



Captain John Collins Chapter
Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Collins Dispatch

NEW URL <http://www.captainjohncollins.org>

June 2006

Dates to Remember

Chapter meeting third Tuesday every month at Ryan's 680 South Marietta Parkway. Dinner only \$7 at the door if you choose to eat. Meeting starts 7PM dinner 6:15PM

June Meeting Tuesday 6/20

National Congress 7/8-13

July Meeting Tuesday 7/18

State BOM Saturday 7/29

August Meeting Tues. 8/15

Teasley Elementary Flag discussion 8AM 8/16/06

Patriotism Week Monday 8/21 through Friday 8/25 5 high schools. See next issue for details

Inside...

Memorial Day	1
President's Message	2
Member News	2
Officer Listing	2
Past Speakers	3
Flag Certificates	3
JROTC Presentations	4
Chapter Outreach	5
Cemetery Cleanup Day	6
Packages to Iraq	6



Memorial Day at the Marietta National Cemetery begins with the placement of 18,000 flags by over 1600 scouts on the Saturday before the national holiday.



Jack Ferguson, Piedmont Chapter, and Kendall Abbott, stand at attention during wreath laying ceremony on Memorial Day.

Memorial Day activity at the Marietta National Cemetery begins the Saturday before the national holiday.

For the past 5 years, the Georgia Society Color Guard has assisted in the flag placement conducted by approximately 1600 scouts. In addition to presenting the flag, the color guard serves as backdrop for countless pictures with groups of boy scouts, girl scouts, cubs and brownies.

During the past two years, **Larry Guzy** has read Washington's Prayer for Our Country as part of the ceremonies.

President Jim Castle joined the GASSAR Color Guard for the first time.



MEMORIAL DAY
2006

President's Message

The Free and the Brave

It says in our National Anthem that we are "the land of the free and the home of the brave." I heard a caller on a radio show recently say it a little differently: "we are the land of the free *because of* the brave." This is the time of the year to commemorate two groups of brave Americans.



Certainly, it is our brave military personnel who helped establish and who maintain our liberties from foreign adversaries. Those of us who were at the placing of the flags by the scouts on the Saturday before Memorial Day and who were at the Memorial Day Service at the Marietta National Cemetery were inspired by the 18,000 plus graves of servicemen from throughout our history. If you have never attended one of these events, let me highly recommend that you do so. We commemorate both those who died while serving and those who survived that service. To paraphrase General Patton, we have a lot of live heroes, not just dead ones. Some of those are in our chapter, and others we meet everyday. To the brave veterans one and all, we say "thank you!"

The other group of brave souls we will remember on July 4, the 230th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, are our founding fathers. From the declaration we read "... for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Most of the Signers were men of no small means. They knew they were risking their wealth as well as their very lives to sign the Declaration, certain to be viewed by the British as an act of treason. Yet, they believed the opportunity to establish a new nation was worth the risk and the price. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Their bold vision was that rights come from God, not government. They literally put their money where their mouth was and risked all for that dream.

Thank you veterans, and thank you Founding Fathers! May we live lives worthy of the sacrifices you have made, and the republic we have inherited.

- Jim Castle

Officers and Committee Chairmen

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

The Collins Dispatch is published every other month. August 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.

Collins Member News

New member:

Ray D. Ruggles National #166744 GA #4389

Approved 3/21/06

Supplement approved for Art Spalding

Pending applications, or working:

Ken Farris, John Chastain and Randy Aitken

The following have submitted their applications:

Marc Ratliff, James Allen Waide, and Glenn Harris



Ray Ruggles received his member certificate at the April Chapter meeting

Charter members even make the news years after they have passed! **Robert Stubbs** was one of the first veterans buried in the new Georgia National Cemetery in Canton.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported, "Kipling McVay did not weep Monday when she buried the remains of her husband, who died in 2002. 'This is actually a matter a great joy to me, because I'm actually able to fulfill a promise I made to him,' she said.

Stubbs spent 22 years in the Marine Corps and always wanted to be buried in a national cemetery. 'It's the idea,' his widow said, 'of where you belong.'

President Theodore Roosevelt (a member of the SAR) provided an argument that seems timely although it was delivered 99 years ago in 1907:

"In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."



Theodore Roosevelt 1907



Former GASSAR President Roger Lamb discussed the Chaplains of the Revolution at the Chapter's April meeting.



May's speaker was Republican challenger John Konop who is running for U.S. Representative (6th District). Democracy requires knowledge in order to make informed choices. Regardless of your choice, VOTE

Flag Certificates



(Left) President Jim Castle presented a flag certificate to Mike Chester, Manager of Publix Store #559 on US 41 in Kennesaw, GA. The Store takes down the flag at dusk and raises it in the morning. (Above) On the way to Abney Elementary, Tony Toth and Kendall Abbott presented a flag certificate to the Arby's in Dallas. Both got a free lunch to boot!

The Collins Chapter has come a long way in six years regarding ROTC, from none to 15 plus 2 Senior ROTC at the university level. The nearly \$300 that the chapter spent this year for the 15 JROTC medals and certificates honored our youth who embody the patriotism we try to instill. If you were not one of the presenters, consider it for next year, or consider being a financial sponsor next year. Your name can be placed on the certificate for a donation of \$20 for each award. Photos are courtesy of those participating. On behalf of the Chapter, thank you.



Photos, left to right:
Jim Castle with Michael Little at North Cobb High School.

David Thompson presented at Harrison HS.

Kendall Abbott presented to Kirk Browne at Paulding HS.



Kendall and Jimmy Flanagin presented at Marietta High School.



Curtis McWaters and Jim Castle presented to Amberley Griffin at East Paulding High School.

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Curtis McWaters and Kendall Abbott presented to Matt Angle of Kennesaw High School .

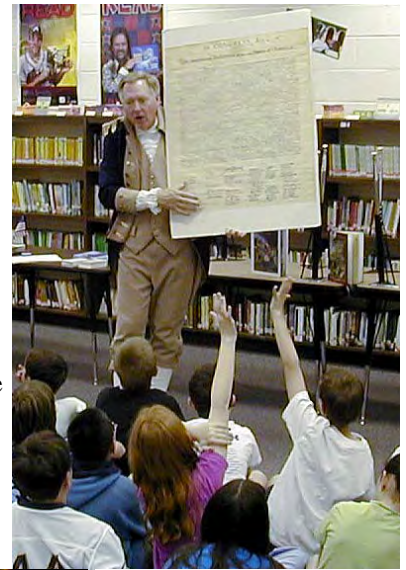


LCDR Campbell , of Kennesaw High School, retired this year after 18 years teaching JROTC. The chapter thanked him with presentation of the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.

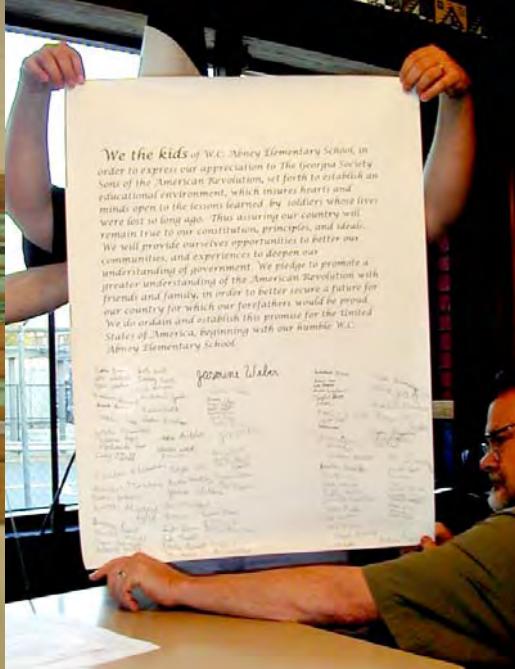


Lewis Elementary school provided a big crowd for their April 26 gathering.

Chapter Treasurer, **Paul Grigg's** wife, **Karen**, is a media specialist at the school. She invited us to discuss the American Revolution, reinforcing the lessons learned. Four classes, or about 100 kids showed how much they knew.



Chapter Outreach



Tony Toth's daughter, **Katie**, is a 4th grade student at Abney Elementary in Paulding county. The school requested we not publish photos of the kids, but they sent us a thank you document prepared to be similar in style to the Declaration of Independence. Tony



The Friends of the Smyrna Library meeting May 18th was an opportunity to present 'Spies of the Revolution' to an attentive audience of about 15, including potential members!

Toth, **Kendall Abbott** and **Larry Guzy** enjoyed discussing the Revolution in the South and Spies of the Revolution. The text of their Thank You poster:

"We the kids of A W.C. Abney Elementary School, in order to express our appreciation to The Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, set forth to establish an educational environment, which insures hearts and minds open to the lessons learned by soldiers whose lives were lost so long ago, thus assuring our country will remain true to our constitution, principles, and ideals. We will provide ourselves opportunities to better our communities, and experiences to deepen our understanding of government. We pledge to promote a greater understanding of the American Revolution with friends and family, in order to better secure a future for our country for which our forefathers would be proud. We do ordain and establish this promise for the United State of America, beginning with our humble W.C. Abney Elementary School."

**CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER
GEORGIA SOCIETY SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

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Don't forget, if you go to a historical celebratory event, make a donation of money, items, or self to a veteran's charity, or even solicit a potential new member, please keep track on the form Charles Switzer provided. **Those Americanism points can add up fast!**

Old Allatoona Cemetery



Jim Castle

The cemetery cleanup on May 6th saw **Tony Toth** bring his children, youth member **Daniel Toth** and daughter **Katie**. **Kendall Abbott** came with his arm in a sling and Cindy tirelessly picked up sticks.

David Thompson, Jim Castle and Larry Guzy



David Thompson

rounded out the crew. Kendall, always looking for ways to recruit, spoke to a neighbor whose property encompasses some of the graves and believes he found a prospect!



Skip Keaton prepared nine packages of items to send to the troops serving in Iraq. Both money and items were donated by the chapter. The packages included razors, food, puzzles, pens, pencils, notebooks, toothpaste and eye wash.

Donations can be brought to the monthly meetings to continue this effort to support our troops.