



The Collins Dispatch

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

July 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.

- July 4. Independence Day
- July 7-12. GSSAR Color Guard
- July 8-13. National Society SAR Annual Congress
- July 14. Bastille Day

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

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Fire Safety Commendation

This year's first recipient of the Fire Safety Commendation by the Captain John Collins Chapter is Lt. Alan Jones of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department in Jacksonville, Florida. Wayne Brown, Jr presented the award on the morning of May 12th.

Lt. Alan Jones joined the department in June of 1988. During his extensive career, he has demonstrated exceptional bravery and courage. He has been awarded the Bronze and Silver Medal of Bravery as well as several unit commendations. Through his career, Lt. Jones set the benchmark for the mental toughness and bravery required of every career firefighter.



In the photo from left to right:
FF Josh Acevedo, FF Chase Price, Lt. Alan Jones, Eng. Wayne Brown, Jr.

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

In the American holiday calendar no day is more significant than the Fourth of July, on which we celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

The Fourth has always been my most favorite holiday. Who doesn't like marching bands, fireworks and grilling in the backyard. Independence Day has been the celebration of the day we declared our independence from King George III. We celebrate our freedoms that the Founders fought and died for.

In the words of Patrick Henry, one of the Founding Fathers: we are "responsible for the greatest trust ever confided to a political society."

Compatriot,

Charles Sanger - Chapter President



In loving memory of John M. Mattingly, he will be truly missed.

4th of July Events in Atlanta:

- **Peachtree Road Race - Lenox Square**

Celebrate Fourth of July at the 48th running of the AJC Peachtree Road Race, the world's largest 10K and America's largest road race!

- **Fantastic Fourth Celebration - Stone Mountain Park**

Don't miss the BIGGEST Fireworks Finale EVER, July 1-4! Attraction Hours: 10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Lasershow and Fireworks: 9:30 p.m.

- **Marietta Independence Day Celebration**

"Let Freedom Ring Parade" starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Roswell Street Baptist Church and proceeds to the Square and then down Cherokee Street ending at North Marietta Parkway. The parade will have about 85 entries with 2000 participants. Concerts, arts, crafts and food vendors comprise the festival.



For More 4th of July Events Go To: www.atlanta.net/events or www.accessatlanta.com

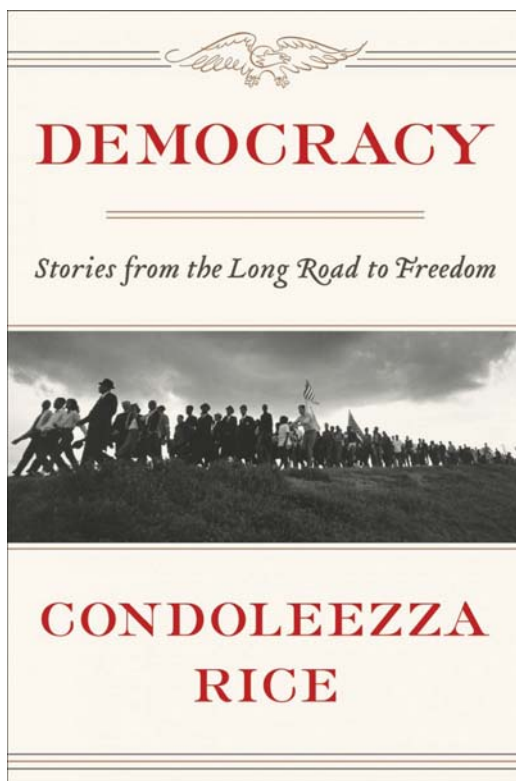
DEMOCRACY – Stories from the Long Road to Freedom

Condoleezza Rice

One could hardly find a more qualified narrator on this subject. Child of the civil rights upheaval, accomplished pianist, prominent scholar with special expertise on Russia, professor and university executive, senior Presidential advisor, Secretary of State, widely respected at the highest levels throughout the world, Dr. Rice has lived and breathed the issues of freedom and democracy throughout her distinguished life.

Appropriately, she begins with a general discussion of what democracy really is, how it is built, and how it is faring in today's world. She addresses the future of democracy as a world-wide way of life, why it will continue to grow and strengthen, providing "equilibrium between disruption and stability," yet always remain imperfect. She testifies that democracy has universal appeal, even in the most backward and oppressive cultures, asserting that freedom of choice is imbedded in the human DNA. Still, certain difficult conditions are required to establish and maintain a democratic state.

Until recent years, democracy has been a rare form of sovereignty, but since the mid-20th Century it has become the standard for measuring quality of governments. Democracy relies on a public "scaffolding" of government institutions having constraints on authority, alongside non-governmental institutions that serve and influence the public. "The paradox of democracy is that its stability is born of its openness to upheaval through elections, legislation, and social action. Disruption is built into the fabric of democracy." No one entity has total control of the state. Even so, the inefficiencies of free choice allow the public pursuit of happiness to flourish far more effectively than the imagined efficiency of centralized diktat.



The narrative lays out the development and maturation of democratic countries starting with the seminal American experience in navigating "the hard road to democracy" over a period of over 240 years, a journey that still slogs onward. While our country has reached a stable equilibrium, getting there has been hard and often violent, leaving many deficiencies. Litigation and re-litigation of the meaning of the Constitution continues unsettled. At the start, there was the shakiest of purpose and agreement. Our government could not have grown to daylight without deplorable compromise, especially in its early retention of slavery. Yet our Constitution provided the framework for change, as we continued to fight among ourselves, even to the point of a catastrophic Civil War, in order to grow up as a nation and make it better. Small wonder that so many other democracies seem so imperfect.

In clear and easily read language, Dr. Rice impartially weaves detailed histories of democratic attempts, failures, and successes throughout the civilized continents. In doing so, she relies not merely on research, but also her extensive firsthand experiences with many cultures, their peoples and their leaders. This work is a "must read" for anyone truly interested in the democratic process, a classic for many years to come.

--Reviewed by Stan Virden

COLLINS DISPATCH is published every other month. August 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

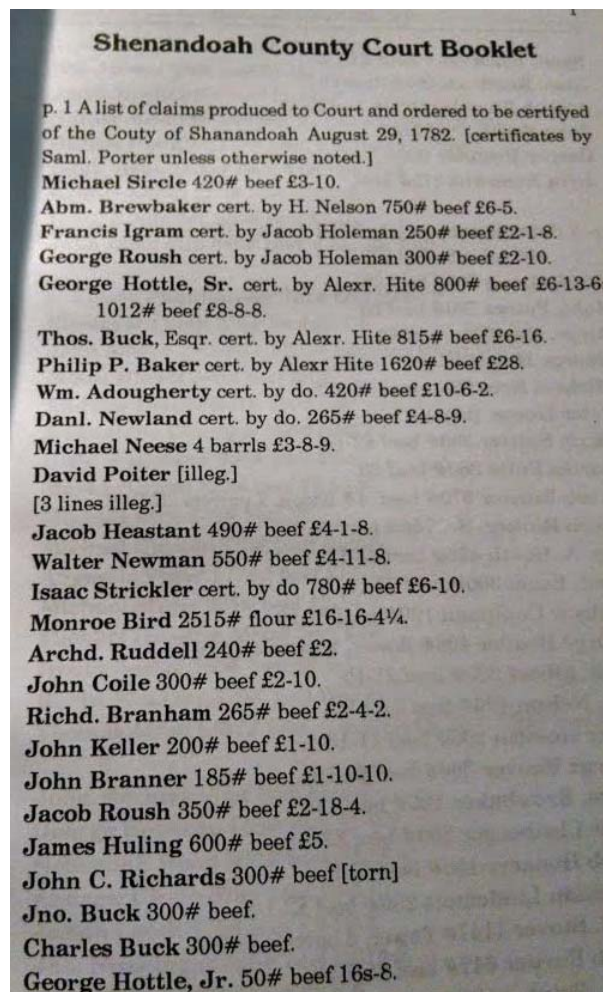
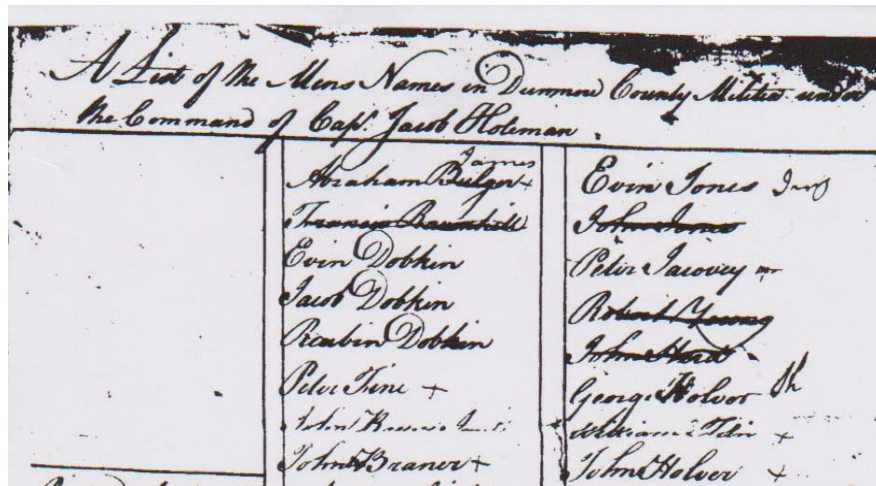
MY SAR PATRIOT

Private John Branner

John Branner (Brenner originally), was born 12 August, 1752 in what was then Indian Field, (now Franconia) Montgomery County, Pennsylvania to Casper (sometimes Gasper) and Catherine (Zirkle) Branner. Casper was born in Germany in 1724 and came to the New World with his parents Hans Casper and Appelonia Branner on the ship Samuel on 17 August, 1733 into port of Philadelphia. They were communicant members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Upper Saucon, PA as of May, 1750.

John moved with his parents to Forestville, Dunmore (now Shenandoah) County, Virginia 4 August, 1760 onto a 400 acre land grant from Thomas Lord Fairfax. He married Catherine Herbein, daughter of Phillip Herbein of Oley, Berks County, Pennsylvania on 26 July, 1773 and had 8 children, including my line through Maria Magdelana Branner, later Mrs. Abraham Jones.

On 29 May, 1775, John and his father Casper were both conscripted as Privates into the Dunmore County Militia of Virginia under the command of Captain Jacob Holeman. Authority for conscription for the County was Lt. Isaac Zane, Ironmaster of Marlboro Furnace. The Dunmore County Militia was called to join the 8th Virginia Regiment of Foot in January of 1776 under Col. John Peter Muhlenberg, "The Fighting Parson". They were stationed at Ft. Moultrie, South Carolina and saw action against Clinton and Cornwallis, later the Regiment was at Brandywine, Georgetown, and Monmouth. John Branner also made Public Claim to Shenandoah County, Virginia 29 August, 1782 for 185 Lbs. of Beef @L1-10-10.



John inherited the major portion of his father Casper's 400 acres when he passed in 1792, and later purchased his brother Michael's share and was a prosperous farmer. He passed away 30 April, 1837, and is buried in Solomons Lutheran Church Cemetery, Forestville, Virginia.

--Written by Randall Huber

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.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

The Bolitho Series - Alexander Kent

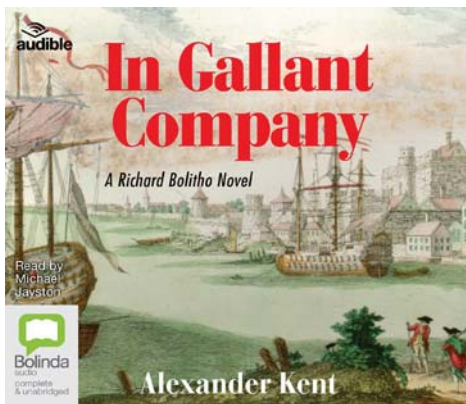


You've read C. S. Forester's Hornblower series? Perhaps you also have read Patrick O'Brien's Aubrey-Maturin series, and watched the movie MASTER AND COMMANDER. Now comes another version of life at sea in the 18th-early 19th Century Royal Navy, the Bolitho series by Alexander Kent (pen name of Douglas Reeman).

Reeman is well qualified as author, being an ardent wind sailor and a veteran of the WWII Royal Navy. The Bolitho series of 30 novels starts off with Richard Bolitho as a teen-age midshipman who advances to admiral while in frightful combat with the Americans and the French, as well as other villains.

As he ages and meets his fate in combat, he mentors and finally is succeeded as principal protagonist by his nephew, Adam Bolitho, who carries on as a daring and resourceful frigate captain until 1814. Books 1-3 are combined in publication as THE COMPLETE MIDSHIPMAN BOLITHO, the logical starting place for anyone taking on the entire series.

The action in these novels is continually exciting and gruesome. Reeman (aka Kent) writes with a sure hand that overlooks no technical, grim, or unusual detail, leaving the reader exhausted after each of the frequent battles in settings that give us views of history and culture we may previously have overlooked. With Americans often cast as the bad guys, we are introduced to the mindsets of those our ancestors fought against in giving birth to the United States. There is, of course, a succession of romances to lighten the load, and they add considerable color and depth to the narrative. Some critics aver that the literary quality doesn't rise to the level of Forester or O'Brien. But it's good enough, if what you wish is wicked, rip-snorting, wind-driven adventure at sea complete with smooth bore cannon, muskets, pikes, and cutlasses and all the havoc these can create.



Book 5, IN GALLENT COMPANY, gets well into the American Revolution, raging on the mainland, as the Royal Navy takes on American and French privateers, while attempting a blockade of Washington's vital military supplies. Junior Lieutenant Richard Bolitho finds himself in the turmoil of battle, making decisions and taking actions that affect the lives of many men and perhaps the future of nations. We are given detailed insights into a young officer gaining leadership skills the hard way, as he works and fights with and against well-drawn characters of many qualities, good, bad, and in between. This series will keep you vastly entertained. Read on!

--Reviewed by Stan Virden



NEW MEMBER INSTALLATION



INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

President Charles Sanger introduced Randall B. Huber and Ryan P. Laffey, and proceeded to induct the two of them into the chapter. Be sure to welcome our new members!

SPEAKER & GUESTS



Dr. James Piecuch

Vice President Earl Cagle, Sr. introduced the speaker: Dr. James Piecuch, History Professor at Kennesaw State University. His topic was the Cavalry in the Southern Campaign which covered both the Patriots and Loyalist.



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.

SPEAKER & GUESTS



Retired: Captain Donna Curtis Rowe

Capt. Rowe was a career officer in the US Army Medical Corps and served from 1964 through the Vietnam war where she served in Saigon at the 3rd Field Hospital as head nurse of the Emergency Room/Triage Area. She was awarded the DAR Medal of Honor at the 2017 State Conference of the Georgia Society of Daughters of the American Revolution.



Terry Manning

Vice President Earl Cagle, Sr. introduced the speaker, Terry Manning, who provided a Traveling Trunk program using examples of items reminiscent of the revolutionary war period as visual aids demonstrating how to use the items in educational settings to create interest in early American history



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