



CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER

Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Oct-Dec 2023

Benjamin Franklin before the Privy Council, painting by Christian Schussele, 1856



DATES TO REMEMBER

The Chapter meeting starts at 7 PM on the third Tuesday of every month.

Dec 19 – Chapter Meeting

Jan 16—Chapter Meeting

Feb 20—Chapter Banquet

Mar 19—Chapter Meeting

Additional events and activities, see the GASAR website:

www.gasocietysar.org

and the chapter website:

www.johncollinssar.org/events/

On 29 Jan 1774, just 9 days after London had learned of the Boston Tea Party, Benjamin Franklin appeared before the King's Privy Council in London to request the removal of Massachusetts's Royal Governor, Thomas Hutchinson. Instead he was berated for over an hour about his leaking of Gov. Hutchinson's private letters to the Massachusetts press. Franklin was called a thief, a liar, a traitor and the "prime mover" of the discontent in the American Colonies. Franklin leaves the meeting publicly humiliated and deeply insulted. To add injury to insult, the next day he is fired from his position as Postmaster General of the American Colonies. He leaves England and returns to Philadelphia 15 months later, now fully committed to the cause for American Liberty. He will become a formidable enemy of the British empire for the next 8 years.

The Intolerable Acts: The Boston Port Act

Next edition of the Dispatch is planned for Mar 2024.

Our chapter newsletters, current and previous editions, can be downloaded from the chapter website.

If you have articles or photos for publication in the newsletter, please send them to:

jami.andrew@att.net

The Boston Tea Party occurred on the evening of December 16th, 1773.

Modern-day Americans are taught that this was a glorious event in American history. But at the time, many Americans, including prominent Americans like George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, and Henry Laurens did not approve of this wanton destruction of private property belonging to the East India Company.

Word reached London on January 20th, 1774 of the Boston Tea Party.

British opinion was outraged by this act of vandalism. Parliament passed the Boston Port Act on Mar 31, 1774, closing Boston Harbor to all commercial shipping.

In the American Colonies, closing Boston Harbor was seen as vindictive punishment that far exceeded the crime committed by just a few individuals.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

The Boston Port Act —Front Page
 Inside this Edition—p.2
 Officers and Committees—p.3
 President’s Message—p.3
 Treasurer’s Report—p.4
 From the Registrar—p.4
 Leave No Man Behind!—p.5
 Chapter Meeting, 19 Sep 2023—p.8
 Chapter Meeting, 17 Oct 2023—p.8
 Chapter Meeting, 21 Nov 2023—p.9
 New Member—p.9
 Cemetery Clean Up—p.10
 Remembering 9/11—p.10
 Upcoming Events—p.11
 250 Years Ago—p.11
 A Conversation with Chatbots—p.12
 Bells Across America—p.13



Thinking about taking a trip to Boston this December?
 Then check this out!

Boston will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party on Dec 16, 2023. There will be a grand-scale re-enactment of the tea being dumped into Boston Harbor.

For more information, go to:

<https://www.december16.org>

Or while in Boston, check out the museum;

<https://www.bostonteapartyship.com>

The Boston Port Act and the swiftly following other three “Intolerable Acts” galvanized Americans like never before. All thirteen of the American colonies were quick to rally around support for Boston. Americans began to solidify their political opinions whether they would be “Loyalists” and continue to support the British government, or Patriots, wanting more political freedom.

That firebrand of Boston, Samuel Adams, seize this opportunity to begin organizing “Committees of Correspondence” among all 13 colonies in order to coordinate a response to Great Britain. It was all this inter-colonial letter writing that led to Patriot determination that the colonies needed to hold a “Continental Congress” to draft a response to the British Parliament for a redress of their grievances and to threaten a continental-wide boycott.

As for the East India Company, they were never compensated for their loss of tea. But



don’t feel sorry for them. They went on to rule India as a private corporation, with a 260,000-man army, one of the largest in the world. When a major Indian revolt broke out in 1857, the British Government had to nationalize the EIC in order to pacify the Indian subcontinent, beginning 90 years of British rule in India. The EIC was dissolved in 1874 after a 274-year run as a multi-national corporation.

Preamble of the Boston Port Act of 1774

An Act to discontinue in such Manner, and for such Time as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, at the Town and within the Harbor of Boston, in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, in North America.

Whereas dangerous commotions and insurrections have been fomented and raised in the town of Boston, in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, in New England, by divers ill-affected persons, to the subversion of his Majesty’s Government, and to the utter destruction of the public peace, and good order of the said town; in which commotions and insurrections certain valuable cargoes of teas, being the property of the East India Company, and on board certain vessels lying within the bay or harbor of Boston, were seized and destroyed: and whereas in the present condition of the said town and harbor, the commerce of his Majesty’s subjects cannot be safely carried on there, nor the Customs payable to his Majesty duly collected; and it is therefore expedient that the officers of his Majesty’s Customs should be forthwith removed from the said town;

May it please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King’s most excellent Majesty, by and with the advise and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the first day of June, 1774, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons whatsoever, to lade or put, or cause or procure to be laden or put, off or from any quay, wharf, or other place, within the said town of Boston, or in or upon any part of the shore of the bay, commonly called the Harbor of Boston, the first day of June, 1774, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons whatsoever, to lade or put, or cause or procure to be laden or put, off or from any quay, wharf, or other place, within the said town of Boston, or in or upon any part of the shore of the bay, commonly called the Harbor of Boston...

Officers and Committees

President – John W. McAskill	Editor – Jami Andrew
Immediate Past-President – Bruce Wampler	Public Service and Heroism - Wayne Brown
Vice President – William Edelen	Flags and Knight Essay - Terry Gibbs
Secretary – Tom Harnden	Cemetery – Michael Reither
Treasurer - Wayne Brown	JROTC - Tom Harnden
Registrar – William Edelen	Eagle Scouts / Education - Bill Coffeen
Chancellor – Jason Shepherd	Veterans - Gary Hoyt / Patrick Reese
Chaplain – Rodney Pritchett	DAR Liaison – Dan King
Sergeant-at-Arms - Rodney Pritchett	Membership / Welcome - Bill Coffeen & Lee Hulsey
Historian – Earl Cagle Sr.	Chapter Directory – Bruce Wampler, Larry Guzy

President's Message

Compatriots and Friends of the Captain John Collins Chapter,

It is my hope that everyone is enjoying spending time with friends and family during this holiday season. As we look towards Christmas, it is an especially appropriate time to pause and reflect on the many gifts bestowed upon us.

I am grateful to the many compatriots and friends of the Sons of the American Revolution working selflessly in the chapters, the state and national society promoting patriotism and the founding principles of our patriot forefathers. This newsletter showcases all the ways the members of the Captain John Collins Chapter continue to serve this country's veterans, youth, and citizens with energy and dedication that can only be described as coming from a devotion to a higher duty.

I am personally thankful for my extended family in the Sons of the American Revolution that has shown such friendship to me, my family, and for each other. This is indeed a special group.

We as Americans are so fortunate in so many ways enjoying freedom and opportunity that is the envy of the world. In his many writings, General Washington, even in the midst of unimaginable leadership burdens and personal hardships, recognized the blessings of liberty and assigned to Providence as the sole beneficent Author of all good that is and ever will be. Let us also do likewise to remember Him from whom all blessings flow, and, that He promised his goodness and mercy always.

With fondness to all I send best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Respectfully,

John McAskill

President

Captain John Collins Chapter



Treasurer's Report for September 2023

REVENUE	Budgeted	Actual
Membership Dues	\$2,060	\$1,815
Annual Banquet (February 2023)	\$2,500	\$1,750
Donations Received	\$568	\$1,422
Amount Needed from General Fund to Balance Budget	\$1,000	
Total Revenues	\$6,128	\$4,987
EXPENSES		
Total Expenses for Officers	\$1,945	\$1,396
Total Expenses for Banquet (Feb 2023)	\$2,500	\$2,666
Total Expenses for Committees	\$1,640	\$652
Total Expenses (Officers & Committees)	\$6,085	\$4,714
Estimated Revenue in Excess of Expenses	\$43	
Actual Revenue in Excess of Expenses Year-to-Date		\$273

From the Registrar—Bill Edelen

Supplemental Applications

The Supplemental Application documents additional lineage information for an approved member in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR).

Members in good standing with more than one qualified ancestor should prepare and file supplemental applications. One of the SAR objectives is to acquire and preserve the records of the individual service of patriots of the American Revolution. Expedited processing is not available for supplemental applications.

Each supplemental application takes a minimum of several hours to process and validate. When filling out a supplemental application please keep the following tips in mind for a smooth process:

1. Supplemental applications go through the same process of preparation and review in the same manner, submitted in duplicate, in the same way as original applications.
2. The requirements for documentation are identical. The lineages and service they establish require the same care and research.
3. When using SAR, DAR, and C.A.R. record copies with your application, ensure the information listed on the new application reflects the record copy annotations and omit bracketed (within parentheses) information. Use new evidence where appropriate to update previously provided information. Include a copy of the new proof in the application package.
4. A supplemental application only requires the signatures of the applicant and the State Registrar. The State encourages Chapter Registrars to review supplementals before submitting them to the State Registrar as many supplemental applications arrive for national level review with errors.

An approved SAR application provides information that was determined to be correct and sufficient for SAR Genealogy Staff approval at the time of submission. A considerable number of approved SAR applications with newly discovered additional documentation pertaining to the genealogical lineage may become available and utilized.

If additional information is subsequently found, the applicant may submit a supplemental application as a separate transaction as though he had not filed an application on that patriot previously. Inclusion of such additional information in a SAR application is by:

- a) submission of a new SAR application for the patriot and lineage by a qualifying relative of the original applicant or
- b) submission of a supplemental application based on a different genealogical lineage leading to the same patriot ancestor. SAR does not amend the original applications.

“Leave No Man Behind”

by Lew Ray

Compatriot, John Collins Chapter

On September 5, 2023, I had the opportunity to witness a friend and old Army comrade being awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for a true act of valor in a ceremony at the White House. Captain Larry L. Taylor’s heroic actions occurred on a dark night in Vietnam on June 18, 1968, when he rescued four soldiers from certain death with his Cobra helicopter.

Captain Larry Taylor and I were both young First Lieutenants assigned to D Troop (Air), 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division and located just north of Saigon. We both arrived there on the same day fresh out of helicopter flight training. Since we were both US Army Armor branch officers, we were both assigned to an Air Cavalry unit. He became the attack (armed) helicopter platoon leader, and I became the aero-rifle platoon leader with troop-carrying Huey helicopters.

Our daily routine was to provide support throughout the 1st Infantry Division area whenever troops were in enemy contact or were in trouble and needed additional firepower, more troops or airlift. Much of the time, we spent days on standby and would be alerted (“scrambled”) to react immediately to action when the siren went off. Then, we had about two minutes to get to our helicopters, get them fired up, get our infantry troops on board and be ready for takeoff. Most of the time, we did not know where we were going or what we were getting into until we were in the air.



1LT Larry Taylor in his Huey helicopter



1LT Lew Ray with his Huey Helicopter

One of our preplanned responsibilities was to support the 1st Infantry Division Ranger Battalion Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) missions. On these missions, the LRRPs would deploy a 4 to 5-man reconnaissance team into a remote area to “sneak and peek” to observe and report on enemy activities. These highly trained and skilled infantrymen were often secretly infiltrated on the ground or were airlifted into position by a Huey helicopter team. When their mission was complete or if they had to be extracted prematurely under enemy pressure, the same Huey helicopter team that airlifted them in (which would be on standby waiting for a call) would immediately scramble to pick them up.

Usually, a fireteam of two attack helicopters were also part of the operation and would provide aerial firepower to suppress enemy fire if an emergency extraction had to take place. In the spring of 1968, the new AH-1G “Cobra” helicopter gunships arrived in our unit. The Cobra was the Army’s first designed attack helicopter flown only by a pilot and copilot/gunner. It was sleek, fast, and could deliver devastating minigun and rocket fire on enemy positions. The helicopter pilots became quite skilled and adept at completing these dangerous LRRP missions but would sometimes incur small arms fire damage to their aircraft since they needed to be so close to attack the enemy positions. Captain Taylor and I flew several of these missions together—he leading the Cobra attack helicopter team and me flying the Huey to insert or pick up the LRRPs in a remote location.

On the night of June 18, 1968, Larry and his fireteam of two Cobra gunships were scrambled to support a LRRP team that had found themselves engaging the enemy near the small village of Ap Go Cong, Binh Duong Province, Republic of Vietnam, in a marshy area of the Saigon River delta. The LRRP was quickly being surrounded. Larry's fireteam was alerted to provide whatever support they could as they flew in the dark, guided to the location only by the LRRP radio antenna signal.

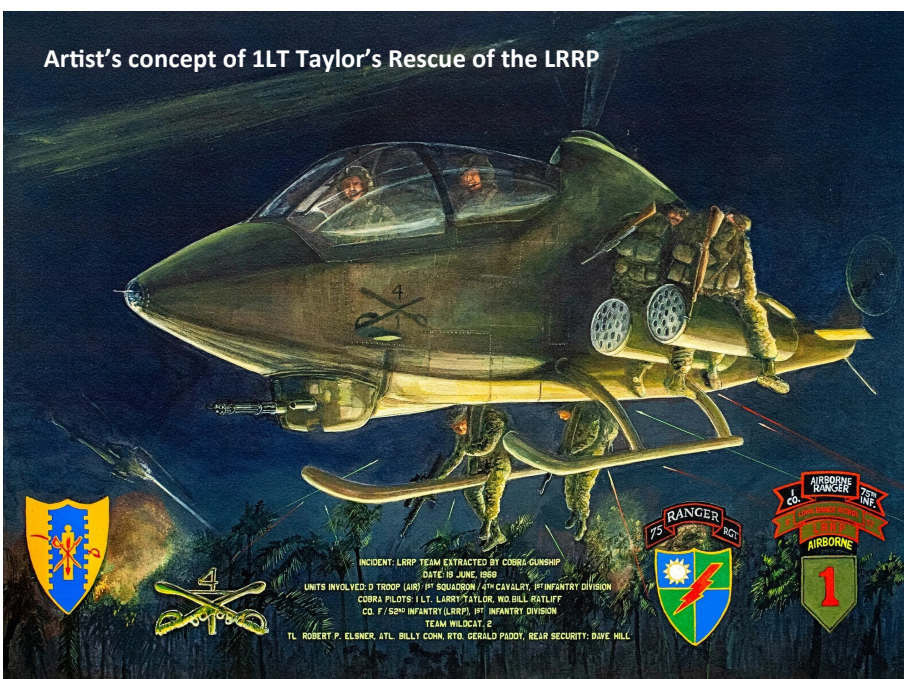
However, as Larry and his copilot drew closer, he could make out in the darkness the enemy's green tracers and explosions as the enemy attacked the LRRP. After pinpointing their location, Larry and the Cobra wingman aircraft delivered all the aerial firepower they could on the surrounding enemy positions for the next 45 minutes while the enemy fired back at them. He fired 152 rockets and over 16,000 rounds of minigun at the enemy. Finally, when he and his wingman had expended all of their ammunition and rockets, he and his copilot, Warrant Officer J. O. Ratliff, made strafing runs on enemy positions to draw the enemy fire away from the surrounded LRRP. However, soon the enemy caught on to the diversionary tactic. The LRRP was down to their last magazine of ammunition. Larry was also nearly out of fuel in his helicopter with the 20-minute warning light glowing brightly in the dark cockpit.

He sent his wingman Cobra aircraft back to their base because they were out of ammunition and nearly out of fuel. Adding to the situation, his superiors were directing him to stand down, abandon the LRRP, and to return to the base. However, Larry could see that if he was to abandon the LRRPs they were sure to be overrun and killed. His motto was to "Leave no man behind!" and he knew that it was now or never to try to save the endangered LRRPs. So, he ignored the order to leave the LRRP. Larry directed the LRRPs to put in place and discharge any remaining claymore mines they had to clear a temporary path through the surrounding enemy positions and move to a potential safer location where he could attempt to extract them with his helicopter.

They followed his directions as he blacked out all the lights on his helicopter and attempted a landing in the pitch-black night. He explained later that he and the LRRP miraculously arrived at the same "dark hole in the mud" at the same time!

What happened next had never been attempted by a crew in an AH-1G Cobra helicopter. The Cobra helicopter is only about 36 inches wide and designed only for a pilot and copilot/gunner, with no troop seats for anyone else. Larry knew the desperate LRRP rangers were resourceful and would figure out how to cling onto the helicopter wherever they could for extraction. Sergeant David Hill and Specialist Bill Cohn sat astride the rocket pods and Specialist Gerald Patty and Sergeant Bob Elsner clung to the skids.

The LRRP pounded on the side of the helicopter to signal they were securely attached and ready. Larry lifted off and climbed to a safe altitude with his helicopter still blacked out. He could hear enemy rounds striking his helicopter and was concerned for the LRRP men hanging on outside. He had to fly fairly low and slow because he knew the men clinging to the helicopter were wet and muddy



and would get really cold if he flew too fast and, perhaps, lose their grip and fall.

He selected a secure location at a nearby water treatment plant, landed using his landing light, and the LRRP men got off the helicopter. As they got outside the rotor area and in the glow of the landing light, they all turned and gave Larry a salute and a grateful thumbs up indicating a “Thank You” and a sign they were all right. Then Larry and his copilot returned to their base camp at Phu Loi and landed with only fuel fumes!

Captain Taylor was threatened with court martial disciplinary action for refusing the order to return to base camp and abandon the LRRP. Eventually, more rational minds prevailed and he and his copilot were recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross for their actions on that night. I, as the troop Awards and Decoration officer, conducted the interviews, prepared the narrative statements, and composed the citations for the awards. However, when the recommendations for the awards were processed at the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters, Larry’s was upgraded to a Silver Star medal. All of us with knowledge of the action were pleased with the upgrade but always felt that it merited higher recognition. However, we realized that, in those days, heroic actions by helicopter pilots were fairly routine and the war, time, and other priorities had to march on.

It wasn’t until early in 2017 that Sergeant David Hill, the only surviving LRRP that was rescued, spear-headed an effort to get Larry’s action upgraded to the Congressional Medal of Honor. After years of effort by many concerned supporters and working to meet the exacting Army Regulations covering the award, Dave and his team were successful in completing the tasks and achieving the goal. In his efforts to get this accomplished, both Dave and Larry exemplified the 1st Infantry Division motto, “No Mission Too Difficult, No Sacrifice Too Great. Duty First!” A simple, straightforward directive. It was not a motto you would easily forget. Efforts are now underway to get the initial award for his copilot, J. O. Ratliff, upgraded to the Distinguished Service Cross.



**Cpt Larry Taylor and LTC Lew Ray
at White House Ceremony**



**David Hill and LTC Lew Ray at
White House Ceremony**



President Biden presents Cpt Taylor with the Congressional Medal of Honor

5 Sep 2023

Chapter Meeting, 19 Sep 2023



We were very fortunate to have Sue Verhoef, Director of Oral History and Genealogy at the Atlanta History Center, be our presenter and talk to us about family photos and how to preserve them.

Family photographs and videos present unique challenges to the family historian. While these materials can provide additional information about the lives of our ancestors and open a window on the past, they can also be difficult to organize, challenging to preserve, and nearly impossible to identify. Sue points out 5 areas to consider:

1. Collect—Photos can be found not only with family members, but newspapers and libraries. Use digital cameras or flatbed scanners to capture them
2. Identify—Persons, location, and time periods need to be identified in photos.
3. Organize—not all photos need to be kept! Especially blurry photos, or multiple copies, or do you really need photos of only landscapes?
4. Preserve—remove paper clips, post it notes, rubber bands from photos. Digitize photos. Don't write on the photos. Use polyethylene or polypropylene sheets to protect photos. Preserve originals; use copies of photos for scrapbooks

Chapter Meeting, 17 Oct 2023



On October 17, our chapter meeting got to hear from General Nathanael Greene, the greatest American Patriot you never heard of. Also the greatest “unsung” hero of the American Revolution!

General Greene reminded of his youth growing up in Rhode Island in a Quaker family. His father did not care for book learning, but Nathanael convinced him to hire a tutor. Nathanael became an avid book reader.

After his father's death in 1770, Nathanael and his brothers inherited the family business which consisted of an iron

forge and sawmill. Nathanael was an adept business man and began to form relationships with other prominent Rhode Islanders.

When the Revolution begun, Greene was appointed commander of the Rhode Island military. He was with George Washington throughout all the Continental army campaigns from 1776 to 1780. After the disaster at Camden, SC, General Washington appointed Greene to command the Southern Continental Army.

We look forward to General Greene returning in the future to finish his story of how the American Revolution was turned around in the South.

As testament to the overwhelming Southern appreciation for Nathaniel Greene's leadership, there are 7 counties in the South named for this New England Yankee, as well as six US cities: Greensboro, NC; Greensboro, GA; Greenville, NC; Greenville, SC; Greenville, TN; and Greensburg, PA.

Chapter Meeting, 21 Nov 2023

For our chapter meeting on Nov 21, we were treated to motivational speeches by both our chapter Secretary, Tom Harnden, and Chancellor Jason Shepherd, on the planning for the America2 50 celebration as well as to observe the 25th anniversary of the Captain John Collins Chapter.

Tom and Jason have already begun planning, but are looking for ideas from chapter members how to best reach the following audiences:

K-12 Schools	Veteran groups	JROTC	Boys & Girls Scouts
College	Historical Societies	General Public	Libraries

Some programs that are being considered for the chapter to offer:

Genealogy Classes	Essay Contests	Art Contests	Grave Markings
-------------------	----------------	--------------	----------------

Of course, there will need to be funding to support these kinds of community outreach programs. Fundraising ideas being considered:

GoFundMe.com	Corporate Donations	Bake Sales
--------------	---------------------	------------

Got any ideas? Let Tom and Jason know!

Welcome New Member—Jim Poole

Welcome to our newest SAR member, Jim Poole!

Jim was born and raised in Louisville, Georgia. Louisville was Georgia's third capital located in Jefferson County.

After graduating from South Georgia Technical School, Jim joined the Air Force where he was trained in the repair and operation of communications and crypto equipment. That training enabled his assignment to a team supporting communications between Air Rescue Service and NASA on Gemini missions 5, 6, 7 and 8 in the mid 1960s.

Later, Jim was assigned to a team supporting a Strategic Air Command (SAC) site near Dalat, Vietnam. His last Air Force assignment was in the Headquarters SAC underground Command Center in Nebraska.

Following the Air Force, Jim enjoyed a 31 year career with AT&T, primarily in Georgia and South Carolina. He attended college in the evenings and graduated from Georgia State University.

After retiring from AT&T Jim worked in IT disaster recovery, the last nine years with SunTrust Bank.

Jim has identified four Revolutionary War ancestors, three of which are listed on a plaque in front of the Warren County, Georgia courthouse. His family's military service stretches from the Revolutionary War to the present. Both his son and grandson have both served in the Marine Corps.

Jim hobbies are genealogy and hunting.

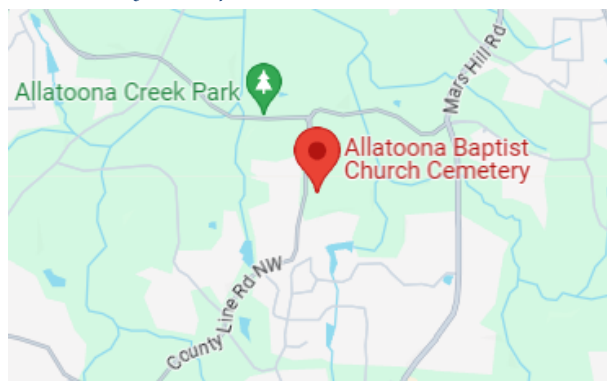
Jim and his wife Elaine have three children and four grandchildren.



Cemetery Cleanup—Old Allatoona Cemetery



Members of both the John Collins and Kennesaw Mountain (NSDAR) Chapters at the Old Allatoona Cemetery cleanup. From left to right: Dan King, Lew Ray, Brenda King, Jim Poole, Elaine Poole, Samantha Montgomery, Michael Reitherman, Betsy Wampler, Kate Sklikas.



We had a successful work day at the Old Allatoona Cemetery, also known as the Allatoona Baptist Church Cemetery, on Saturday, October 14.

Ladies from local DAR chapters also supported the event as part of their DAR National Day of Service.

The cemetery was in good shape thanks to our June 2023 work day. The majority of our work was picking up broken tree limbs and hauling them out to the roadside for Cobb County to haul away.

We have been spraying a mold/mildew killer on the tombstones and are seeing great results. The biological growth has been killed and washed off – leaving clean, white, legible tombstone.



A great product for getting tombstones to look new again is "Wet & Forget", which was used on the tombstone above.

Remembering 9/11



"We shall never forget" are words with good intentions, but putting action to those words gives emphasis to those intentions. With that thought in mind, compatriots Dan King and Jim Poole met at the City of Kennesaw 9/11 Memorial to lay a wreath on Monday September 11, 2023, see attached picture.

This memorial is in downtown Kennesaw, GA on Main Street in a small park next to the train tracks and adjacent to the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

Upcoming Events 2023-2024

When	Where	What	For more info:
Sat, Dec 16, 2023	Boston, Mass.	250th Anniv. Re-enactment of the Boston Tea Party	https://www.bostonteapartyship.com/events/boston-tea-party-reenactment
Fri & Sat, Jan 26-27, 2024	Sonesta Gwinnett Place, 1775 Pleasant Hill Rd, Duluth	Georgia Society Annual Meeting	https://gasocietysar.org/event/georgia-society-annual-meeting/
Fri, Feb 9, 2024	Elijah Clark State Park	Heroes of the Hornet 's Nest	https://gasocietysar.org/event/heroes-of-the-hornets-nest-2/
Sat & Sun, Feb 10-11, 2024	Kettle Creek Battlefield, War Hill Rd, Washington, GA	Battle of Kettle Creek	https://gasocietysar.org/event/kettle-creek-wreath-ceremony/
Sat & Sun, Feb 10-11, 2024	Wormsloe State Hist Site, 7601 Skidaway Rd, Savannah, GA	Colonial Faire & Muster, 18th century living in Georgia	https://georgiahistory.com/events/colonial-faire-and-muster/
Sat & Sun Feb 24-25, 2024	28396 NC Hwy 210, Currie, NC	Battle of Moore's Creek	https://www.sar.org/events/

250 years ago...1774



20 Jan 1774—News of the Boston Tea Party reaches London.

27 Jan 1774—British Customs Collector Loyalist John Malcolm is tarred and feathered by an angry mob in Boston, MA.

29 Jan 1774—Benjamin Franklin appears before the King's Privy Council.

31 Mar 1774—Parliament passes the Boston Port Act, the first of the "Intolerable Acts".

10 May 1774—Louis XVI becomes King of France on the death of his grandfather, Louis XV.

13 May 1774—General Thomas Gage arrives in Boston to take over as Royal Governor of Massachusetts

20 May 1774—Massachusetts Government Act passed by Parliament. The 2nd "Intolerable Act". This act prohibited town meetings without the Governor's approval. It also curtailed election of officials, who would now be appointed by the Royal Governor.

20 May 1774—Administration of Justice Act passed by Parliament. The 3rd "Intolerable Act". This act gave a Royal Governor the ability to move the trial of any Royal Official overseas (i.e., Great Britain).

1 Jun 1774—The British close the port of Boston to all commercial shipping.

2 Jun 1774—Parliament passes the 4th Intolerable Act, known as the Quartering Act, requiring American colonists to provide better housing for British soldiers, on demand.

1 Sep 1774—The Powder Alarm. British troops quietly transfer gunpowder to a more secure location, but the event is blown all of proportion by Patriot propaganda to the extent that rumors spread throughout New England about skirmishes with British soldiers and Patriot casualties. Rumors finally subside a week later.

5 Sep 1774 —The First Continental Congress assembles in Philadelphia. Representatives from 12 of the colonies attend. (Georgia is not able to send delegates, as the colony is still dominated by Loyalists).

20 Oct 1774—The 1st Continental Congress passes the Continental Association, a continental agreement to boycott all imports from Great Britain, Ireland, and the West Indies.

26 Oct 1774—The 1st Continental Congress adjourns.

1 Dec 1774—The Continental Association goes into effect, and 12 American colonies began boycotting British goods.

14 Dec 1774—New Hampshire militia seize the gunpowder and cannons at Ft William & Mary in Portsmouth Harbor, NH.



A Conversation with some Chatbots

by Tom Harnden



Ever present in the news is the notion that artificial intelligence will potentially cause Americans to lose privacy and security. To test AI and whether it has potential to cause increased AI anxiety in our society, I used the latest controversial AI technology referred to as a chatbot which is, according to Wikipedia, “a software application or web interface that aims to mimic human conversation through text or voice interactions.”

With a cup of coffee in hand and a computer in front of me, I had a discussion with two chatbots, ChatGPT and Chatsonic.

Question#1: Who were the three most influential men of the American Revolution? Unsurprisingly, each identified George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin but for various reasons.

Question#2: Who were the three most influential women of the American Revolution? Both chose Abigail Adams and Martha Washington. However, ChatGPT suggested the third to be Mercy Otis Warren for writing plays and satires criticizing British rule whereas Chatsonic suggested Mary Ball Washington for her selfless actions that “allowed” men to fight for a new nation.

Question#3: What are the top three reasons why the American Revolution started? Although they both suggested the taxation without representation, the remaining answers varied even more than the second question. ChatGPT further suggested restrictions on colonial self-government and Ideological and Enlightenment Influences whereas Chatsonic suggested violent confrontations with British troops and the Coercive Acts of 1774.

Question#4 (more open-ended): What person singularly helped the United States during the American Revolution? ChatGPT suggested the French aristocrat Marquis de Lafayette for volunteering to serve in the war for no pay whereas Chatsonic suggested Baron Von Steuben for introducing new sanitary measures and military tactics. It was incredible to receive two different responses and for very different reasons.

Question#5 (open-ended): Other than independence from England, what is the most important outcome of the American Revolution? ChatGPT suggested the formation of the Constitution whereas Chatsonic suggested the abolition of slavery in the northern states and the prohibition of slavery in the Northwest Territory. Although both responses are related to rights and freedoms, Chatsonic’s response more specifically focused on whose rights and freedoms.

After reflecting on the American Revolution questions and answers in my chat with AI, two things stood out. First, AI is only as good as the knowledge base that they connect to and from which they construct answers. Secondly, open-ended, or perspectival questions lead to quite unique responses which is what we may expect in human responses. However, this does not mean that AI can replicate human cognition. Why? The American Revolution was uniquely a human endeavor and has had a multigenerational effect on its meaning and role in American society. This simply cannot be replicated by AI – well, not anytime soon.

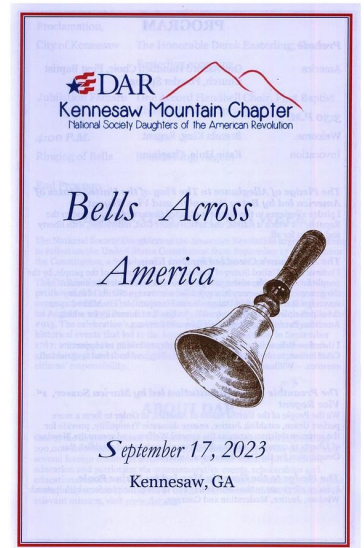
Bells Across America, Kennesaw, GA

Freedom rings for The Bells Across America -- We are living the life we live because of what they did in signing and founding the U.S. Constitution.

Bells rang around the City of Kennesaw, GA, as well as throughout the United States on Sunday, September 17, 2023 to commemorate the 236th anniversary signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. The Kennesaw Mountain Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution hosted Bells Across America with a program at 3:30 p.m. with a highlight of ringing of the bells at 4 p.m. commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution. The event was free and open to the public and served as the launch to Constitution Week, September 17-23, nationwide. The Captain John Collins Chapter had 3 members in attendance, Stallings Howell, Dan King and Jim Poole. Compatriots Dan King lead the reading of the American's Creed and Jim Poole lead the reading of the Preamble of the Constitution.

During the colonial period of our country, bells were used to call people together and to alert them to important announcements or events. Bells called the people of Philadelphia together to hear the Declaration of Independence read publicly for the first time on July 8, 1776. Then, just over 11 years later, at approximately 4 p.m. on September 17, 1787, bells were used to call people to hear the first public reading of our new Constitution. The most significant statements they heard were in the Preamble to the Constitution, which outlined the organization of our republic and the rule of law that would hold the new country together.

Constitution Week is observed nationally in schools, colleges and universities. The observance had its beginning in 1955 when the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution petitioned Congress with a resolution to set aside September 17-23 for observing Constitution Week. The annual celebration was established when signed into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on August 2, 1956.



Sept 17, 2023 Kennesaw Mtn Bells



Sept 17, 2023 Kennesaw Mtn Bells



Sept 17, 2023 Kennesaw Mtn Bells



Sept 17, 2023 Kennesaw Mtn Bells