



The Collins Dispatch

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

June 2015

Dates to Remember

The Chapter meeting starts at 7PM the third Tuesday every month. We gather at the Cherokee Cattle Co., 2710 Canton Hwy., about 6 for dinner and fellowship before the meeting. Family and friends are welcome.

Saturday, 6/13/15 Willis West grave marking Fayetteville, GA

Tuesday 6/16/15 Chapter Meeting, speaker: Van Blackwell on DNA Testing

Friday 6/26 through Wed. 7/1 National Congress Louisville, KY

Tuesday 7/21/15 Chapter Meeting, speaker: Bruce Maney on Citizen Soldier

Saturday 7/25/15 10AM State BOM Barnesville, GA

Tuesday 8/18/15 Chapter Meeting Speaker: Melodye Brown, Rome DAR

See the GA SAR website for other events: georgiasocietysar.org

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Doing Your Part



What does all the activity in the following pages have to do with me, you ask? It is nice that the "Chapter" has been doing these JROTC and Proclamation things. However I have my own thing and have not taken the time to participate. Sure, I go to meetings every once in awhile, but I have these other things that take up my time.

A July 2007 National Geographic Magazine article was on Swarm Theory. What does this have to do with the SAR you say? Everything!

"A group won't be smart if its members imitate one another. Slavishly follow fads, or wait for someone to tell them what to do. When a group is being intelligent, it relies on its members to do their own part. ...our actions matter, even if we don't see how.

"None of us knows what Society as a whole needs, but we look around and say, oh, they need someone to volunteer at school, or to mow the church lawn, or help in a political campaign."

What is your part in the SAR Society as a whole? What are you doing to further its goals? What small part can you play? Is it worth your time? It is the reason you are here and will be here when you are not, but will be so much more if you do your part. Your actions do matter, no matter how small, even if you do not see why.

Have you considered what an honor it is to know you are descended from a Patriot of the American Revolution? What do you do to honor that fact and take your part?

One trend today for the SAR is to recognize that we seem to have lost our focus, or perhaps we never recognized that we needed to focus. When one says DAR, do you know what that is? Most everyone has some idea. What about SAR? If you were not a member, would you know? We are in the process of "Branding" so it will be a recognizable entity. What about "SAR, Sons of the American Revolution: where belonging brings your history to life." or "Your Past Lives On." Whatever it may be, we need to be proud of our heritage and identify the SAR as a means to achieve this.

Every little thing you do to honor your past and preserve your heritage serves a purpose even if we cannot see how. So talk to your friends and neighbors about the organization in which you belong, perhaps they too would like to honor their past by attending a meeting to hear a speaker talk about their heritage!

Next issue: Branding the SAR

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

President's Message

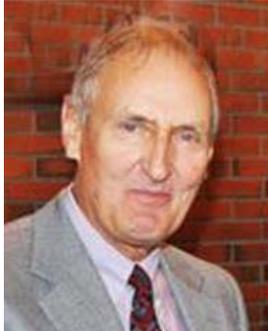
Greetings Compatriots!

I trust we all are enjoying the recurrent and wonderful miracle that is spring.

Doing a bit of spring cleaning here at home, I came across a newspaper article that I had clipped out ca. two years ago, which was about a few letters from John Paul Jones having resurfaced, sort of, in a library in Charleston SC. The Charleston Library Society's Rob Salvo said "They had completely fallen out of institutional memory." Bureaucrats sometimes use interesting language, don't they?

Anyway, and thankfully, they did find their way back to the light of day, where we hope they'll continue to reside, so that perhaps they can soon, or eventually, be read at will online by all Americans, though that is not the case just now, for reasons unknown and unreported.

There are eleven letters from Jones totaling thirteen pages. They were all written in 1777, two years before he made his famous remark "I have just begun to fight!" The AP report said that many of the



letters were addressed to Joseph Hewes, who was the then Secretary of the Navy. One was written to Benjamin Franklin, then in Paris, inquiring into the possibility of our getting some French-made ships.

Jones' most famous exploit was in the battle with the English ship Serapis, and took place off the English coast, as you probably know. Jones was outgunned by the Brits, but during the battle, he lashed his ship to the Serapis in order to pursue the fight with small arms, and ended with the British vessel's surrender.

After the war, Jones served in the Russian Navy, which I had not known, nor did I know that he died in Paris in 1792, at the age of 45.

In one letter, Jones wrote "I would lay down my life for America, but I cannot trifle with my honor." That sentiment, alas, seems almost quaint, vis a vis all too many of our present leaders. But it's yet another in a long line of reasons why we in the SAR pursue our mission.

All the best to each of you, and your families.

Harry Hagan

Officers and Committees

President	Harry Hagan
Vice President	Lee Hulsey
Secretary	John Mattingly
Treasurer	James Castle
Registrar	Robert Van Blackwell
Chancellor	Chandler Vreeland
Chaplain	Larry Lines
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	Vann Beasley
Editor	Larry Guzy
Americanism/Fire/Law	Wayne Brown
Cemetery/Patriot Grave	WC Pickens
JROTC	Curtis McWaters
Eagle Scouts	OPEN
Flags	Terry Gibbs
Membership	OPEN
Veterans	Leland Lee Hulsey
DAR Liaison	Bert Christy
Welcome	John Mattingly
Schools	David Martin assisting

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. **August 4th** will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Larry Guzy at larryguzy47@gmail.com or regular mail at 4531 Paper Mill Rd SE, Marietta, GA 30067-4025. Cell 678-860-4477

If you have new member leads, contact Registrar Van Blackwell rblackwell1001@comcast.net

Collins Member News & Happenings

Several people are working on applications with **Registrar Van Blackwell**.

Lloyd Blackwell, **Gene Irvine**, and **Van Blackwell** are all working on additional supplements.

Joe Wright, **James Henson, Jr.** and **Andrew Burr** all have new applications in the approval process either at State or at National.

Charter member, **Peter Ashton Lyons**, has reinstated his membership. Peter's contact information is: 1579 Old Hunters Trace Marietta, GA 30062 cell 404.626.9024 email: peterashtonlyons@gmail.com

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

John Mattingly 770-943-4402

JohnCWBuff@bellsouth.net



Orations Contest

Georgia Society President Tom Owens, Collins Orations contest winner and state Orations Contest Chair George Wheeler at the GAS-SAR Board of Managers meeting where Ms. Olivia Adams competed in the state competition, placing second. Ms. Adams also presented her speech at a recent chapter meeting. She is the granddaughter of Compatriot **Jerry Slate**



Dick Richter, Joe Boyd, Curtis McWaters, Ed Walraven, President Bill Houston

On Thursday, June 4th, our friend and compatriot **Curtis McWaters** was warmly greeted by the president and members of the Rome Chapter. Curtis is known across the state for his dedication to and love for the SAR and it was delightful to see him resume his duties as NW Regional Vice President. This was his first excursion to an SAR event since his recent health challenges were resolved.

Wayne Brown also attended the Rome chapter meeting.



*President **Harry Hagan** presented member **Jim Hollifield** with his approved supplement on **Jesse Burnette** at the April Chapter Meeting. Jim gave us some information on this additional Patriot.*

SAR Genealogical Library What's In It For You?

At the headquarters of our organization in Louisville, 809 W. Main Street, we have access to over 55,000 volumes of genealogical research materials.

Collections at the library include:

- General Genealogy/History Materials
- Family Histories
- State Records
- Online Resources
- Patriot Index
- SAR Member Applications
- Genealogy "how-to" books
- Census Indexes
- Immigration Records
- Genealogy materials for specific nationalities and ethnic groups
- Lineage Society materials
- Revolutionary War histories, service/pension records, bounty land indexes

Family histories, many of them unique to the SAR, are offered in over 5,000 book formatted volumes by surname, and over 5,000 microfiche files.

Over 25,000 state records include state/local histories, vital records, cemetery records, court records and more.

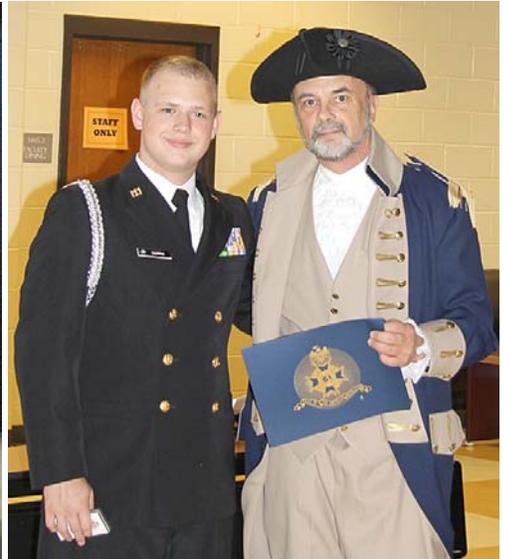
JROTC Cadets Honored



Bill Coffeen with Cadet Henry Garcia at Kennesaw Mountain High School
Photo: Earl Cagle



Wayne Brown and Harry Hagan awarded a smiling Nia Myrthil at Marietta High.
Photo: Marietta HS

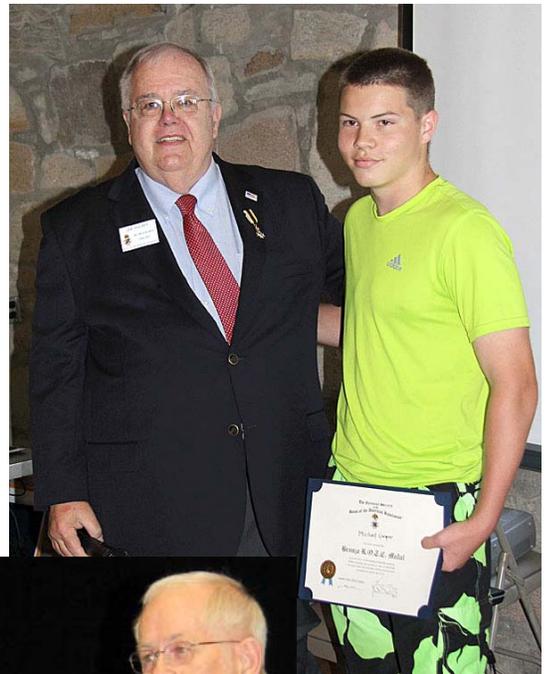


Cadet Lieutenant Deacon Harris received a certificate from Compatriot Jim Castle during the JROTC program at Allatoona High School on April 23rd.



Osborne High School Cadet Charles Hague was congratulated by Lee Hulsey
Photo: Earl Cagle

Lee Hulsey awarded Sprayberry High Cadet CPO Michael Cooper at lakeside ceremony.
Photo: Earl Cagle



Stan Virden presented to Louis Ramos of North Cobb High School in ceremony combined with Harrison HS.

Photo: Earl Cagle



Cadet Bryan Allison was presented with medal and certificate at Harrison High School by Stan Virden
Photo: Earl Cagle



JROTC Awards

Chairman **Wayne Brown** coordinates with ten high schools in the Chapter area each year to have cadets chosen for the annual awards. JROTC adult leaders recommend cadets based on excellence, military standing, and academics.



Hillgrove High School Cadet Zachary Lewis received his certificate from **Wayne Brown** on May 12. No photo is available, but President **Harry Hagan** presented an award to Cadet Karis Hill at the South Cobb HS Awards' Ceremony, May 11, 2015.



Earl Cagle presented to Francisco Casteneda Vasquez at Pebblebrook High school on May 12.

Photo: Wayne Brown

Book Review

Independence: The Tangled Roots of the American Revolution by [Thomas P. Slaughter](#)

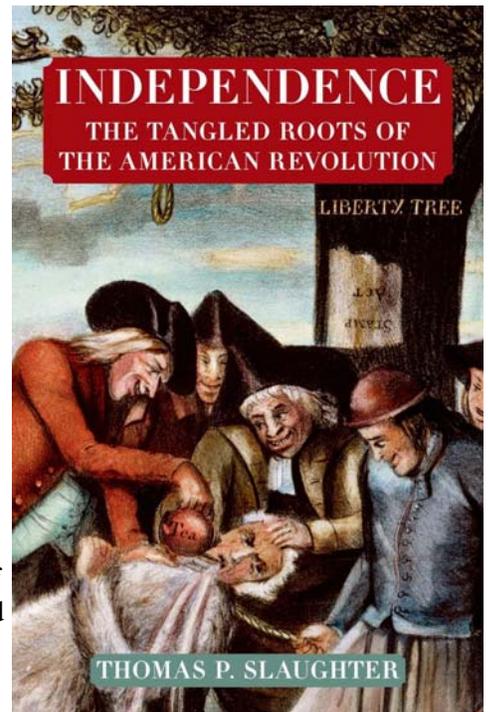
Available in several forms, including e-books, this detailed history puts a new slant on the American story up to the War of Independence. John Adams opined that this war was not the revolution, but only the consequence of a revolution that had simmered for more than the preceding century. It touched on virtually every aspect of the colonies' laws, commerce, social structures, religious sentiments, family ties, and political interests. What's more, the revolution's characteristics varied a great deal from colony to colony within the 15 colonies maintained by Britain in what is now the continental U.S.

Two of those colonies (East and West Florida) wanted no part of revolution, as they had happy and profitable trade relations with the mother country. The others all had separate royal charters that varied in many respects, and economies that differed, as well. They were not bound in any particular sense of unity. Their prominent voices tended to wish nothing more than equal rights with other English subjects, combined with freedom to pursue their lives as they saw fit under

governance of locally elected assemblies. A common thread was resentment of any arbitrary attempt to levy taxes against them simply for the benefit of England.

Independence was regarded by colonists as a birthright. They were

happy enough to acknowledge the King as their sovereign, and their participating membership in the British Empire. But there was no practical means of representation in Parliament, and no understood reason why that body should have a say in American affairs or ability to tax American colonists, institutions, and businesses. Parliament, on the other hand, looked on America as a cash cow and its residents as subject very much to their authority. From Prime Minister on



down they felt very much in charge and quite willing to enforce that idea. Massachusetts, in particular, was viewed as a rogue colony that had to be brought under control. American officials and militias were distained as lawless and disloyal, lacking the chops to understand the order of things and the natural superiority of their British overlords.

Individualism

American society at this time was a

(Continued on page 6)

**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.

(Continued from page 5 Book Review)

chaotic mixed bag of individualism in thought, word, and deed. Religion was an incendiary issue, with suspicions abounding that the Church of England might be forced upon the colonies. Trade restrictions by the British led to a vigorous smuggling industry. Canada was a highly distrusted neighbor, as many colonists sought land away from the coast in territory that was not specifically American or Canadian. Relationships with Indians were often hostile, with British encouragement of tribes to restrain Americans from westward settlement. Yet in the minds of most Americans, as late as 1775, their cherished wish for independence did not require separation from the Crown, a concept the British found hard to digest. Both sides began to dig in their heels, with British repression bearing down ever heavier. Obduracy on both sides heated up toward military conflict, with results we all celebrate. Had there been more rational co-equal negotiation, we

might well have become today like Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. But instead, we felt forced to go our own way. This book explains motivations and actions on both sides, or perhaps thirteen sides plus the Mother Country. Sometimes the profligate reproduction of contemporary documents makes for tedious reading, but overall one is subjected to a view of our emerging nation barely touched upon in most relevant literature. How thirteen disparate political units, having little interest in each other, finally melded together in common cause to create an innovative united society is a compelling story. With a new and deeper understanding of what really lay beneath the surface of our War for Independence, one can appreciate the phenomenon of America as never before.

*Reviewed by Frank S. Virden
(Stan)*



Memorial Day

The chapter was represented at the Marietta National Cemetery on Memorial Day by Wayne Brown, Jim Castle, and Lee Hulsey, with Jim presenting the chapter wreath.

Veterans

Toiletries (but not small bar soap), magazines, blankets, socks, 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.

Chandler Vreeland presented a flag certificate to C.B. Fair of United Commercial Bank, Marietta, in late May.



Chapter President Harry Hagan thanked former State President Terry Manning for his presentation to the chapter meeting on April 21.