the chapter:

Terry Gibbs

Wayne Brown

Lee Hulsey, Chairman

Larry Guzy

not pictured, Mrs. Post, another mother and two other scouts



*W.M. McDonald was presented the Fire Safety Award at the October Chapter meeting.*

## Speakers



*David Ludley thanks Susan Sloan who presented to our September meeting.*

*Cemetery expert and historian Brad Quinlan spoke in October on "Landrine Eggers and Nathaniel Greene: A Grunt and a General", both of whom were his ancestors.*





## Christmas in the Woods with the Scouts

**December 7, 2013**

I would like to take a moment to extend a sincere thanks to chapter members, Terry Gibbs, Curtis McWaters, and Jim Castle for braving the cold and dampness the evening of December 7th to participate in the Scouting event for Troop 1294 which they refer to as "Christmas in the Woods." This year marked the Collins Chapter's 4th year of hosting their flag retirement ceremony.

With the entree including roasted pork, beef brisket and turkey, and desserts including Dutch oven baked apple cobbler, peach cobbler, cherry cobbler and chocolate cake, I think we can all agree that the food which they prepared for dinner was outstanding. And all, including desserts, was cooked at the camp site.

Again, thanks so very much.

Wayne Brown

11 Alive News reporter Paul Crawley made a surprise visit in the form up area to get opinions of the announcement that the Braves were moving to Cobb County! Not having heard the news, we were thrilled and gave huzzahs as the camera ran. We had our 5 seconds of fame when the article appeared on the 6 PM news that night.

## Veterans Day Parade

by Larry Guzy

In speaking with several members who participated in the parade, we recall Veterans Day as a day of work while on active duty! My memory is of steaming south to Mayport, FL with our carrier USS Independence to be a backdrop for an appearance by our Commander-in-Chief, President Richard Nixon. We worked for several days cleaning and polishing (as most Navy ships did daily anyway) and reworking our schedule so we could look relaxed and confident! It is still a vivid memory, but certainly not what we celebrate as civilians to honor those who served.

The Collins Chapter joined the Sons of Liberty Chapter on Monday 11/11/2013 at 11AM to march in the parade from Roswell Street Baptist Church past the Square in Marietta. It seemed as though it would be a cold day so many dressed too warm, and one thought it balmy, but the goose bumps on his bare arms said otherwise!



The rest of the parade was an enjoyable walk in front of a high school band, and luckily this year not behind horses as we were one year ducking and weaving. Chris Boyce had parked his truck in the Post Office lot so we had a ride back. A motley crew in a pickup truck to be sure! Thanks to Bryan Black, Wayne Brown, Jim Castle, Terry Gibbs, Larry Guzy, Larry Lines, David Ludley, WC and Nancy Pickens, Rodney Pritchett, and Lamar Cheatham who was one of the Marshalls. The Sons of Liberty was represented by Chris Boyce and Phil Martin who brought the twins who did a great job carrying the banner in front.





President **Terry Gibbs** presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **Bill Coffeen** for his efforts at the National Boy Scout Jamboree in West Virginia.



New member **Charles Hunt** received his SAR lapel pin from his wife, Rosalind, at the October meeting.



**Charles Switzer** was presented with a collage of photos from the rededication of the central library in his name. It was presented by Earl Cagle.

## The News in Pictures



New member **Lloyd Blackwell** received his certificate from President Gibbs, in September.



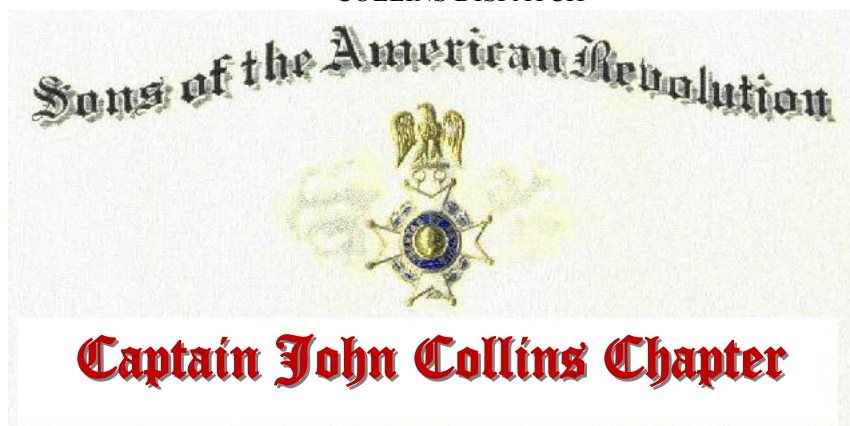
**Robert Van Blackwell** received certificates for several supplements, among them James Blackwell.



New member, **Jerry Anderson**

**W.C. Pickens** received his new member certificate.





## **Annual Banquet—January 21, 2014—Tuesday 7 p.m.**

Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center

500 Powder Spring Street, Marietta, Georgia, 30064

### **Banquet Registration (Please Print)     \$35 per person**

Name (member) _____	\$35
Name (Guest) _____	\$ _____
Name (Guest) _____	\$ _____
Name (Guest) _____	\$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____	

Please return this form with your check in the amount of the above total.

Make check payable to “John Collins Chapter, SAR” and mail to:

Compatriot Jim Castle  
3813 Clear Lake Way  
Acworth GA 30101



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

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*The Chapter's namesake, Captain John Collins' headstone is at the Mars Hill cemetery in Acworth.*



*Battle of Vann's Creek, remembered December 7th, was a precursor to Kettle Creek. Lake Hartwell now covers the battle site and a wreath is taken by boat and placed over the site. Larry Guzy participated.*



Toiletries (but not small bar soap), magazines, blankets and books are needed at Veteran care facilities. Bring items to be donated to the chapter meetings and report your visits to Vets and other activities.

**Veteran & Americanism points can add up fast!**

## **Mars Hill Cemetery, John Collins, and Jerry Slate!**

The Mars Hill Cemetery Preservation Association has published an alphabetical pdf of all the graves in the cemetery. This includes our Name-sake, Capt. John Collins. It also includes Isabella, Felix (1801 to 1873) and Daniel (1813 to 1890). This was quite an undertaking since it also locates every marker by row.

An article was in the Marietta Daily Journal in September concerning the work done.

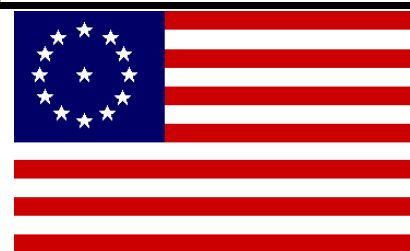
Our member, Jerry Slate, reports that his distant uncle, William Austin, married John Collins's sister Jane (Jennie) Collins Austin and there are stories of him and her during the revolution, she was quite a young lady and stood in the face of "Bloody Bill Cunningham with a knife when she was 14 years old and he did not kill her.

Jerry relates also that the information he has comes from a book, "The Austin and Allied Families" printed 1936. Jerry has spoken to groups about this and perhaps he can be convinced to tell us more also. The book tells of Jeannie (Jane Collins) riding from Greenville District into North Carolina, her brother, Captain John Collins had come back to recruit, he had gathered 44 recruits and Jeannie with orders from John to find out where to meet up, they sewed the orders in her saddle she went to North Carolina, the General sent back where, when etc. This was just before the battle in Savannah, Kettle Creek and Cowpens. The General was killed at Cowpens and her future husband William Austin was wounded.

## **Gone but not Forgotten**

**Jennifer Grace Smith**, wife of Henry Laymon Smith passed on October 21st. at the age of 66. She accompanied Laymon to various annual meetings in the past and as we all know our spouses are our best friends. Our hearts feel for Laymon's loss.

**Samuel Keaton**, member and father of former President Skip Keaton (2008), passed on Friday, August 30th. Sam grew up in Cullman, AL and worked for Wolverine Tubing for 42 years. He moved to Sandy Springs in



Cowpens Flag