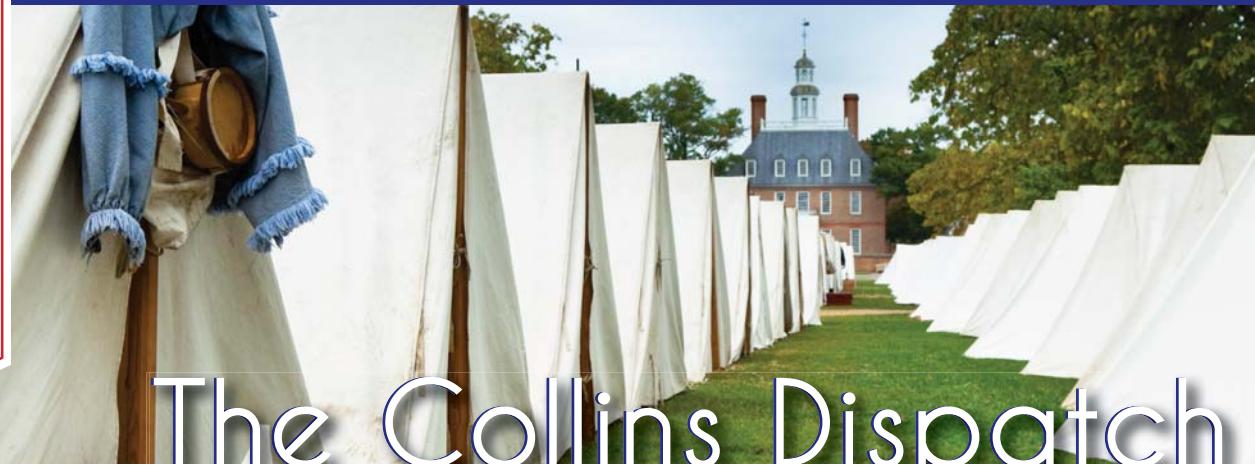


CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER

Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution



The Collins Dispatch

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

April 2017

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.

- Apr 22. Frederica Days
- Apr 23. Colonial Worship Service
- Apr 29. Cemetery Cleanup

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

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Photographs courtesy of Curtis McWaters. - Continuation on pages 2 & 3

Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos to Drew Burr for inclusion in the next edition of The Collins Dispatch. Deadline June 4th.

Officers and Committees

President - Charles Sanger
 Vice President - Earl Cagle
 Secretary - Bert Christy
 Treasurer - James Castle
 Registrar - Robert Van Blackwell
 Chancellor - Chandler Vreeland
 Chaplain - Lloyd Blackwell
 Sergeant-at-Arms - Rodney Pritchett
 Historian - Vann Beasley
 Editor - Drew Burr
 Americanism/Fire/Law/EMS - Wayne Brown
 Cemetery WC Pickens
 JROTC - Curtis McWaters
 Eagle Scouts - Bill Coffeen
 Flags - Terry Gibbs
 Membership - VP & Registrar
 Veterans - Bert Christy
 DAR Liaison - Bert Christy
 Welcome - OPEN
 Education Outreach - Bill Coffeen,
 coordinator

President's Message

This year seems to be flying by. As I look forward to this summer and the coming months, how many days come and go that have changed the course of our history?

One important date is April 19. On this day 242 days ago, the first shots were fired as the sun was rising at Lexington, Massachusetts. This turn of events began on April 18, 1775, when Joseph Warren told Paul Revere and William Dawes that the British troops were about to embark in boats from Boston bound for Cambridge and the road to Lexington and Concord.

Revere and Dawes set out to warn the colonists in the nearby towns. This system was so effective that people in towns as far as 25 miles from Boston, were aware of the army's movements while they were still unloading boats in Cambridge.

After the first shots were fired the militia fell back and the British forces proceeded on to Concord. At the North Bridge in Concord, approximately 400 militiamen engaged 100 British regulars. It is from this engagement that poet Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote of in his famous poem, "Concord Hymn".

So, as we wake on April 19 and have our first cup of coffee, remember our ancestors who made this possible.

I leave you with the first stanza of, 'Concord Hymn' by Ralph Waldo Emerson:

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
 Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
 Here once the embattled farmers stood,
 And fired the shot heard around the world. "

Compatriot,

Charles Sanger - Chapter President



Countries Represented at March 24 Naturalization Ceremony

Afghanistan	Dominican Republic	Pakistan
Argentina	Eritrea	Philippines
Brazil	Ethiopia	Somalia
Burkina Faso	Honduras	South Korea
Burma	India	Sudan
Canada	Korea	Taiwan
China, People's Republic of	Lebanon	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Liberia	Vietnam
	Mexico	



NEW MEMBER INSTALLATION



On February 21, 2017 - Claude A. Thomas was introduced by President Sanger and sworn in as a new member of the chapter.



AWARDS

Medal Award: Peter Lyon was presented the SAR Roger Sherman Medal for which a certificate was presented at the January banquet meeting, but the medal was delayed due to unavailability at that time.

COLLINS DISPATCH

is published every other month. June 4th will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Drew Burr at andrewdburr@gmail.com

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

Battle of Kettle Creek

President Charles Sanger could not have been more surprised when State President Wayne Brown advised him that he would be playing taps for the ceremonies at War Hill during the commemoration of the Battle of Kettle Creek. After the ceremony, he received praise from those in attendance. After trying in vain to explain that the bugle was mechanized, he started simply saying, "Thank you."



President Brown and Secretary General Larry Guzy led the parade around the historic town square and Guzy gave the annual address at the Hill. NW Regional Vice President Curtis McWaters also attended.

The annual commemoration is held in Washington, GA, just 70 miles from Atlanta, on the weekend closest before the Valentine's Day anniversary. Activities begin with a dinner and speaker on Friday night at the local community center. This year the audience heard details of how cadaver dogs were locating the fallen soldiers 200 years after the Battle had occurred. The group was also updated about continued land acquisition efforts of the Kettle Creek Preservation Association.

Saturday morning, a parade of the Georgia Color Guard circles the historic square. Formal ceremonies then continue at the site of the battle, War Hill, a short drive from downtown. Significant improvements have been made to the site since the early days of the commemoration's history, with grading to the entrance road and development of several parking lots. In early years, participants parked in a farmer's field and were bussed to the site.



VETERANS DONATIONS:

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.

OUR MARQUIS

Lafayette

Harlow Giles Unger



The name is familiar to most with even a cursory knowledge of American history. But why? What sort of man was he, and why was he unique and so interesting? Born 6 September 1757, in Chavaniac, France, Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette was destined to become a Founding Father of the United States, an impressively talented military leader in the Continental Army, a tragically

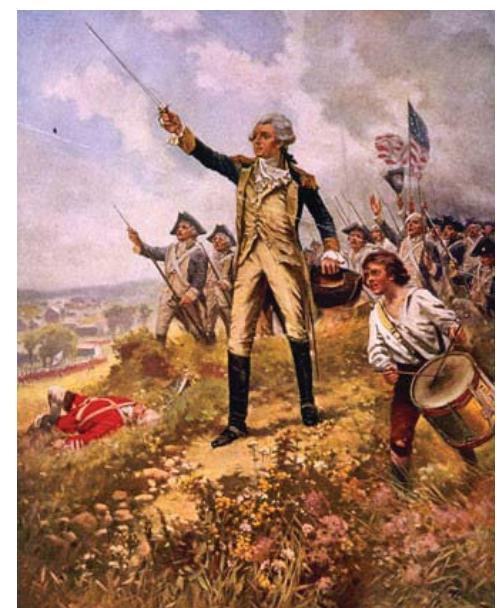
pivotal figure in the French Revolution, and possibly the most romantic hero of the 18th Century. Lafayette was but two when his father was killed in action. His mother later moved to Paris, leaving him in the care of his grandmother and aunt. Now lord of a vast Auvergne estate, Lafayette played soldier, leading the local peasantry in numerous war games. At the same time, his family encouraged him to care for those whose lives contributed to his, and his generous benevolences won him their adoration. He came by his military inclinations through a strong family tradition and influence dating back over 800 years. The idyllic boyhood came to an end in 1768, when he moved to Paris and was enrolled in military training under the watchful eyes of his mother's well-connected family. She died in 1770. The following year he joined the Black Musketeers, a show unit of royal guards, the first step in his rapid rise as an officer. His companions included three royal grandsons, each of whom would later become King. At age 16, by family arrangement, he became married to 14-year-old Adrienne de Noailles. Fortunately, they soon were deeply, warmly, and faithfully in love with each other, remaining so until her dying day. Having inherited his father's estate, his mother's great fortune, added to which was his bride's own properties, Lafayette was now one of the richest, most influential men in France. He was to prove more than worthy of this status.

Inspired by what he had learned of the American Revolution, in 1776 Lafayette enrolled in the Continental Army as a 19-year old major general. Not just another foreign volunteer, as a member of Washington's staff he quickly distinguished himself in battle and diplomacy, serving without pay and often funding the needs of his soldiers from his own pocket. Washington was so impressed he adopted Lafayette as his son, initiating a close and lasting relationship. Returning to France in

1779, Lafayette convinced the French court to support the American side with funds, ships, and troops. By 1780 he was back in America, leading soldiers in Virginia as they trapped Cornwallis at Yorktown. Returning to France in 1782, he was awarded the Cross of Saint-Louis and became maréchal de camp, the highest attainable rank in the French army. The 1783 Treaty of Paris ended the war with Britain, sealed American independence, and gained U.S. territory from the Atlantic to the Mississippi River. Congress then named Lafayette, an American now as well as French citizen, ambassador without portfolio in Europe. He also was granted considerable land in the newly acquired western territory.

In 1784, Lafayette forged a treaty with American Indians, and toured each of the states in farewell. Each stop inundated him with warm hospitality, as he was second in popularity only to George Washington, himself. The next year he bought a plantation in French Guyana in order to free its slaves. By 1786 he became enmeshed in the French civil war, through which he hoped to convert France to a constitutional republican monarchy similar to that of Great Britain. He was hailed as a hero by many, but condemned as a devilish radical by others. In 1789 he co-authored with Jefferson the "First Declaration of Rights of Man for Europe". The ideas therein were highly popular among those who sought to reform monarchical feudalism, but earned him many enemies, as well. The revolution got insanely out of hand, causing societal turmoil and

tremendous bloodshed, including assassination of the royal family. Lafayette was arrested for treason. Fleeing the country, he was imprisoned by the Prussians, who saw him as a great danger to their own stability. Meanwhile, Adrienne, herself arrested and imprisoned in



Continuation...

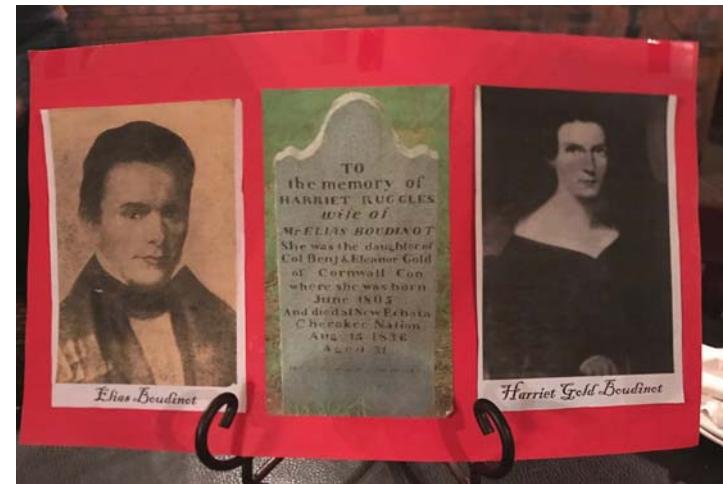
prison, where they remained for five arduous years.

In 1797, American officials, with help from Napoléon, managed to free Lafayette and his family, who moved into exile in Denmark, and later Holland. Though in parlous health from her prison stay, Adrienne returned to Paris, where she lobbied successfully for the return of family properties seized in the revolution. As Napoléon assumed power in 1799, Lafayette retired as a gentleman farmer at Château de La Grange, emulating Washington, who died in the same year. Broken in health, Adrienne died in 1807. A grieving Lafayette once again became a leader in French politics, interrupting such activity in 1824 for a triumphal 13-month tour throughout the United States, broadly welcomed by Americans as "Our Marquis." Still a powerful, if scarred political influence, he died in 1834, at age 77.

Unger's biography is not only well documented, but thrilling to read. Lafayette was a phenomenal personality, from childhood always a leader. His immense wealth, eventually taken away, then restored through Adrienne's masterful efforts and his own, naturally opened many doors, but the power that provided was consistently and masterfully used to benefit others, particularly the fledgling United States and the downtrodden of France. The breathtaking adventure that was his life made him truly a man for the ages. Every American has been in his debt.

--Reviewed by Stan Virden, April 2017

SPEAKER & GUESTS



Wanda Patterson

Vice President Earl Cagle, Sr. introduced the speaker: Wanda Patterson, retired educator of Cobb County, Sprayberry High School. Subject, Elias Boudinot, Editor of the "Cherokee Phoenix", first Native American newspaper. Ms. Patterson gave a detailed and knowledgeable account of some of the individual Cherokee leaders and their efforts to resolve the conflict with the US and State of Georgia and their ultimate tragic mistreatment.

My Patriot Ancestor

If you have done research on your Patriot Ancestor, share the information with us through a short story for an upcoming edition of The Collins Dispatch.



Helen Story

Martha Washington Medal Award: Wayne Brown presented the SAR Martha Washington Medal to Helen Story for her outstanding and tireless support to the SAR.



Robert C. Jones

Vice President Earl Cagle, Sr. introduced the speaker: Robert C. Jones, former President of the Kennesaw Historical Society. Mr. Jones spoke on "The Settling of the Amish and Mennonites in Pennsylvania."



Flag From the Arizona Memorial

Compatriot Allen Henson brought an American Flag, to the February meeting, that had been flown over the Arizona Memorial this past Pearl Harbor Day. At the meeting, the flag was passed around, so everyone could hold the flag. This flag was obtained by one of Dr. Henson's patients, Mrs. Cheryl Harcharic. She attended the ceremonies in Hawaii this past December 7th and had the flag sent to Compatriot Henson.

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 peterashtonlyon@gmail.com or call 770-579-9373