



**Captain John Collins Chapter
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution**

The Collins Dispatch

<http://www.geocities.com/captainjohncollins>

February 2005

Dates to Remember

Saturday Feb. 12 Battle of Kettle Creek 226th commemoration Washington, GA

Tuesday Feb. 15
Chapter meeting at Ryan's South 120 loop at Fairgrounds Speaker, Joe Vancura on the origin of State names

Saturday Feb. 26 GASSAR Training at Museum of Aviation Warner Robbins, GA

Saturday Mar. 12
Guilford Courthouse 224th Greenville, NC

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GASSAR President George Thurmond installed the 2005 officers of the chapter at the annual banquet on January 18th.

2005 Officers Installed

We returned to yesterday where the 2005 Annual Banquet of the John Collins Chapter was held at the Cheatham Hill Community Center on January 18th. President Joe Vancura recalled the charter banquet, held at the same location, and displayed the charter document for the occasion.

Speaker Joe Kirby, Editor and columnist for the Marietta Daily Journal was the guest speaker, and reviewed the background and history of Cobb County born William McAdoo. His story is elsewhere in the Dispatch. Kirby was accompanied to the banquet by his father, Joe Kirby Sr., a long time SAR member from Spartanburg, SC, who spoke briefly about the family's connection to the Cowpens Battlefield and their Revolutionary War ancestors.

GASSAR President George Thurmond made a special presentation to the Chapter. He



President Curtis McWaters took his oath of office, administered by State President George Thurmond.

had been the Piedmont Chapter Graves Chairman responsible for the grave dedication of Capt. John Collins. The marker photo on the last page of the Dispatch was taken at that dedication. President Thurmond presented the Chapter with a booklet of the grave dedication ceremonies. He later installed the incoming officers, including the 2005 president, Curtis McWaters.

Before handing over the gavel, Past President Joe Vancura awarded certificates to recognize service to the SAR and the chapter during 2004. See the Members section for these.

President's Message

Compatriots,

I am honored to be your president in the coming year. I am not an eloquent speaker as my predecessors. I do not have a book to recommend. All I have are simple ideas on where our chapter should go this year.

We have a new year, a new set of officers and a new chance to get involved with "your" chapter. I have a lot to learn about being president and will depend on all of you to point me in the direction that "you" want the chapter to go.

We are fortunate to have most of our committees chaired by experienced people. I want to support these existing chairmen any way I can. We do have some committees that need a chairman. Please look at page 5 in this edition of the *DISPATCH* and see if you have an interest in these or any of the other committees. Get involved; even if it's on a small scale, any help will make a differ-



ence.

I have a couple of interests for the coming year. We voted to present medals to our wartime veterans starting with WWII and the Korean War. I would like for us to identify those members in our chapter so we can honor them for their service. Remember "Freedom is not free" and these men are proof of that. Another interest was brought to my attention at

the last State BOM. It was noted that the chapter with the most flag certificate presentations last year had twenty six. I believe we can do better. I would like to set a chapter goal of 30 presentations this coming year. If we just do three a month the rest of the year, we can easily make it. Then we have a grave marking to do this year. We have lots to do this year. I will enjoy the challenge. I am here to serve and guide the chapter. Let us all make it a Great Year!

- Curtis McWaters

Officers and Committee Chairmen

President	Curtis McWaters
Vice President	Jim Castle
Secretary	David Thompson
Treasurer	Jim Castle
Registrar	Charles (Chuck) Smith
Chancellor	Joe Vancura
Chaplain	John Jones
Sergeant-at-Arms	Rodney Pritchett
Historian	Bill Teasley
Editor	Larry Guzy
Americanism	Charles Switzer
Cemetery	Kendall Abbott
Dinner meetings	Curtis McWaters
Flags/Law/Fire	Ron McWaters
Eagle Scouts	Ed Brown
JROTC & Veterans	Jimmy Flanagan
Membership	Chuck Smith
Patriot Grave	Brad Jones
Publicity/phone	
Schools	Rodney Pritchett

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. April 4th will be the next deadline for articles. Send articles, photos, or your bio to Larry Guzy by email guzy@mindspring.com, or regular mail at 4531 Paper Mill Rd. Marietta, GA 30067-4025.

If you have new member leads, contact our Registrar, Chuck Smith at 770-953-3960 for assistance.

2004 Chapter Awards

The following individuals were singled out for their contributions to the Chapter during 2004:

- David O. Thompson, James C. Castle and Curtis E. McWaters received Certificates of Appreciation.
- The Bronze good citizenship Medal was presented to Kendall Abbott.
- Cindy Abbott was presented with the Martha Washington Medal.
- For all his many contributions, Kendall Abbott was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.
- Immediate Past President Joe Vancura was awarded the Past President Certificate and the neck ribbon and member metal.

Some of the men who have been working to finalize their applications include: Ken Farris; Robert, Mark, and Michael Bowen; Walter Fortner; and Jason Godwin.

Wear your SAR rosette to inspire questions and identify men who may be qualified to join. Help them document their heritage, or ask our registrar or another member to assist.

If you wonder what other SAR members talk about go to SAR.org and join SARTalk and get in on your history.

MORE Dates to Remember

(Continued from page 1)

Tuesday March 15

Chapter Meeting at Ryan's. Our speaker is Pat Cates, a Curator at the Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History in Kennesaw. He will speak on a company of railroad engineers trained by the Southern Railway in WWII.

Friday/Saturday Apr 8,9

GASSAR Annual Meeting Marriott I-85 at Clairmont Rd.

Tuesday Apr 12

Halifax Resolves Halifax, NC

Tuesday April 19

Naval Battle at Ft. Fredrica St. Simons, Isl. GA

Tuesday April 19

Chapter meeting. Michael Tomme will be our speaker. He will speak about CAR. He is the GASSAR Chairman for the CAR/DAR

Nancy Hart Heroine of the Revolution in Georgia

Larry T. Guzy February 2005

The heroine of the Revolution in Georgia is one for whom the only county out of 159 is named: Nancy Ann Morgan Hart⁽¹⁾. She was born in North Carolina in 1747 to Thomas Morgan and Rebecca Alexander. She married Benjamin Hart there and they eventually moved to South Carolina where they had a family of eight healthy children. Around 1771 the family moved to Georgia due to a grant of about 400 acres. If you know your history, that was also the year of the Regulator War in North Carolina, another reason to move to Georgia for those who were independent minded. Benjamin also held property in Burk County, and built a cabin that was located along the Broad River off a creek in Wilkes County that later became Elbert County, that the Indians later named Wahatchie,

translated as "War Woman".

Nancy was a true backcountry woman. She was six feet tall, "had a violent temper to match her red hair and a masculine courage to back it up". She was also a "kind and devoted

mother and wife and a compassionate friend to those near her." She was also a good cook. Did you know that she also had crossed eyes? Nancy must have been a very distinctive character. Benjamin frequently was gone, and had no doubt that Nancy could care for herself and the family. She was a deadly shot with a musket as the antlers in their cabin attested. She was an expert marksman, possibly even better than her cousin, Daniel Boone.

Among other things, she served as a spy for Generals Lincoln and Light Horse Harry Lee. On one occasion, she volunteered to go into an enemy camp in South Carolina to retrieve vital information from other spies captured by the British. She crossed the Savannah River on a crude log raft she had built. She dressed like a man and played the part of a half-wit. She obtained the requested information and added her own information on the best points to attack. After the fall Augusta, General Elijah Clark led the women and children of the Patriots out of Georgia to safety to the Western Carolinas. Nancy refused to leave. She knew she could defend herself. She also took part, along with her husband and sons: John, Thomas, and Morgan in the Battle of Kettle Creek⁽²⁾.

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Marietta 2009

That seems a long way off, but the National SAR Congress will be held here, in Cobb County, in 2009. The Waverly Hotel, at Galleria, has been chosen as the location for this big event.

Our chapter will be central to the efforts of the Georgia Society to host compatriots from throughout the country and the world. The SAR is coming to us! We need to understand what goes on and how to do it up right.

Make plans to attend at least one Congress before 2009. Next year, in July 2005, the National Congress will be in Louisville, KY, our National Headquarters. At a 7-hour drive, it is the closest Congress will be to us before we host it in 2009. Because we can drive to Louisville, transportation costs are minimized for us to attend.



Member Robert Hites sent this photo along with this explanation:
 "Between the fields where the flag is planted, there are 9+ miles of flower fields that go all the way to the ocean. The flowers are grown by seed companies. It's a beautiful place, close to Vandenberg AFB.
 Check out the dimensions of the flag. The 2002 Floral Flag is 740 feet long and 390 feet wide and maintains the proper Flag dimensions, as described in Executive Order #10834. This Flag is 6.65 acres and is the first Floral Flag to be planted with 5 pointed Stars, comprised of White Larkspur. Each Star is 24 feet in diameter; each Stripe is 30 feet wide. This Flag is estimated to contain more than 400,000 Larkspur plants, with 4-5 flower stems each, for a total of more than 2 million flowers. You can drive by this flag on V Street south of Ocean Ave. in Lompoc, CA."

Aerial photo courtesy of Bill Morson

Membership Final

With January 15th past, the deadline for renewals is now complete. The few who had not renewed, can be reinstated by paying the current fees dues.

The chapter final count by the State Secretary was 73 primary members with 4 dual members and 4 applications at National

Thanks to all for timely renewals

William G. McAdoo

He was born on a farm near Marietta, GA, October 31, 1863 and attended rural schools, then the University of Tennessee. He was admitted to the Bar in 1885 and practiced law in Chattanooga, TN. In 1892, he moved to New York City.

McAdoo developed the rapid transit tunnel system between New York City and New Jersey, and between 1902 and 1913 served as president of the company that constructed and operated them.

Under Woodrow Wilson, McAdoo



He died in 1941 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Fort Myer, VA.

William McAdoo, for whom the McAdoo House in Marietta is named. This photo and more details of his history are found at www.arlingtoncemetery.net/wgmcadoo.htm

Member News

Dick Dolsen, a scouter for over 65 years, holds an extensive collection of scouting memorabilia. He is in the process of donating his collection to the Marietta Museum of History. (Americanism points?) Dick is still recovering from his medical condition.

was Democratic National Committee Chairman from 1913 to 1918 and eventually moved to Los Angeles, CA. After filling many other political committee offices, he ran for the Democratic nomination for President from 1933 to 1938.

Howard Morrow had been hospitalized and unable to attend the annual banquet, otherwise he surely would have been there! He is home and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Charter member **Bill Teasley** has been a generous supporter of the chapter financially, but we are not the only ones who appreciate him. He was recently recognized as the Cherokee County Person of the Year. He was appropriately embarrassed by the chapter at the annual banquet, where members passed around the Cherokee Tribune story about him.

Chapter President **Curtis McWaters** had surgery on February 7th and we hope to see him back in action soon.

NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY

The annual directory is out. If you did not receive yours, please contact our secretary, David Thompson at Sabl356256@aol.com. Include your email and phone number.

Chapter Committees

The following committees that the Chapter has functioning are shown below. The names on the Committees are the chairman. If you have desire to chair or be on a committee, please let us know so you can be included. Notice the Question Marks for committees that do not have chairs. Pick something and get involved We can only be a success if we work as a team. As members, we have the opportunity to set the course of this chapter for the future. Lend a hand as you can.

COMMITTEES:

Americanism: A compilation of the activities from the committees below and other chapter events

Chairman: Charles Dewey Switzer

Cemetery: Our Adopt-A-Cemetery program

Chairman: Kendall Abbott

JROTC: Makes contact with school officials for medal presentations

Chairman: Jimmy Flanagin

Eagle Scouts: Makes contact with scout troops for the Eagle Scout competition

Chairmen: Ed Brown and Art Spalding

Flags/ Law & Fire: Identifies & coordinates those worthy of these recognitions

Chairman: ?????????

Membership: Promotes & assists with membership in and out of the chapter

Chairman: Chuck Smith

Publicity/Telephone: Promotes the chapter in the community and media, and helps notify members

Chairman: ?????????

Revolutionary Grave: Identifies & arranges ceremonies to recognize Patriot gravesites

Chairman: Brad Jones

Schools : Seeks out ways to promote the SAR principles in all levels and scouting

Chairman: ?????????

Dinner Meetings: Locates and coordinates quarterly dinner meetings

Chairman: James Castle

Veterans: Fosters working relationship with veterans

Chairman: Jimmy Flanagin

Collins Dispatch: Compiles, writes articles, prints and distributes our newsletter

Chairman: Larry Guzy

Circle your interest and return this form to: Curtis McWaters

6339 McCollum Lane

Thank You for Your Support

Acworth GA, 30102

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GEORGIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

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Don't forget, if you go to an historical celebratory event, make a donation of money, items, or self to a veteran's charity, or even solicit a potential new member, please send a note to an officer or let us know at the next meeting. **Those Americanism points can add up fast!**

(Continued from page 3)
Nancy Hart—Heroine of the Revolution in Georgia

Probably the best-known story is that of the five or six Tories who came to visit. Although she was famous for her hostilities toward the British, she began fixing them a meal and providing alcohol to help make them feel at home. Their muskets were stacked in a corner where Nancy kept them in view. When she had heard they were in the area, she sent her daughter out to find Benjamin. After the meal and more drinks, she began to slide the muskets out a chinking space in the wall, possibly so that they would be unarmed when Benjamin returned. She was discovered as she was making the third musket leave, and a rushing Tory was shot dead. Another still doubting Nancy's ability, rushed her only to be shot also. The remaining Tories pulled back and remained for Benjamin's return with some

Dispatch Seeks Writers
Members are encouraged to submit articles of historic of genealogical interest for inclusion in future issues. If you need suggestions for topics, or want to discuss your ideas, contact editor Larry Guzy.

friends. It was said that Nancy felt shooting them was too good and thus the rest were hung from an old oak in the Hart's yard. Excavation near the cabin site (washed away by the Broad River overflowing its banks years later) revealed a grave with five remains, lending credence to the tale.

⁽¹⁾*This Woman Called Nancy Hart*, by James Machen published in the Hartwell Sun Thursday March 22, 1973

⁽²⁾Patriot Soldiers at Kettle Creek compiled by Louise Hammett 1997 PO Box 123 Columbus, GA 31902

50 years as a dues paying member!

Bob Tracy has reached a milestone in the SAR. His member number for Georgia is 420. Compare that to yours and you will realize that there were only 419 men who had joined the Georgia Society before he did! The milestone: having been a dues paying member for 50 years! Congratulations Bob. Maybe you will take this opportunity to share your bio with us for the next issue of "The Collins Dispatch"



Check out the Collins website
<http://www.geocities.com/captainjohncollins>
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