



# The Collins Dispatch

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

*October 2019*

### DATES TO REMEMBER

The Chapter meeting starts at 7PM the third Tuesday every month. We gather at the Provino's Italian Restaurant, 440-A Barrett Parkway Suite 1, Kennesaw, Georgia, 6PM for dinner and fellowship before the meeting. Family and friends are welcome.

- Nov 16. "Come and Take It!" Commemoration
- Jan 14. John Collins Banquet
- Jan 25. Winter BOM Meeting

Additional events and activities, see the GA SAR website [georgiasocietysar.org](http://georgiasocietysar.org)



### INSIDE THIS EDITION

Memory and Service	1
In Memoriam	2
President's Message	2
Book Review: Thomas Jefferson	3-4
Award & Streamer	4
New Members	5
Guests & Speaker	5-6
Recognition	6
Color Guard	6

## MEMORY AND SERVICE HONORED

Randall Huber, Registrar, for the Capt. John Collins Chapter and family members traveled to Hershey, Pennsylvania in late August to fulfill a personal dedication. Randy donated his father's World War II uniform to the Hershey Story Museum. To complete his wish to honor his father's memory and service, Randy attached the WWII service bar the Chapter provided to the uniform. The uniform presentation included a SAR Memoriam Membership Certificate and a War Service Medal with Certificate from the Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter. Museum Director Valerie Seiber received the uniform of Harold Helt Huber on behalf of the Hershey Story Museum. The Chapter is proud to have been a small part of this commendable event.

**Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos to Drew Burr for inclusion in the next edition of The Collins Dispatch. Deadline December 17th.**

## Officers and Committees

- President** - Earl Cagle Sr.  
**Immediate Past-President** - Charles O. Sanger III  
**Vice President** - Gary Hoyt  
**Secretary** - E. Stallings Howell, Jr.  
**Treasurer** - Wayne L. Brown  
**Registrar** - Randall Huber  
**Chancellor** - L. Chandler Vreeland  
**Chaplain** - Lloyd Blackwell  
**Sergeant-at-Arms** - Rodney Pritchett  
**Historian** - Michael Reither  
**Editor** - Drew Burr  
**Americanism/Fire/Law/EMS** - Wayne L. Brown  
**Flags and Knight Essay** - Terry A. Gibbs  
**Cemetery** Harry F. Hagan  
**JROTC** - Earl Cagle  
**Eagle Scouts / Education** - Bill Coffeen  
**Veterans** - Gary Hoyt / Patrick Reese  
**DAR Liaison** - Bert R. Christy  
**Membership / Welcome** - Lee Hulsey  
**Chapter Directory** - E. Stallings Howell, Jr.

## President's Message

Fellow Compatriots, if we look back, it is hard to believe we are three quarters through 2019. As we continue to build the history of the Chapter, the look back gives a good accounting of our more recent efforts. All centers of responsibility have been busy: The Eagle Scout Recognition Program methodically adds young men. The Registrar is experiencing a flow of applications that makes us proud, which has included two young brothers and a memoriam member. We have three dedicated veterans that serve diligently at the Chapter and State level for our veterans. We provide two Chancellors, one for the Chapter and one for the State, who are reviewing the Chapter By-Laws. Our Military Service Recognition is impressive with the addition of the WAR Service honor which now has posthumous recognition in a museum in PA. On the Fourth of July, we put on our uniforms and threw ourselves to the wind; one was found in the Color Guard at a Braves game, one at a Flag Retirement with American Legion Post 294, one in the annual Marietta Parade and one at the observance in Pickens County, GA. (Thank you, Compatriots) The Chapter was recognized at the National Congress as the sole Georgia State Chapter to have achievements in all Public Service and Heroism categories. A little icing on the cake, was the Chapter provided a limited edition painting for presentation to the State Society Color Guard Commander Bill Palmer on behalf of the Georgia State Society. And last but by no means least, the Ladies of the DAR. We are experiencing outstanding attendance from all the Chapters. Compatriots, I thank each of you for your continued support, time and effort as we look to next quarter. May God bless each of you.

*Earl L. Cagle, Sr, President*



### IN MEMORIAM

Peter Ashton Lyon was a Charter Member of the Captain John Collins SAR Chapter and a Dual Member in the Atlanta SAR Chapter. Peter passed away September 5, 2019 after a courageous and hard fought battle with cancer. He was born March 27, 1948 to Andrew and Elizabeth Flood Lyon in Melrose Park, Illinois. After high school Peter attended several educational institutions developing a base for a future in business development. Through his various efforts, goals and employment he was a member of several professional organizations and held positions of responsibility therein.

Peter is survived by Vicki, his wife of forty-eighty years, daughters, Sarah Gibbons and Allison Thackston, three grandchildren, sister Teri Lyon, brothers, Andrew, Jr. and David. Peter's membership in the Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter brought additional positions of responsibility and contribution. He directed the first "Chapter Directory", served as Chapter Secretary in 2016, and again as "Chapter Directory" Director in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Peter's funeral service was held on September 11, 2019 at St. David's Episcopal Church in Roswell, Georgia with interment in Kennesaw Memorial Park in Marietta, Georgia.

Peter was a faithful and dependable compatriot who contributed much to the support of the Chapter. He was our friend and he was one of us.

# THOMAS JEFFERSON, AMERICA, PLEASE LISTEN

Face to Face conversation on modern day issues

Clifford Olsen

Famously, John F. Kennedy remarked on April 29, 1962, at a Dinner Honoring Nobel Prize Winners of the Western Hemisphere, "I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone." The treat for reading this book is Thomas Jefferson's discussion of modern day (2016) issues—an inspired idea. After a brief on who Jefferson was, followed by an astonishing summary of his lifetime accomplishments, the author "interviews" Mr. Jefferson on a series of today's issues. Replies are verbatim quotes (even to the 18 th Century spelling) gleaned from 27,000 original documents held in the Library of Congress. It is a prodigious feat of research that matches those concerns with Jefferson's timeless wisdom.

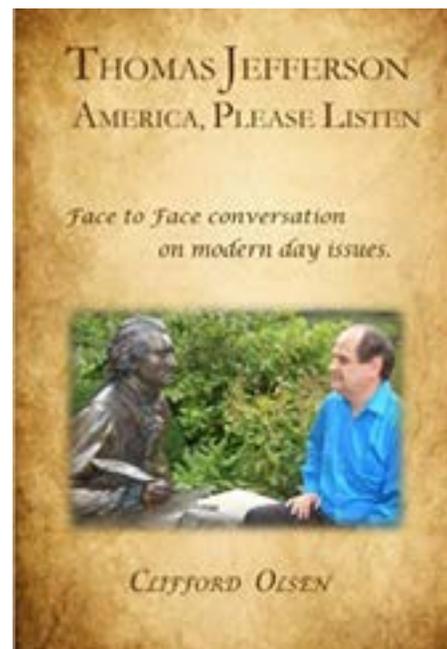
When asked if he consents to be interviewed, Jefferson answers:

"I know my own principles to be pure, and therefore am not ashamed of them. On the contrary, I wish them known, and therefore willingly express them to every one. They are the same I have acted on from the year 1775 to this day, and are the same, I am sure, with those of the great body of the American people. I only wish the real principles of those who censure mine were also known."

Before the reader's eyes, the mind of Thomas Jefferson is then exposed for his views on the Constitution, the Congress, the Presidency, the Supreme Court, the economy; on debt, taxation, and religion; on the War on Terror, on right to life, and on life in America. It's hard for the reader not to have lively curiosity about at least some of these matters. I found it interesting to learn that Jefferson was not a deist, as many historians suggest, but a sincere Christian whose research convinced him that formal religions, in their own ways, had corrupted the teachings of Jesus, harmfully distorting their meanings, History books often remark that Jefferson's Bible had numerous pages missing or paragraphs removed with scissors.

Jefferson held that local issues should be decided by local governments, while the national government should be involved only on matters that affected the entire country, such as standardized coinage, unfettered trade between states, foreign relations, and national defense. For those "progressives" who preach that our Constitution is too restrictive of the Federal government, it is well to understand the thinking that wisely created a balanced form of governing, wherein no component dominates, and all voices are heard. Considering this reasoning, the thoughtful reader will be

reassured that the often-controversial Electoral College that determines the Presidency every four years is vital to our national stability, as is our system of allocating members of the two houses of Congress. Without the balance this brings forth, population concentrations, especially in our major cities, would prevail in all considerations, to the detriment of our central areas and of living standards throughout. In time, city dwellers would decry the shortages of food and other goods they had grown to depend on. We benefit more by the reasonableness of a democratic republic, with its checks and balances of government components at many levels, than by pure majority rule, in which concentrated power overwhelms minority interests and easily becomes tyranny.



--Reviewed by Stan Virden

## 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*.

While many topics are addressed by this comprehensive parade of Jeffersonian thought, the concluding chapter covers pleas for locally controlled education, promoting the highest level attainable by every person; for equality between all men and women, including those of ethnic minorities; for an impartially honest free press watching over government; and for the healthy exercise of walking. Some today might be shocked at this particular recommendation:

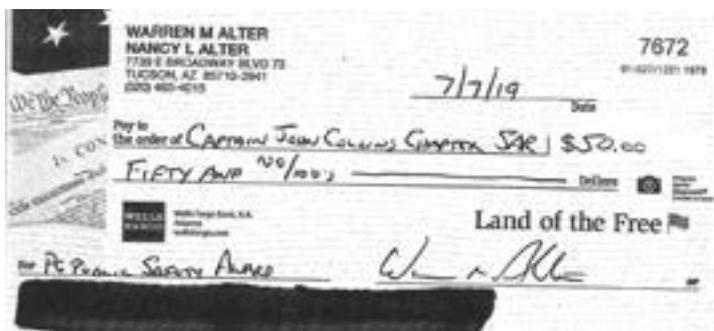
“As to the species of exercise, I advise the gun. While this gives a moderate exercise to the body, it gives boldness, enterprise, and independence to the mind. Games played with ball, and others of that nature, are too violent for the body, and stamp no character on the mind. Let your gun, therefore, be the constant companion of your walks. One loves to possess arms, though they hope never to have occasion for them.”

Perhaps a 21 st Century person, in most locales, would best be advised not to carry a gun while walking, However, the safe and proper use of such weapons remains a valuable component of one’s education and of public safety. Jefferson sums up his belief that each person and nation, especially in America, is responsible both to the higher power of our creator and to the living, present and future:

“I shall need the favor of that Being in whose hands we are, Who led our forefathers, as Israel of old, from their native land, and planted them in a country flowing with all the necessaries and comforts of life; Who has covered our infancy with His providence, and our riper years with His wisdom and power; and to whose goodness I ask you to join with me in supplications, that He will so enlighten the minds of your servants, guide their councils, and prosper their measures, that whatsoever they do shall result in your good, and shall secure to you the peace, friendship, and approbation of all nations.”

Reading through this work will improve your understanding that whatever your religious belief, social station, and political philosophy, you have reason to be both grateful and proud to be American. The price you pay is responsibility for bearing these benefits with humble grace, realizing that they are dependent on cooperating with others and on contributing as you are capable to the wellbeing of all.

*--Reviewed by Stan Virden*



“Georgia State SAR Society President Scott Collins presents Chapter President, Earl Cagle, Sr. with a Certificate, Streamer and a check for fifty dollars. This presentation was the NSSAR’s recognition at the National Congress of the Chapter’s Americanism awards in all categories.”



Left to Right: Brett T. Nash - Patriot John Prior, Beverly Farnsworth, Glenn L. Farnsworth - Patriot John Prior, Brenda King, Daniel G. King - Patriot Thomas Aldrich, Victor K. Higgins - Patriot Peter Emery, President Earl Cagle



Our new member William Stiles Edelen Jr.  
(Patriot - Edward Edelen)

## SPEAKER & GUESTS



### President Earl Cagle, Sr.

Vice-president Gary Hoyt introduced the speaker as President Earl Cagle, Sr., who is known to all. His subject tonight is "The Battle of Eutaw Springs." Prior to starting his presentation, President Cagle mentioned it had been a busy day, which included attending the Augusta DAR Chapter's Constitution Week Wreath Laying which honored Colonel William Few. A wreath from the Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter, along with numerous other SAR and DAR wreaths were presented. President Cagle began by recounting General Nathanael Green's efforts to deal with the British forces in South Carolina in 1781. When the British forces withdrew from NinetySix, South Carolina toward Charleston, Green followed. As he was preparing his offensive, Greene had a need to communicate with General Thomas Sumter.

Emily Geiger, an eighteen-year-old civilian, convinced Greene she could carry a communique through enemy held territory. She was captured along the way, and while waiting to be searched, tore the message into pieces and swallowed them. Being released, she pressed on with some assistance, made contact with Sumter and recited the message. After telling of Emily's epic ride, he continued with the Eutaw Springs Battle stating that British Colonel Alexander Stewart had replaced Colonel Francis Lord Rawdon. On September 8, 1781, Greene's forces broke camp in the High Hills of the Santee and engaged the British at Eutaw Springs, with heavy fighting on both sides. With blood running ankle deep in places the battle losses were heavy on both sides to the point the battle was considered a draw. Colonel Stewart withdrew his forces to Charleston leaving his dead and wounded on the battlefield. The end result was that Lord Cornwallis was denied the reinforcements he needed to continue the war and bring the young nation to its knees. He surrendered his command in October 1781. Some applicable asides were given: for his service, the State of Georgia gave Greene Mulberry Grove, a plantation in Chatham County; and he bought land on Cumberland Island. Emily Geiger was recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1930 for her efforts. Two lines in the South Carolina State Song read, "Say how thy elder children bled and point to Eutaw's battle-bed."

## SPEAKER & GUESTS

### GASSAR Color Guard - Commander, Bill Palmer

Bill's is topic was the "Battle of Oriskany." Bill began by stating that this revolutionary war battle is special to him because he had two ancestors who fought in this battle that was fought near Fort Stanwix in the Mohawk Valley beginning with a siege on August 2, 1777 led by British Lt. Col. St. Leger and main battle on August 6, 1777 defended by the American militia under Gen. Herkimer. The British planned an ambush six miles from the fort, and although Herkimer was wounded in the leg and his men were routed, a thunderstorm allowed time for his men to regroup and save the day. This battle contributed to the failure of the British campaign in the north, but there were heavy casualties on both sides. Some families lost all male members of the family, and hardly any family escaped without a casualty. This battle was commemo-rated by the naming of a WWII aircraft carrier, the US Oriskany, in its honor. President Earl Cagle thanked Bill for a very interesting and informative presentation and told him a Certificate of Appreciation will be mailed to him.

### RECOGNITION:

GASSAR Color Guard Commander, William "Bill" Palmer was presented a token of appreciation for his time, effort and dedication to the Georgia State Society by Capt. John Collins Chapter, President, Earl Cagle, Sr. The limited edition (2/100) art work titled, "Color Guard" painted by well known period artist, Bryant White, was donated by the Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter and presented by the Georgia State SAR Society at the summer Board of Managers meeting, July 24, 2019.



### Georgia SAR Color Guard in a July 4th Atlanta Braves pre-game show

Attached is a photo by Rick Reese from the July 4th Braves pre-game show. (L-R) Allen Greenly, Past GSSAR President; Carter Wood, Past GSSAR Editor; Stallings Howell, Capt. John Collins Chapter Secretary; Mark Anthony, NSSAR Color Guard Commander.



## VETERANS DONATIONS:

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