



CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER

Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Oct-Dec 2025



DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Dec 16 —Chapter Meeting

Jan 20 —Chapter Meeting

Feb 17 —Banquet

Mar 17 —Chapter Meeting

Additional events and activities, see the GA SAR website:

www.gasocietysar.org

and the chapter website:

www.johncollinssar.org/events/

Next edition of the Dispatch is planned for Mar 2026.

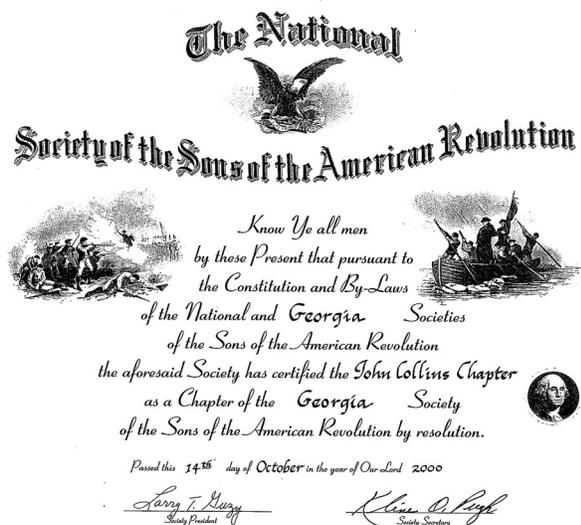
Our chapter newsletters, current and previous editions, can be downloaded from the chapter website.

If you have articles or photos for publication in the newsletter, please send them to:
jami.andrew@att.net

The first American flag (the “Continental Colors”) is raised at Prospect Hill, Somerville, MA, on January 1, 1776 during the siege of Boston. The flag pole was 76-feet high. Boston is in the background. The more famous “Betsy Ross” flag did not come along until Jun 1776.

Happy 25th Anniversary to CJCC!

The Captain John Collins Chapter was organized on Oct 14, 2000. This edition of the newsletter will devote a lot of coverage to the congratulatory messages we have received from our Sisters in the DAR. Below is our charter, signed by then GA SAR president Larry T. Guzy!



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250 years ago...The 1775 Invasion of Canada

On 10 May 1775, the 2nd Continental Congress convened for their first session in Philadelphia with the New England colonies now at war with Great Britain. Massachusetts had poked the bear, and was now urgently seeking military and financial assistance from her sister colonies. And Massachusetts now turned to Congress for help.

Congress established the Continental Army on 14 Jun 1775, with George Washington as Commander.

Congress became the de-facto National Military Command Center for the 13 United Colonies. They found themselves now having to develop a national strategy for the war. They decided to go on the offensive with an invasion of Canada.

The objective was two-fold: 1) Eliminate the threat of invasion by the British from Canada, and 2) try to convince the Canadians, most of whom were French, to join the rebellion.

American General Richard Montgomery, a former British officer and former member of Parliament, would lead the expedition going by way of Lake Champlain. His troops took Fort St. John on Nov 2, 1775. He then pushed his troops on to Montreal. Bear in mind that there is a lot of snow and ice in Canada in November that had to be overcome!

The Royal Governor of Canada, General Guy Carleton, was down to only 300 soldiers to defend the whole province. He abandoned Montreal to Montgomery on Nov 13th and withdrew his soldiers to Quebec. See map below.

Meanwhile, General Washington and Colonel Benedict Arnold decide to reinforce General Montgomery's move toward Quebec by organizing a 2nd expedition to go through the largely unexplored wilderness of northern Maine to join up with Montgomery outside Quebec.

Arnold recruited 1,100 volunteers and started out on this route on 23 Sep 1775, from Ft. Western (modern day Augusta, ME). Arnold thought the distance across Maine to Quebec would only be 180 miles, but it turned out to be 350 miles, using the river networks that were often clogged with fallen trees. They reached Quebec after enduring 47 days of rain and snow, difficult river passages, and starvation. Only 600 men still remained. Accompanying Arnold on this expedition were Col Daniel Morgan and 19-year old Aaron Burr, who would both go on to gain fame in other endeavors.

Arnold's leadership on this very arduous march earned him the respect and confidence of General Washington. Unfortunately, he would later throw all that away.

Once near Quebec, Arnold hooked up with General Montgomery. Together they planned an assault on the walled city of Quebec for before dawn on 31 Dec 1775.

The Americans attacked in a raging blizzard before daybreak and met prepared British defenses. General Montgomery was killed instantly by a burst of grapeshot while leading from the front. Col Morgan and 400 Americans were captured, 50 Americans killed, and 34 wounded. British losses were light. This was the Continental Army's first major defeat of the war, and a very bitter one at that despite all the courage, perseverance, and heroics in just getting to Quebec.

For more on this heartbreaking setback at Quebec, see Ken Burns' documentary, "The American Revolution," episode 2.



Above: Montgomery took the western route by Lake Champlain, Montreal, and the St. Lawrence Seaway to get to Quebec. Arnold took the eastern route through the unexplored wilderness of Maine.



Left: Death of General Montgomery before the gates of Quebec.

Officers and Committees

President – Jason Shepherd	Editor – Jami Andrew
Immediate Past-President – William S. Edelen	Genealogist —Lew Ray Sr
Vice President – Jim Poole	Public Service and Heroism - Wayne Brown
Secretary – Chris Thompson	Flags and Knight Essay - Terry Gibbs
Treasurer - Wayne Brown	Cemetery – Michael Reither
Registrar – William Edelen	JROTC - Tom Harnden & Jim Poole
Chancellor – Jason Shepherd	Eagle Scouts / Education - Bill Coffeen
Chaplain – Rodney Pritchett	Veterans - Gary Hoyt / Patrick Reese / Lewis Ray Sr
Sergeant-at-Arms - Lewis Ray Jr	DAR Liaison – Dan King
Historian – Jim Castle	Chapter Directory – Larry Guzy

President’s Message

Compatriots,

As we close out an extraordinary year for the Capt. John Collins Chapter, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your dedication to honoring our patriot ancestors and advancing the cause of American liberty.

This year, we gathered at Mars Hill Cemetery to plant a new Liberty Tree near the resting place of our namesake, Capt. John Collins. It was a moving tribute to the endurance of the ideals he fought to secure. We also dedicated a permanent monument in downtown Acworth commemorating 250 years of American Independence—a proud milestone for our chapter and our community. Both events received significant media coverage, helping us share the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution with thousands across Georgia.

As we continue toward America’s 250th anniversary, I encourage each member to submit your “250 Blessings of Liberty” reflections. These personal tributes will help tell the story of why our liberty still matters and why the sacrifices of our patriot forefathers must never be forgotten.

Thank you for your steadfast service. Together, we honor the past, engage the present, and inspire the future.

In Patriotism,

Jason M. Shepherd, Esq.
President, Captain John Collins Chapter

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



The Acworth SAR Monument

A *Come join us in a ceremony dedicating a granite marker honoring the*

250th Anniversary of American Independence, 1776 – 2026.

Veterans Memorial Park at Patriots Point
4425 Beach Street
Acworth, GA 30101

Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 11:30 AM



Sponsored in cooperation with the City of Acworth by the
Captain John Collins Chapter
Georgia Society
Sons of the American Revolution.

For questions, contact Chris Thompson at chris.thompson561@gmail.com

The Captain John Collins Chapter, Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution unveiled a granite marker at Patriots Point in Cauble Park, in the City of Acworth, commemorating the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026.

Chapter President and Chancellor Jason Shepherd spoke and reflected on his ties to American history. Thanks to President Floyd and the Honor Guard for making this occasion such a success. Participants dressed in Revolutionary War attire; the Honor Guard marched in unison and Acworth Mayor Tommy Al-legood expressed his pride. "We're standing here at Patriots Point", he said, "twenty years ago, we built Patriots Point with the mission to make sure that we would celebrate our veterans, and we have done that."

Wayne Brown, who serves as treasurer for the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, spearheaded the Acworth SAR Monument project.

Among those in attendance were Cobb County Commissioner Keli Gambrell (District 1) and Acworth Alderman Tim Richardson, along with students from nearby Brookwood Christian School in Acworth.



The Acworth SAR monument at Patriots' Point.



Member of the John Collins Chapter (SAR) along with dignitaries at the monument dedication on 17 Sep 2025.

Fielding Lewis Chapter Congratulates the Captain John Collins Chapter, SAR, on 25 Years of Service!

President Jason Shepherd, President, and Members of the Captain John Collins Chapter, Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution:

Congratulations on your **25th Anniversary**, commemorated during the regular chapter meeting held on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025**. The Chapter received its charter at the **Georgia Society SAR Board of Managers Meeting on October 14, 2000**.

Our two organizations are certainly “mutual admiration societies.” On behalf of the **Fielding Lewis Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution** in Marietta, Georgia, please accept our sincere congratulations for a job well done.

We appreciate all of the support the **Fielding Lewis Chapter** receives from your organization.

We were so honored to have President Jason Shepherd join us for our **America 250! Marker Dedication** in May 2025.

We look forward to many years of working together to honor our **Revolutionary War patriot ancestors** by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

With warmest congratulations,

Melissa Tanner, Regent, Fielding Lewis Chapter, NSDAR



Congratulations from the GASSAR Ladies Auxiliary!

December 2025

On behalf of the Georgia Society SAR Ladies Auxiliary, we extend our heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS to the Compatriots of the Captain John Collins Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution in our beloved state of Georgia!

For twenty-five years, you have accomplished the SAR mission of promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding of our Country.

You have honored the legacy of the men and women who secured our freedom 250 years ago and ensured that their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

We celebrate your achievements and your devotion to the principals of the American Revolution not only for the past twenty-five years, but for future years to come!

Happy 25th Anniversary!

In Patriotism and Friendship,

Lynn Baxter Jacques

Lynn Baxter Jacques

President, Georgia Society SAR Ladies Auxiliary

Lynn Jacques and her husband Tom



The Challenge Coin: History and Tradition

by Bill Coffeen

Editor's Note: It was Compatriot Bill Coffeen who suggested a Challenge Coin be developed to mark the 25th anniversary of the Chapter. Bill went on to head the project and find a vendor who was able to create the chapter Challenge coin, seen at right.

Well Done , Bill!!



Obverse side



Reverse side

The 2025 Capt. John Collins SAR Chapter Challenge Coin & Its Significance

The Collins challenge coin commemorates the 25th anniversary of the founding of our chapter within the greater Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution on October 14, 2000. Our members reside primarily in Cobb County which is the area we serve. We honor our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country. That is why the reverse side of the coin represents our chapter's membership within the State of Georgia and the red enamel reflecting the location of Cobb County within it. It is dedicated to those original founding members of the chapter.

The obverse side of the coin shows the medal of the SAR which every member is entitled to wear and more importantly represents its ideals reflected in the symbolism behind the Cross of Malta. The cross is composed of horizontal and vertical bars. The vertical bar represents the commandment, "You Shall Love Your God." The horizontal bar represents the commandment, "You Shall Love Your Neighbor as Yourself." The intersection of the bars reminds us that "Love of God and Neighbor" are in fact the same love. There are four limbs of the cross reminding us of the four cardinal virtues. The first virtue is prudence, learned by studying the past in order to regulate the present and plan for the future. Prudence allows one to understand the fallacy in allowing a lesser evil to avoid a greater evil, because the accumulation of lesser evils will eventually exceed the hypothetical greater evil. The second virtue is justice. There is an art and science of being just. The art comes from the recognition of the true worth of our fellow man. The science involves the concept of impartiality and always begs the question: Is it fair to all concerned? True justice is underscored by integrity of life. The third virtue is temperance or moderation in all our actions, including the senses, especially the sensual desires. The fourth virtue is fortitude, with magnanimity and courage to serve God.

There are eight points of the Maltese Cross. Each point represents one of the beatitudes recounted for the Knight of Malta by the initiator who would proclaim the following annunciation: "This cross was given white to us as a sign of purity, which you must carry in your heart as you wear it externally, without spot or blemish. The eight points that you see in this are signs of the eight beatitudes that you must always have within you, and they are:

1. To have spiritual contentment
2. To live without malice
3. To weep over your sins
4. To humble yourself at insults
5. To love justice
6. To be merciful
7. To be sincere and open-hearted
8. To suffer persecution

All these virtues you must engrave upon your heart for conservation and preservation of your soul, and for that reason I command you to wear it openly sewn on your clothing on the left-hand side of the heart and never abandon it."

Lastly, our medal has the bust of George Washington at the intersection of the two bars of the cross. That reminds us of our great leader at the time of the American Revolution. Surrounding the bust are the words, "LIBERTAS ET PATRIA," (Liberty and Country) reminding us of our Declaration of Independence and Constitution.

Congratulations on Your 25th Anniversary, Captain John Collins Chapter, GASSAR!

On behalf of the Hightower Trail Chapter, NSDAR, I would like to extend our chapter's heartfelt congratulations on your 25th anniversary. Reaching this significant milestone is a testament to your dedication, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to the principles and values set forth by the Sons of the American Revolution.

Over the past quarter-century, your chapter has made a lasting impact by serving in the community, promoting patriotism, upholding traditions, and inspiring future generations. The accomplishments and service you have achieved as a chapter are outstanding, and your legacy continues to grow stronger with each passing year.

May this anniversary be an occasion to reflect on your past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a future filled with continued success and meaningful contributions. Congratulations once again on 25 years of excellence!

Sincerely,

Candace Breeden

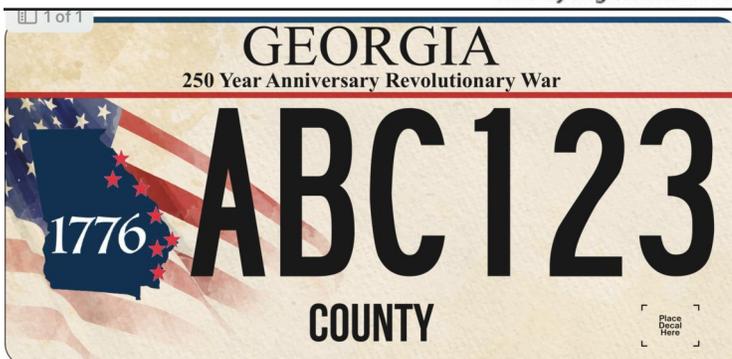
Regent

Hightower Trail Chapter, NSDAR

Canton, GA



GA Day Hightower Trail Chapter Feb. 1, 2025



New for 2026!!

Coming in January, Georgians will be able to purchase the new *250 Year Anniversary Revolutionary War* specialty license plate for \$20. Check with your local County tag office!

Chapter Meeting, 16 Sep 2025



Above: Jason Shepherd presents Mayor Derek Easterling with the chapter's trademark \$2 bill. Mayor Easterling's wife Dawn looks on.

For our September meeting, we were honored to have the Mayor of Kennesaw, Derek Easterling, come and talk to us about his experience as a politician and mayor. Mayor Easterling recapped his nine years in office and highlighted upcoming projects that “will shape the future” of Kennesaw. And he announced that he would not seek a fourth term in 2027.

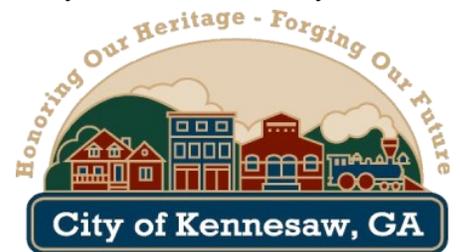
Mayor Easterling was first elected mayor in 2015, and re-elected (without opposition) in 2019 and 2023.

Mayor Easterling served in the US Navy from 1980 to 1996. In 2003, he completed law enforcement officer training and joined the Cobb County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff where he served until 2010. In 2012, he was employed as a Security Supervisor for Kennestone Wellstar Hospital until April 2015.

Derek is a Cobb County School District teacher and holds a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management and a Master of Education in Secondary Education in History.

Origin of the Challenge Coin

by Bill Coffeen



The origin of the Challenge Coin, like many other aspects of military tradition, is a matter of much debate, and many organizations and services claim to have originated it. Some suggest a connection to ancient Rome, the early Renaissance or even to the persecution of the French Protestant Huguenots during the reign of Louis XIV. One of the most prevalent and intriguing stories about the origin begins during World War I. American volunteers from all parts of the country filled newly formed flying squadrons. Some were from wealthy families attending schools such as Harvard and Yale who quit mid-term to join the war. In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered medallions struck in solid bronze and presented them to the pilots in his unit. One young pilot placed the medallion in a small leather pouch that he wore around his neck.

Shortly after acquiring the medallion, this pilot's aircraft came under heavy ground fire, and he was forced to land behind enemy lines. He was immediately captured by a German patrol and was stripped of all his personal identification to discourage his escape, except the small pouch around his neck. After being taken to a small French town close to the front, he managed to escape during a bombardment that night. However, he was without personal identification.

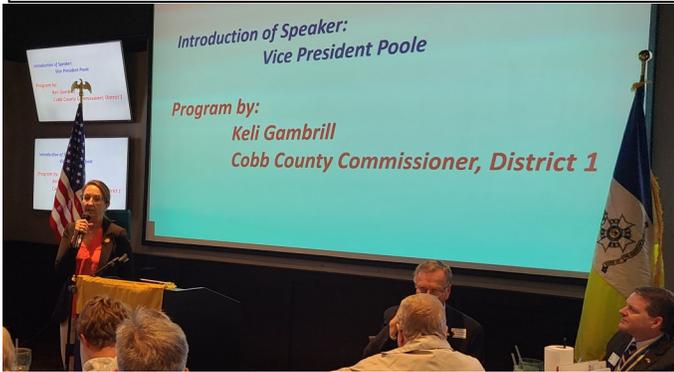
He succeeded in evading German patrols by donning civilian clothes and reached the front lines. Miraculously he crossed no-man's land and eventually stumbled onto a French outpost. French saboteurs had plagued this sector often, disguised as civilians in civilian clothes. The French didn't recognize the American's accent so prepared to execute him as a saboteur. The only thing he had on him was the medallion and amazingly one of the French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion. They delayed the execution long enough to confirm his identity and instead of shooting him, they gave him a bottle of wine.

Back at his squadron, it became tradition to ensure all members always carried their medallion or coin. This was accomplished through a challenge in the following manner – a challenger would ask to see the medallion. If the challenged could not produce a medallion, they were required to buy a drink of choice for the member who challenged them. If the challenged member produced a medallion, then the challenging member was required to pay for the drink. This tradition continued through the war and for many years after the war while surviving members of the squadron were still alive. The SAR proudly continues this tradition through the various challenge coins issued by the National Society and now the John Collins does as well.

Chapter Meeting, 21 Oct 2025



Above: Map of the four Districts of the Cobb County Commission.



For our October meeting, we had Cobb County Commissioner for District One, Mrs. Keli Gambrell, come and speak to us about all the activities going on in her District.

She talked about the real need in Cobb County for affordable housing for young people.

Commissioner Gambrell was elected as Cobb County Commissioner for District 1 in 2018, is now serving her second term after re-election in 2023. She ran on a platform of fiscal responsibility, adherence to the future land use plan, and transparency. Commissioner Gambrell is focused on updating Cobb's Unified Development Code, leveraging her expertise in zoning and land use to preserve the county's character, and improving parks through the 2022 SPLOST funding.



Commissioner Gambrell presents a Cobb County Proclamation to President Shepherd and Vice President Poole recognizing the contributions of the of the John Collins Chapter.

Right: At the meeting we recognized our own Larry Guzy, who has been with the chapter since it was chartered in 2000. Larry was the Georgia SAR president who signed the John Collins charter and was its first president.



Larry got the 1st chapter Challenge Coin!!

The American Revolution Experience Traveling Exhibit

contributed by Dan King



Sons, Daughters and Children of the American Revolution united to visit the North-east Georgia History Center in Gainesville, Georgia to view the American Revolution Experience Traveling Exhibit on Saturday, November 8th. A side trip to visit the George Washington Marker was a further learning experience for Effie, our granddaughter and new member of the Elisha Winn Society, C.A.R.

The award-winning website from the American Battlefield Trust and Daughters of the American Revolution is now a traveling exhibit. The informative exhibit reveals how the lives of ordinary people were affected by the events of the American Revolutionary War.

'From an award-winning website to an in-demand pop-up exhibition, the American Revolution Experience, a collaborative project of the American Battlefield Trust and the Daughters of the American Revolution is beginning a new phase in its quest to connect modern audiences with the fascinating story of our nation's origin. The American Revolution Experience will travel to scores of libraries, historical societies and museums through 2027, introducing visitors to a cast of historical characters with diverse experiences throughout the conflict and the places they visited on their journey.

This innovative pop-up exhibition includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks that use storytelling, illustration, technology and unique artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of our nation.

Left: Dan and Brenda King and their granddaughter, Effie.

Chapter Meeting 18 Nov 2025



Above: Sue Verhoef presenting the work she has been doing with capturing the Oral History of Veterans.

For our November meeting, we were treated to hear Sue Verhoef, Director of Oral History and Genealogy at the Atlanta History Center, talk about her new project with the Center. Sue talked to us about capturing for the future the oral histories of living veterans who can recount their experiences either in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf Wars, and the Global War on Terror.

The Center's oral history initiatives include the Veterans History Project, which is a collection of over 800 oral history interviews of veterans from World War II through the Global War on Terror. Sue is the curator of *More Than Self: Living the Vietnam War*, which is an exhibition of oral histories, photographs, documents, and artifacts from Vietnam.

Planting of the Carter Center Liberty Tree—16 Oct 2025 contributed by Jim Poole



On October 16, 2025, members of the community gathered at the Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta for a Liberty Tree Dedication Ceremony. The event commemorated the upcoming 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States (1776–2026) and honored the legacy of James Earl Carter, Jr., the 39th President of the United States.

Jointly sponsored by The Carter Center, the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, and the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution (GASSAR), the ceremony reflected a deep commitment to civic memory and patriotic service. The GASSAR



Color Guard opened the event with a formal presentation of the colors, followed by remarks from leaders of Georgia's lineage societies: William Floyd Jr., President of the Georgia State Society SAR; Helen Powell, State Regent of the Georgia State Society DAR; and Noah Tindall, President of the Georgia State Society Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.). Beth Davis, COO of The Carter Center, also addressed the gathering, and Lauren Gay, Chief of Staff to former President Carter, unveiled the Liberty Tree plaque.

Representatives from SAR and DAR chapters across Georgia attended, including participation from the Captain John Collins Chapter, SAR. Members Larry Guzy, Dan King, and Jim Poole were present to honor the occasion and represent the chapter's ongoing dedication to historical preservation and patriotic education.

A highlight of the ceremony was the Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR's formal presentation of President Carter's National Life Membership Certificate in the Sons of the American Revolution to the Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum. President Carter, a longtime member of the SAR, traced his lineage back to a Patriot whose service in the American Revolution qualified Carter for membership.

As our nation prepares to celebrate its semiquincentennial in 2026, the Liberty Tree at the Carter Presidential Center will stand as a living tribute to the ideals of our founding fathers and the enduring contributions of President Carter—a statesman, humanitarian, and proud member of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution.



CJCC is 25 years old!

Huzzah!! Captain John Collins Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution



Capt. John Collins Chapter SAR Marker Sept. 17, 2025

Congratulations on your Twenty-fifth Anniversary! Cheers to 25 years of fulfilling “the SAR mission to perpetuate the memory of those who served and/or sacrificed during the War of the American Revolution, which is accomplished through patriotic, historical, and educational programs and activities.” It has been a great honor and joy to serve alongside Captain John Collins Chapter, GASSAR, for the past seven years, fulfilling the missions of both the SAR and the DAR.

Huzzah!

Brenda King

Fielding Lewis Chapter, NSDAR

DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee Chair

Naturalization Ceremony, 26 Sep 2025



Dan King represented CJCC at the Rome, Georgia, Naturalization Ceremony on Friday, September 26, 2025, where 32 United States immigrants took the Oath of Citizenship. The ceremony was held at the Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse, United States District Court. The Courtroom was filled with a mix of emotions: pride, gratitude, and hope for the future. As a grateful, proud American, it was a great joy to welcome and congratulate the new Citizens. Attendees included society members from GSSDAR, GASSAR and NSCDA. The event was featured in the Rome News-Tribune on Saturday, September 27th.

Above: 32 immigrants to the United States take the Oath of Citizenship at the Federal Courthouse in Rome, GA

Right: At the event, L to R - Jennifer Beard (Xavier Chapter), Linda Howe (Old Noonday Chapter), Adrienne Wilson (Old Noonday), Katherine Larder (Old Noonday), JoAnne Woodall (Old Noonday), Judge John H. Rains IV, Brenda King (Fielding Lewis Chapter), Dan King (CJCC), and Connie Soloway (Old Noonday).



Lana Alsekork

Nancy East
Bryson Leri Crowder
Patricia McCay

Maisha Stemmie
Caron Hobbs
Membership chair
Becky Chao
Lia Thomas

Sue Coletta
Nancy Young

Fielding Lewis Chapter, GSSDAR
commends

Rosemary Strickland
Eva B. Barrett

May Rinsow
Nancy Lubinski
Cheryl Hunt-Moments



Beatrice Coker
Judy B...
Lana Harris

Jim Downs
Fielding Lewis NSDAR

Captain John Collins Chapter, GASSAR
Twenty-five years honoring our Revolutionary War Patriots!

Amber Witt
State Chair SAC

Katherine
Melissa B. Janney, Regent
Emily Hurtt

Diane Carter

Brenda King, Carol Bockman, Marguerite Cagle
SAR/SAR/5.0 Relations Committee Chair
DAR

Ann Amey
State Secord
Vice Regent
Honorary Chapter Regent

Wing Wolf

Walker Sue Ray
NSDAR

Sharon B. Inalme
Guarante Jones

Nina Alexander
Photographer

Karen Molton
Suey Waith

Julie Crow
Amber S. Ray
NSDAR

Patricia Hilscher
Andrea Riddle
First Vice Regent

Laura Miller

Trisha Moseley
State Chair Appointed!
Treasurer, Fielding Lewis

Mar Bennett
Secord Vice Regent

Anne Masson

Upcoming Events

- 4 Jan 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Princeton, Princeton, NJ; Time 9am to 12:30pm
- 17 Jan 2026—Battle of Cowpens, SC. Time 8am to 5pm. Cowpens National Battlefield, Gaffney, SC.
- 25 Jan 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Cowan’s Ford, NC. Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, NC.
- 13 Feb 2026—Heroes of the Hornets Nest, Elijah State Park, Lincolnton Hwy, GA. Time: 10am to 3pm.
- 13 Feb 2026—Kettle Creek Battlefield Association Annual Dinner, Time: 5pm to 8pm.
- 14 Feb 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Kettle Creek. Washington, GA. Time: 8am to 4:30pm
- 12-14 Feb 2026—Commemoration of the Crossing of the Dan River. South Boston, Virginia.
- 27 Feb 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Moore’s Creek, Currie, NC., Time: 10am to 12 noon.
- 28 Feb 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Briar Creek, Sylvania, GA. Time 8am to 5pm.
- 13-15 Mar 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Guilford Courthouse NMP, Greensboro, NC.
- 28 Mar 2026—Commemoration of the Battle of Thomas Creek, Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park, Jacksonville, FL.
- 18 Apr 2026—Commemoration of the Frederica Naval Action, Time: 10am to 12 noon.
- 26 Apr 2026—Midway Church Service and Patriot Grave Markings, Time: 10am to 4pm.

250 years ago...1775-1776



- 13 Nov 1775—American forces under General Richard Montgomery capture Montreal
- 5 Dec 1775—Henry Knox arrives at Ft. Ticonderoga and begins collecting the cannon to take to General Washington at Cambridge, MA.
- 9 Dec 1775—Battle of Great Bridge, near Norfolk, VA. Victory for the American militia that lead to the British abandoning Norfolk.
- 31 Dec 1775—Battle of Quebec. Fought in a fierce snow storm. The American assault is repulsed. Gen Richard Montgomery is killed, General Benedict Arnold is wounded, and Col Daniel Morgan is captured.
- 1 Jan 1776—The first American Flag, called the “Continental Colors” or the “Grand Union” flag is raised at Somerville, MA on the highest ground occupied by the Continental Army overlooking Boston.
- 1 Jan 1776—Royal Governor Dunmore of Virginia orders the British ships at Norfolk to bombard the

town and set it ablaze. The town is destroyed, but with help from the Patriots who make sure that Loyalists’ homes in the town are also destroyed.

6 Jan 1776—Henry Knox and the Ticonderoga artillery train cross the frozen Hudson River at Albany, NY, over to the east side at Greenbush, NY.

10 Jan 1776— Thomas Paine’s **Common Sense** is printed for the first time in Philadelphia and is a huge success.

24 Jan 1776—Henry Knox delivers his artillery train to General Washington at Cambridge, MA.

11 Feb 1776—Royal Governor Wright of Georgia, who has been under house arrest since Jan 18th, escapes at night to a British warship in the Savannah River.

27 Feb 1776—Battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge in NC, near Wilmington. Major victory for the NC Patriot Militia over the Loyalists.

2 Mar 1776—Battle of the Rice Boats in Savannah Harbor. First engagement in Georgia involving British troops. The British are successful in capturing most of the merchant vessels with 1,600 barrels of rice. This rice is needed for the besieged British troops in Boston.

4 Mar 1776—The Americans seize and occupy Dorchester Heights overlooking Boston, dig fortifications and emplace their Ticonderoga artillery, all in one night!

17 Mar 1776—The British evacuate Boston, never to return!

12 Apr 1776—The Provincial Congress of North Carolina instructs its delegates at the 2nd Continental Congress to vote for Independence from Great Britain. They are the first colony to take such a stand. This becomes known as the “Halifax Resolves”

Thank you, Earl Cagle, for your years of sup- port of CJCC!

To my husband and friend, Earl,

It is a rare opportunity to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for all you have done and continue to do for DAR and SAR.

No matter the circumstance, you freely give your time, talents, effort, and support.

Thank you, Earl, for sharing and caring.

With my love and respect,

Marguerite



Congratulations, CJCC!



Congratulations to the Captain John Collins Chapter, NSSAR!

On the chapter's 25th anniversary, we celebrate your dedication to preserving the legacy of our nation's patriots and promoting the values of freedom, history, and civic pride. Your commitment to education, community service, and honoring the past has made a lasting impact over the past quarter-century.

Here's to your continued success and many more years of meaningful service!

Elaine Poole
Kennesaw Mountain Chapter DAR

Old Allatoona Cemetery Cleanup—11 Oct 2025



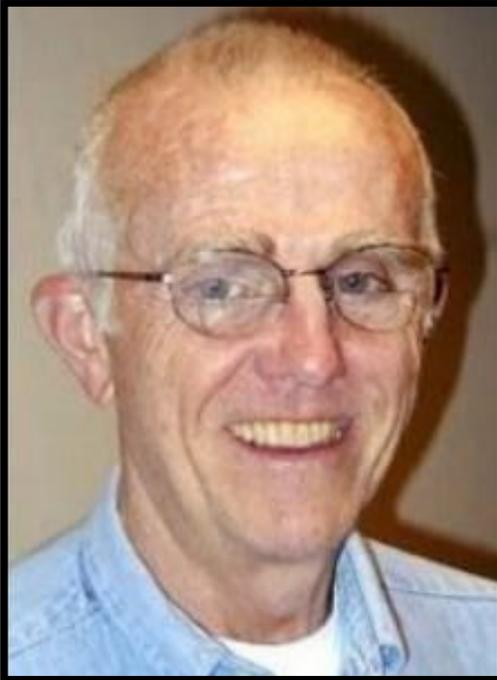
Old Allatoona Cemetery cleanup day was Sat, Oct, 11,2025.

Left: L to R - Larry Guzy, Michale Reitherman, Lew Ray Sr, Lew Ray Jr, and Jim Poole.

Right: L to R- The Ladies from the Kennesaw Mountain Chapter DAR that participated: Betsy Wampler, Elaine Poole, Sheri Peavler, and Samantha Montgomery.



In Memoriam—Bill Teasley



Compatriot and chapter member William (Bill) Alfred Teasley passed away on 20 Sep 2025 at the age of 89. Bill was a Charter Member of the Captain John Collins Chapter and very active for many years. He was an enthusiastic genealogist and had documented many Patriot Ancestors. In addition, Bill served our Country as an officer in the United States Navy.

Born in Canton on October 22, 1935, Bill dedicated much of his life to education and community service.

Bill graduated from Canton High School before earning his degree from Duke University and serving in the Navy from 1956 to 1963. In a career spanning more than thirty years, he taught mathematics at Cherokee High School and the Westminster Schools.

Bill served on the Canton city council and the state school board and was active in the Lion's Club and Cherokee County Historical Society.

Bill joined the Sons of the American Revolution in 1965 and was a member for over 50 years.

Bill's enthusiasm and patriotism will be missed. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Brother.

Congratulations from Janet Edelen!

Congratulations to the members of the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution on your 25th Anniversary! This milestone is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on cherished memories, celebrate your ongoing achievements, and look forward to future aspirations. Your dedication to honoring Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestors, promoting patriotism, serving your communities, and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country is truly commendable.

Happy 25th Anniversary!
Janet Edelen



Bill and Janet Edelen

Congrats to CJCC and Gary Hoyt!

Gary,

I admire your dedication to the SAR Captain John Collins Chapter. You have served the chapter by being President and Veterans Chairman. You listened and worked with your compatriots; carrying out your duties to the best of your abilities.

As your chapter celebrates its 25th anniversary; I'm happy you will be part of it.

Congratulations!
Connie Johnson

Congratulations from Sue and Amber Ray!

Members of the CJCC, GASSAR,

You are to be congratulated on achieving your 25th Anniversary milestone! Since my husband, Lewis, and my son, Lewis, Jr. are members of the chapter, I am especially proud of the achievement. I like to occasionally attend the chapter meetings as a guest and find the patriotism, pride, fellowship, and discussion to be inspiring! As a longtime DAR member, I look forward to observing the continued successes and achievements of the chapter in the future.

In Patriotism,
Walker Sue Ray, Fielding Lewis Chapter, NSDAR



L-R: Lew Ray Sr.; Lew Ray Jr.; Walker Sue Ray; and Amber Ray

Congratulations to the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution on their 25th Anniversary and the meaningful contributions you have made to the community recognizing our beloved patriots! Well done!

Amber Ray, DAR Fielding Lewis Chapter, NSDAR

GASSAR Ladies Auxiliary Promote Captain John Collins Chapter

by Brenda King

Colonel Ben “Lawman” Hancock, RET, was honored with a Captain John Collins Chapter Challenge Coin at the Fielding Lewis Chapter, GSSDAR, November meeting.

For National Veterans and Military Families Month, the FLC celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the Army, Marines and Navy. Each November, we honor the service and sacrifices of all American veterans and their families. This month-long observance extends the recognition beyond the single day of Veterans Day on November 11th and includes numerous events and programs to show appreciation. Lawman Hancock was the guest speaker for this FLC event.

The GASSAR Ladies Auxiliary took this opportunity to promote CJCC, highlighting their twenty-fifth anniversary, while attending the meeting. The Ladies presented the Challenge Coin during an informal greeting after the meeting. Ben “Lawman” Hancock retired from the Marine Corps at the rank of Colonel in 2013 after 30 years of active duty service. He is currently a Captain with Delta Air Lines and lives in New Bern, NC, with his wife, Donnette. They have five children.

Ben has accumulated over 10,000 hours of mishap-free flight time. His personal military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, two awards of the Legion of Merit, three awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal, three awards of the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous unit and campaign awards.

In this privileged meet and greet moment, the GASSAR Ladies Auxiliary recognized Colonel Hancock’s distinguished career, thanking him for his service and sacrifices.

L to R: Caron Hobson, Marguerite Cagle, Brenda King, Ann Ameye, Col. Ben Hancock, Donnette Hancock, Melissa Tanner, Amber Ray, Walker Sue Ray



Congratulations from the Old Noonday Chapter, NSDAR!

On behalf of the 48 members of the Old Noonday Chapter, NSDAR, I send my heartfelt congratulations to the Captain John Collins chapter SAR on your chapter’s 25th anniversary. It has been our distinct privilege to participate in your chapter’s activities, which has enriched our patriotic experiences greatly. Thank you for including us. Your chapter has set the bar high and inspires us greatly. We wish your chapter many, many more years of success and look forward to our continued collaboration.

With respect and admiration,

Connie Byrd Soloway, Regent, Old Noonday Chapter, NSDAR



Above: Old Noonday chapter members (L to R) Carol Kiefer, Connie Soloway and Linda Howe join William Floyd at the Captain John Collins chapter’s America 250 marker dedication.



Left: GASSAR State President, William Floyd, makes a presentation at the Old Noonday chapter meeting, September 10, 2025. Old Noonday chapter member, Carey Floyd receives the SAR 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution Recognition Program Bronze and Silver medals.