



Captain John Collins Chapter

Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Collins Dispatch

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

June 2016

Dates to Remember

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

Tues 6/21/16 Chapter Meeting
Robert Jones, local author, will speak on the heroes of the American Revolution

July 8-13/2016 126th Congress Boston, MA Four from the Chapter are registered to attend

Tues 7/19/16 Chapter Meeting
Caroline Crawford, of the Switzer Library, will speak on the Georgia Room

Sat 7/30/16 GA SAR BOM
10am Barnesville, GA
Additional events and activities, see the GA SAR website

Inside...

Collins House on Historic Preservation Tour	1
President's Message	2
Member News	2
Memorial Day in Marietta	3
Assist to Homeless Veterans	3
Mars Hill Memorial Assoc.	3
Judson Roberts Remembered	3
Book Review	4
Registrar's Notes #4	5
Family History Conference	5
Award for Mercer	5
Patriots Day Proclamation	6
Cemetery Cleanup	6
Grave Marking	6

Chapter Opportunity to Honor Our Patriot Captain John Collins



On Sunday April 24th the Chapter participated in the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation Spring Ramble Tour on Collins Avenue in Acworth, GA. Our Chapter namesake's original home, built in 1838, was the reason. We were honored to be able to set up displays on the porch to showcase life at the time of the Revolution as well as information about the SAR.

Direct descendant of John Collins, Mike Donohou opened the original part of the house to the public. We learned a lot about the family, area, and the house from Mike. His son, Jeff, will reside there. His brother and sister in law, Merrill and Caraline joined us in a photo op before the Ramble.



The opportunity to share the Collins history with not only the family, but also the Ramblers, was, as the ad says, "Priceless". Four of us were in uniform - Earl Cagle, Wayne Brown, Jim Castle, and Larry Guzy.



We were joined by seven others to meet and greet the Ramblers: President Lee Hulsey, Patrick Reese, Doug Talley, VP Charles Sanger, Terry Gibbs, Peter Lyon, and member to be Stallings Howell.



Doug Talley brought his period musket with bayonet and manned the display table.

Not only did we have an opportunity to share the Collins History with the family and Ramblers, but we also had a great time.

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

President's Message

Compatriots,
We are on the threshold of Summer. It's hard to believe that Spring is on its way out. Many great things have occurred this Spring for the Collins chapter. One of which is the JROTC award program that the Chapter is involved in for the months of April and May.



A total of 15 high schools in Cobb and Paulding counties with JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) programs, have graciously permitted us to honor outstanding cadets with certificates and medals. These awards publicly acknowledge these young students for their hard work and dedication.

Secondly, the Georgia Preservation Trust event at the Collins house on April 24 was a fun event for the Chapter. The house was the last residence of Captain John Collins, our namesake. Built in 1838, he occupied the home with one of his sons until his death. The current residents are direct descendants of Capt. Collins and have occupied the home for some time. We appreciate their kindness and generosity in allowing the Chapter to set-up the Chapter display and an interpretive program, that included several of our members dressed in Continental uniforms, as well as The Traveling Trunk. Many, if not all, were amazed at our members dressed in period attire and requested photos. We would like to see this be a continuing event for the Chapter.

At this time of year, let's take time out to

remember Memorial Day, Monday May 30. At this reading Memorial Day will have passed for 2016. I hope each of us took time to remember this important day. Memorial Day used to be called Decoration Day. It commemorates all men and women who have died in military service for the United States. Most families in the United States were touched in some way with the loss of a loved one during our Nations wars.

In Flanders Field By John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

Let us not forget all who served, and serve!

Lee Hulsey
President

Officers and Committees	
President	Leland Lee Hulsey
Vice President	Charles Sanger
Secretary	Larry Guzy
Treasurer	James Castle
Registrar	Robert Van Blackwell
Chancellor	Chandler Vreeland
Chaplain	Lloyd Blackwell
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	Vann Beasley
Editor	Larry Guzy
Americanism/Fire/ Law/EMS	Wayne Brown
Cemetery	WC Pickens
JROTC	Curtis McWaters
Eagle Scouts	OPEN
Flags	Terry Gibbs
Membership	VP & Registrar
Veterans	Bert Christy
DAR Liaison	Bert Christy
Welcome	OPEN
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 Stan Virden at vivahaus@comcast.net

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

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

larryguzy47@gmail.com or call 678-860-4477

Collins Member News & Happenings

The Bufords, Fred Jr., Fred III, and Andrew have moved to Gainesville: 4126 Black Hawk Dr. 30506. Fred was having difficulty with the stairs at his Marietta home, and their new place fits the bill. They may transfer to the Lyman Hall Chapter eventually.

Michael P. Rebman has moved also. He is now at 1505 1/2 South Pacific Las Vegas, NM 87701 770-324-6272 mprebm@gmail.com

Stan Virden has a new email address: vivahaus@comcast.net



Charles Sanger presented the chapter wreath at the annual Memorial Day ceremonies held at the Marietta National Cemetery. Larry Guzy read "Washington's Prayer to the Troops" to the assembled scouts on Saturday morning before they placed flags on every headstone. (photo Wayne Brown)



During the Mars Hill Memorial Association's annual meeting, President Jimi Richards (r) received a check for \$100 from the Collins Chapter President Lee Hulsey. Each year, the association's annual meeting is scheduled on the Sunday prior to Memorial Day and is held in the Mars Hill Schoolhouse that was built adjacent to the cemetery in 1873. This was an opportunity to contribute to the maintenance and preservation of the cemetery since this is the gravesite location of our chapter's namesake, Captain John Collins. (photo Wayne Brown)

SUPPORT OF HOMELESS VETERANS

The United Methodist Church is taking up a special offering for homeless veterans - the program is called "Raise the Roof for Veterans". The purpose is to provide safe, stable housing for homeless veterans. This is not a local church thing but will be all the United Methodist Churches that are in our part of the world. The collection was taken on 5/29 and 6/5 and the checks should have had "AC Offering" on the memo part.

SAR compatriots who did not attend the UMC can still participate by mail. The check should be made out to: North Georgia Methodist Conference; the memo part should read: "Raise the Roof" The checks should be sent to:

Conference Treasurer

P.O. Box 102417

Atlanta, Ga 30368-2417

There are many homeless veterans that need our help to have a place to live, and I know many of you want to help. If you honor and respect their service, I am urging each of you to contribute at least \$10.00, and a hopefully a **lot more** if you are able.

I am writing my check right now, and I hope you will write yours now while it is fresh on your mind. I am confident that this is a good way to honor all veterans who served who proudly served our nation.

At our next meeting I will pass around a sheet so the amounts donated can be reported for the chapter veterans report.

Bert R. Christy,

Veterans Committee Chairman

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.

Judson Wheeler Roberts, 60, passed away May 29 after a three-year battle with lymphoma.

Roberts spearheaded efforts by the Cherokee County Historical Society and was the first recipient of the newly established Judson W. Roberts Lifetime Service Award. Historic preservation was his passion and he worked to restore the Rock Barn in Canton where the Cherokee Chapter of SAR holds their meetings.

A charter member of the Collins Chapter, he later transferred to the Cherokee Chapter.



Judson Roberts

Photo taken at his home in Ball Ground, where he hosted a 2003 picnic for the Collins Chapter.

Follow this link to read the AJC [obituary](#).



THE SHIPS THAT SAVED AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

--Reviewed by Stan Virden

After peace was signed with the British in 1783, Hamilton and the Republican Party (forerunner of today's Democrat Party) campaigned to build up the Army, thinking it might be a good time to take over Canada while the taking was good. Federalists, on the other hand, thought we needed a Navy to protect our seagoing commerce, on which our economy was highly dependent. Money was limited. Arguments were fierce. Jefferson rode the fence. "Perhaps," he stated, "we need a small ocean-going squadron for coastal protection."

At the war's conclusion we acted as we always have since: we disassembled our Army and Navy as unnecessary in a peace-loving democracy. But as always happens when we do that, other nations started picking on us. Ian Toll, in *SIX FRIGATES*, his epic and face-paced history of why we created a permanent Navy, takes us back stage through the political intrigue and infighting that roiled our fledgling government while American merchant ships were being harassed and raided by European and Muslim forces alike. In 1793 alone, French privateers captured 316 unprotected American merchantmen, while the four North African Muslim states were demanding huge tributes to restrain from doing the same and exorbitant ransoms to recover sailors who fell into their hands.

The argument was settled with the Naval Act of 1794, authorizing a standing U.S. Navy to be built around six large frigates of innovative design and live-oak construction, each to be constructed in a different port. These were to prove superb vessels, larger and more heavily armed than their European counterparts, while more nimble than the European 74-gun battleships. Their live-oak frames, only attainable within 25 miles of the southern U.S. coast, made them much stronger and far more damage-resistant than the warships that were to oppose them. After an early string of victories at sea, they became greatly feared by our enemies of the day.

Completion of these ships was not easily achieved, and at first only three were finished, while the other three were left partly built. Money was tight, logistics were painfully difficult. Thanks to the great abundance of American shipping, and seagoing talent left over from the Revolution, good officers and crew could fairly easily be found. Most that manned these vessels were first rate and proved their mettle in the Quasi-war with France, in conflict with the Barbary States, and in making impossible the domination of superior British forces in the War of 1812.

Toll's lively prose tells us how it all was done, providing valuable insights into the character and capacities of the politicians, shipbuilders, and sailors who made it happen. It is a highly-readable chronicle of exciting events that established the United States as a nation to be reckoned with and respected for its creative independent spirit and its toughness in fending off interference with its affairs and ambitions.



U.S.S. CONSTITUTION



Registrar's Notes #4

Online Documentation

There are several ancestry web sites that are available on-line. On these sites, a person is able to place their family tree. But care must be taken using these sites to help search our ancestry. To put it quite simply, there is a lot of bad genealogy that gets posted on these sites. I have seen such things as a man shown as being married to a woman who in fact turns out to be his daughter, and parents having a child when they are under 10!

It is because of this that genealogical societies like the Sons of the American Revolution DO NOT accept genealogies from on-line sites. As shown in the SAR Registrar's Manual :

Unacceptable documentation

The following unacceptable sources should not be submitted as "proof" of a bloodline:

LDS Ancestral File and/or IGI records;

User-submitted family information from online websites, including GEDCOM's, Ancestry.com, World Family Tree, Rootsweb.com and similar sites

US and International Marriage Records from Ancestry.com;

Documents so illegible that the applicant has had to write in the pertinent information.

If such information is submitted for a new Application or a Supplemental, it will be returned to the submitter and acceptable information will be requested.

- Van Blackwell

Another Award for Mercer

The Collins sponsored National Eagle Scout Competition winner, Grant Mercer, has also received a scholarship in the 47th annual National Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship competition. The competition is designed for students who plan careers in government service.

Grant will be at Congress in Boston in July to receive the \$10,000 SAR Eagle Scout award.

Grant was also the State winner of the Knight Essay Contest. The National winner has yet to be announced.



Family History Conference



The National Genealogical Society will be holding its 2017 Family History Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina at the Raleigh Convention Center located at 500

South Salisbury Street from 10-13 May 2017. If you have never attended a National Genealogy Society conference this will be a good opportunity for you to do so. The four-day conference will include lectures and workshops by nationally recognized genealogists. There will also be an exhibit hall that will have a verity of vendors.

The conferences primary hotel will be the Raleigh Marriott City Center located just across the street from the convention center. Other hotels that will be accepting reservations will be the nearby Sheraton Raleigh Hotel and the Holiday Inn Raleigh Downtown. If you wish, you can make other arrangements at other hotels or elsewhere. The conference hotels will begin accepting reservations for the conference on 15 June 2016 and registration for the conference will begin on 1 December 2016.

There will be a registration fee, with the cost depending on how many days you will be attending and whether you are a member of the National Genealogical Society. If you wish to use the lesser fee you should consider joining the National Genealogical Society. A one-year basic membership is \$65.00.

For more information see registrar Van Blackwell or visit the National Genealogical Society web site at www.ngsgenealogy.org

CHAPTER EDUCATION OUTREACH SURVEY

[See the enclosed form](#) to reply direct to Bill Coffeen about how YOU can help spread the word about the importance of the Founding of Our Country to your fellow citizens, both adult and younger people.

**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.



Collins Color Guard at ease.

Marking Captain Lee

On May 21, **Terry Gibbs** attended a patriot grave marking for Capt. Thomas G. Lee in Whitesburg, Tennessee. The event was sponsored by The State of Franklin Chapter (TN). The Tennessee color guard participated and gave a musket salute. Gibbs presented a wreath on behalf of Captain John Collins Chapter.



*The Cobb County Commission presentation of the Patriot's Day Proclamation on April 12, was attended by (L to R) **Wayne Brown**, **Shep Hammack**, **Lee Hulsey**, NE Cobb District Commissioner **JoAnn Birrell**, **Terry Gibbs**, **Bob Sapp**, **Bob Shaw** and **Chandler Vreeland**. Compatriots who are not Collins members belong to the Piedmont Chapter.*



*From left to right: **Rusty Kirks ***, **Peter Lyon**, **Charles Sanger**, **Joshua Kirks ***, **Parker Gross ***, **Dale Gross ***, **Don Webb**, **Joseph Fearnow ***, **Colton Post ***, and **Greg Post ***. The photographer and chainsaw operator was **Carey Pickens**. Note: Names preceding an asterisk represent Boy Scout Troop 540.*

Thanks to Carey Pickens and his crew for their excellent work in cleaning up Old Allatoona Cemetery on 21 May. Workers named above included additional manpower from Boy Scout Troop 540 and thus finished the cemetery cleanup in between bursts of rain. They cut up and removed a fallen tree, picked up sticks, and dragged them out to the street into a 2X3X6 foot pile, where the county would pick them up.

Old Allatoona Cemetery, scene of approximately 800 burials, is a part of the Adopt-A-Cemetery preservation. It is currently being cared for and maintained by the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Some of the few graves that are identifiable date to the 1860's. The next cleanup will be carried out this coming fall.