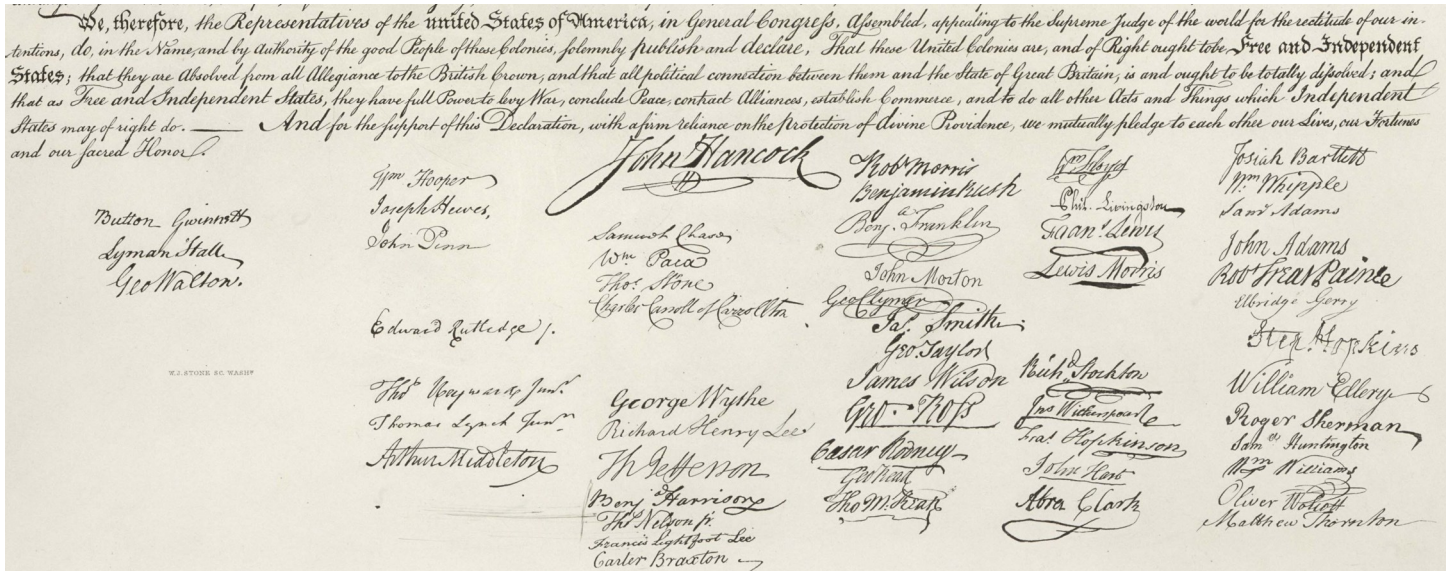




# CAPTAIN JOHN COLLINS CHAPTER

Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution

Apr-Jun 2026



Above: The thunderous conclusion of the Declaration of Independence with the signatures of the 56 signers. This image is from the 1823 Stone Edition of the Declaration of Independence. You can see Stone’s inscription on the left under the first column of signatures. “W.J. Stone SC. Washn”. SC is the abbreviation for sculpsit, i.e., a sculpturer.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Jul 21 —Chapter Meeting

Aug 18 —Chapter Meeting

Sep 15 —Chapter Meeting

Oct 20—Chapter Meeting

Additional events and activities, see the GASAR website:

[www.gasocietysar.org](http://www.gasocietysar.org)

and the chapter website:

[www.johncollinssar.org/events/](http://www.johncollinssar.org/events/)

**Next edition of the Dispatch is planned for Sep 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](mailto:jami.andrew@att.net)**

## The Birth of the United States July 4th, 1776

The last paragraph of the Declaration of Independence reads as follows:

*WE, THEREFORE, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And 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.*

Here we learn that this new nation will be called the United States of America; that Congress is appealing to God to judge who is in the right; that the former colonies now consider themselves independent states; that they no longer will obey British law and are free to choose their own government; and if war is necessary, so be it. And finally, all the members of Congress totally commit to this Declaration.

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

The Birth of the United States—p.1  
 Inside this Edition—p.2  
 The Timeline of the Declaration—p.2  
 Signer Monument in Augusta—p.2  
 Officers and Committees—p.3  
 President’s Message—p.3  
 Acworth Patriots Day Proclamation—p.4  
 National Vietnam War Veterans Day—p.4  
 Memorial Day, Marietta Natl Cem—p.5  
 Gainesville Patriot Grave Marking—p.5  
 More on the Declaration of Independence—p.6  
 Chapter Meeting, 17 Mar 2026—p.7  
 Essay by Eagle Scout Abi Amos—p.8  
 Chapter Meeting, 21 Apr 2026—p.9  
 Chapter Meeting, 19 May 2026—p.10  
 Some Gave All — p.11-12  
 Capt. John Collins Day —p.13-14  
 Sandy Springs Grave Marking—p.15  
 Junior ROTC—Marietta High School—p.15  
 Upcoming Events—p.16  
 250 Years Ago—p.16  
 Upcoming Kettle Creek Frolic—p.17

### 174 REVOLUTIONARY RECORDS.

At a meeting of the Council of Safety, Aug. 8th, 1776.

Present :

His Excellency the Prest.	Samuel Saltus.
John Bohun Girardeau.	Daniel Roberts.
Adam Fowler Brisbane.	Jonathan Bryan.
<b>Benjamin Andrew.</b>	John Houstoun.

The President laid before the Board a letter from the Honorable John Hancock, Esqr., together with a copy of the **Declaration of Independency**, which being read it was agreed that it be proclaimed in this Town on Saturday next at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and that orders do issue to the Commanding Officers of the Militia to assemble the people accordingly.

## The Timeline of the Declaration

Thursday, 4 Jul 1776—The 2nd Continental Congress unanimously approves the language of the Declaration of Independence. A handwritten copy is sent to a local Philadelphia printer, John Dunlap, who prints 200 “broadsides” for distribution to members of Congress, the States, and the Continental Army.

6 Jul—The *Pennsylvania Evening Post* becomes the first newspaper to publish the Declaration.

8 Jul 1776—The first public readings of the Declaration take place in Philadelphia, Easton, PA, and Trenton, NJ.

9 Jul 1776—Gen. Washington receives one of the broadsides from John Hancock and has it read to his troops in New York City. After hearing the Declaration, crowds in New York City pull down the equestrian statue of King George III.

2 Aug 1776—This is the day that most of the members of Congress will sign the Declaration. All 3 Georgia signers (Hall, Gwinnett, & Walton) sign on this day.

8 Aug 1776—The Georgia Council of Safety receives its copy of the Declaration of Independence. A public reading in Savannah is set for Sat, 10 Aug 1776.

16 Aug 1776—London newspapers print the Declaration of Independence.

Aug & Sep 1776—The Declaration appears in print in newspapers across Europe.

Oct 1776—The Declaration is translated into German and printed in Switzerland.

The Declaration listed 27 indictments of King George III, which made it high treason with punishment by hanging. Yet 56 members of Congress signed it. During the course of the American Revolution, 4 of the Signers would be captured and imprisoned by the British, including George Walton of Georgia, the only Signer to be taken prisoner on a battlefield. Eight other Signers would see their property ransacked. Yet none of the Signers were ever executed by the British.

Left: Minutes of the Council of Safety, 8 Aug 1776, from the *Revolutionary Records of Georgia*. Council President Archibald Bulloch receives a copy of the Declaration of Independence.



Left: Signers’ Monument in downtown Augusta, GA. The remains of Lyman Hall and George Walton are buried beneath it. The location of the remains of Button Gwinnett is uncertain. He is believed to be buried in an unmarked grave in Colonial Cemetery in Savannah, GA.

# Officers and Committees

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

---

## President’s Message

Compatriots,

As we quickly approach America’s Semiquincentennial on July 4th, 2026, the Captain John Collins Chapter has been actively planning for this historic milestone and celebrating it with our community.

During the second quarter, our chapter recognized and awarded outstanding Scouts, along with thirteen exceptional JROTC cadets representing eleven area high schools.

The Cobb County Commission issued a proclamation designating **May 16th, 2026, as Captain John Collins Day** in Cobb County. This coincided with our chapter’s 250th Anniversary Commemoration at Mars Hill Cemetery, where we placed a granite “250” plaque on Captain John Collins’ grave. The event was made especially meaningful by the presence of the Captain’s third-, fourth-, and fifth-great-grandsons—Mike, Jeff, and Maddox Donahoo. Jeff and Maddox currently live in the Captain’s original 1840 home in Acworth, which has remained in the family since its construction. Jeff Donahoo shared remarks about the home’s history, and we presented each descendant with the chapter’s challenge coin and extended an invitation to join our chapter.

Approximately eighty people attended the ceremony, including local government officials, the Pastor of Mars Hill Church, members of the Mars Hill Memorial Association, representatives from the Georgia State DAR and SAR, and local members from four SAR and six DAR chapters.

On Sunday, May 24th, Vice President Jason Shepherd, and I attended the Mars Hill Memorial Association’s annual meeting and presented a chapter donation to support their ongoing care of the cemetery.

On Memorial Day, Vice President Shepherd and I represented the chapter at the Marietta National Cemetery observance, where we presented the chapter’s wreath in honor of our fallen heroes.

Looking ahead, our chapter is constructing a patriotic-themed float for the Marietta July 4th Parade. Volunteers are needed as work begins in mid-June. Construction will take place at my home in west Cobb County.

As we approach July 4th, let us all recommit ourselves to honoring the Patriots who fought to establish the United States of America—a nation founded on the ideals of liberty and self-governance.

James Poole

President, Captain John Collins Chapter

---

## Acworth Patriots Proclamation Day—16 Apr 2026

On Apr 16th, the City of Acworth proclaimed April 19, 2026, as Patriots Day.



At Acworth City Hall for Patriots Day are, L to R: Mayor Allgood, Wayne Brown, Earl Cagle, Chris Thompson, and Jim Poole.



## National Vietnam War Veterans Day—30 Mar 2026



**NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY  
COMMEMORATION**  
MARCH 30, 2026 - 10:00 AM  
AT THE VIETNAM WALL IN NEWTOWN PARK



Sponsored by the  
Johns Creek Veterans Association  
[www.jcvets.org](http://www.jcvets.org)  
&  
The Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business  
Association  
[www.avvba.org](http://www.avvba.org)



The City of Johns Creek held their Vietnam War Veterans Day event at the Vietnam Wall in Newtown Park (3125 Old Alabama Road) in Johns Creek.

Left: Johns Creek Mayor John Bradberry, a former US Marine, and member of the Johns Creek Veterans Association, delivering the opening remarks in front of the Vietnam Wall. Seated behind him is Vietnam Combat Nurse Ginny Dornheggen.



Right: At the ceremony are Bill and Janet Edelen, Gary Hoyt, Brenda and Dan King.



# Memorial Day, 25 May 2026



President Jim Poole and VP Jason Shepherd represented the Capt. John Collins Chapter at the National Memorial Day Ceremony at the Marietta National Cemetery on May 25, 2026.



# Gainesville Patriot Grave Marking, 29 Mar 2026



A Patriot Grave Marking was held at the Alta Vista Cemetery in Gainesville, GA on March 29th. The Patriots being honored were:

- Pvt Beal Baker—North Carolina Militia
- Pvt William Clark—North Carolina Militia
- Ruth Godwin Clark, wife of Pvt William Clark

The grave marking was sponsored by the both the Col. William Candler Chapter, NSDAR, and the Lyman Hall Chapter, GASSAR.

Left, Front Row, L to R: Scott Collins, GASSAR; Helen Powell, DAR State Regent; Bill Tankersley, GASSAR President; and Ed Regal Jr, GASSAR



Gainesville Grave Marking March 29, 2026



Above—Plaque commemorating the services of Pvs Beal Baker, William Clark, and Ruth Clark.

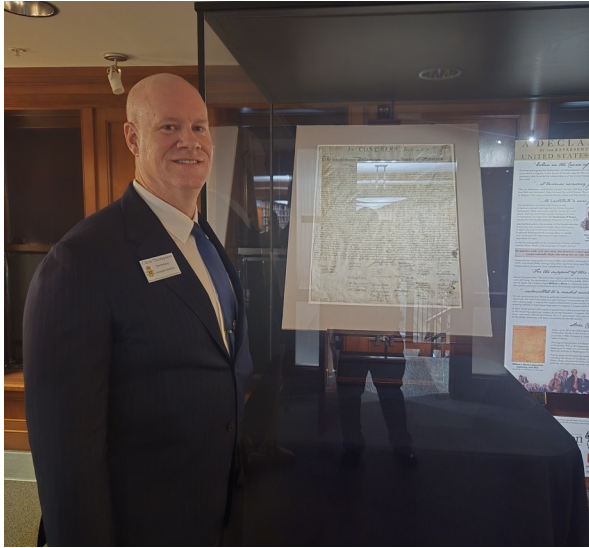
Left: Larry Guzy, delivering opening remarks at the event.

Right: Dan and Brenda King at the event.



Gainesville Grave Marking March 29, 2026

## More on the Declaration of Independence



**Left:** Chris Thompson recently located an **original Stone Edition** of the Declaration of Independence while visiting SAR Headquarters in Louisville, KY, back in March.

It is the Stone Edition that most Americans are familiar with.

In 1820, Secretary of State John Quincy Adams was concerned about the deterioration of the original signed Declaration and commissioned William Stone to create a true and faithful copy of it. Stone made a copperplate engraving of the Declaration. It took 3 meticulous years! In 1823, it was completed and the State Department ordered 200 copies printed. Today, only about 36 copies of this first printing are known to be in existence.

That copperplate engraving, like the original signed Declaration, is a national icon and preserved by the National Archives in Washington.

For more on the Stone Edition:

<https://library.sar.org/the-1823-stone-declaration/>



**Left:** Jason Shepherd visited Hillsborough Castle in County Down, Northern Ireland, and found a historical copy of the Declaration of Independence!

This copy is on loan from the US National Archives. It was printed in 1776 and sent to the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Germain. Somehow, it made its way back to the United States.

Hillsborough Castle, actually, a manor house, is famous for its connection to Benjamin Franklin, who visited Hillsborough in 1771 to meet with the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Hillsborough.

Interestingly, Franklin was often critical in public of Lord Hillsborough's policies, and continued to be so after his stay!

Benjamin Franklin was an ardent chess player! His chess set is on loan to Hillsborough Castle from the American Philosophical Society (founded by Franklin in 1743) through Feb 2027.



**Right:**  
Hillsborough  
Castle



## Chapter Meeting, 17 Mar 2026

The Captain John Collins Chapter gathered on March 17, 2026, at Hudson's Grill in Kennesaw for an evening that highlighted courage, youth achievement, and the enduring power of Revolutionary War ideals. President Jim Poole opened the awards portion of the program by presenting the Life Saving Award to Cobb County Officer Bill Desaussure. This recognition honored Officer Desaussure's decisive actions in the line of duty and reflected the chapter's deep appreciation for those who risk their own safety to protect others. For more on Officer Desaussure, see below.

The chapter then turned to celebrate youth achievement as Bill Coffeen, Chairman of the Eagle Scout Committee, recognized Eagle Scout Abi Amos. Abi received the prestigious King Certificate from the National Society in honor of being the runner up in the state Eagle Scout competition, a distinction that highlights her dedication to leadership, service, and the study of our nation's founding.



Bill Coffeen recognizes Eagle Scout Abi Amos for receiving the King Certificate for her essay, "No Taxation without Representation". See next page for the full essay.

Vice President Jason Shepherd next introduced the evening's speaker, Roger Hines, who presented a program on "Thomas Paine's – These are the times that try men's souls." Drawing on Paine's stirring words from the Revolutionary era, Hines challenged attendees to consider how those timeless ideas of perseverance, liberty, and moral courage still resonate in the challenges of our own day.



The Morgan family became the newest members of the Capt. John Collins chapter! From L-R, Jason Shepherd, Joseph Morgan, John Morgan III, John Morgan Jr, Jim Poole. The Morgan's Patriot Ancestor is Benjamin Benson, a soldier in the South Carolina militia.



Roger Hines (center) is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his engaging presentation on Thomas Paine.



On February 12, 2026, what began as a routine traffic stop for Officer Bill Desaussure quickly turned into a lifesaving emergency. A man pulled up beside him in a panic—his wife had just delivered their baby in the car on the way to the hospital, and the newborn wasn't breathing.

Officer Desaussure immediately contacted Cobb County 911, where a dispatcher guided him through infant chest compressions until EMS arrived. Thanks to their fast, coordinated response, the newborn began breathing and was transported to the hospital. Baby and family are doing well and have since been released.

In recognition of his heroic actions, the Captain John Collins Chapter, SAR, presented Officer Desaussure with a Life Saving Award and medal at their chapter meeting on March 17, 2026.

Above: Jenny and Officer Bill Desaussure with Jim Poole

**Editor's Note:** Below is Abi Amos' award-winning essay for which she earned the prestigious King Certificate.

## **No Taxation Without Representation: The Spark of American Independence**

**by Abigal Amos**

The British North American colonies created their own legislatures to govern under British rule. Prior to the American Revolution, the British Parliament imposed many taxes on the American colonies without the consent of the colonists or their legislatures. This caused the colonists to believe that the British government was infringing upon their rights. Taxation without representation, therefore, was a key force driving the American Revolution.

The American colonists had very strong beliefs about human rights. They were influenced by the Enlightenment, a movement that emphasized individual thinking. This is evident in the Declaration of Independence, which states that all men have a right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," mirroring the ideals of John Locke, an Enlightenment thinker. Thomas Paine, an American colonist hoping to promote independence, stated in his pamphlet *Common Sense*<sup>1</sup> that it was strange that a continent should be ruled by an island. He implied that Britain and America are vastly different geographically as well as socially, justifying his stance on independence. When the British imposed taxes on the American colonies, colonists were quick to defend their rights. Daniel Dulany, a Maryland lawyer subject to many of the British taxes, believed that the British Parliament did not have the right to impose a tax on the colonies without their representation<sup>2</sup>. His statements conveyed that colonists did not want to be used for money; they wanted to be functioning members of Britain's society.

Several non-violent events preceded the Revolution. The Virginia House of Burgesses sent a letter<sup>3</sup> to the King in 1764 to ask for his "Royal protection of his faithful subjects" so that they may enjoy their rights "as Men, and as Descendants of Britons". This letter did not achieve their purpose of reducing taxes. The king's rejection, however, did not deter the colonies. In 1765, the Stamp Act Congress established that taxes could only be imposed on the colonies by their own legislatures, not by the British<sup>4</sup>. Otherwise, the taxes were viewed to be a severe infringement upon their rights. In 1775, the Second Continental Congress created the Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms based on "an exclusive right to dispose of [their] own property"<sup>5</sup>. This conference established that, based on individual rights, a violent revolution may be needed.

Most colonists did not want a war, but when peaceful negotiation did not work, they felt that they had no choice but to become violent. For example, the tarring and feathering of British tax collectors, most notably John Malcolm in Boston in 1774<sup>6</sup>. Another example was the Boston Tea Party in 1773. Small incidents such as these sparked even stronger regulations from Britain and created additional tensions leading up to the war.

Taxation without representation became a spark of the American Revolution, reflecting ideals of liberty and patriotism that continue to inspire citizenship today.

Works Cited:

1. Thomas Paine, *Common Sense* (1776)
2. Daniel Dulany, *Considerations on the Propriety of Imposing Taxes in the British Colonies* (1765)
3. Virginia House of Burgesses, *Petition to the King* (1764)
4. Stamp Act Congress, *Resolutions of the Stamp Act Congress* (1765)
5. Second Continental Congress, *Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms* (1775)
6. Ray Raphael, *A People's History of the American Revolution* (2001)

# Chapter Meeting, 21 Apr 2026



J. Daniel McMichael (aka "George Washington") giving his presentation on the life of Washington.

The Captain John Collins Chapter gathered on April 21, 2026, at Hudson's Grill in Kennesaw for its regular monthly meeting. Vice President Jason Shepherd introduced the evening's speaker, GASSAR Senior Vice President Dan McMichael. McMichael's presentation, entitled "Remembering my Life - The Life and Times of George Washington". Drawing on key episodes from Washington's military and presidential careers, he emphasized the personal virtues-duty, perseverance, and humility-that continue to inspire SAR members today. Awards presented from the Georgia Society SAR included streamers for Best Newsletter and Best Website, reflecting the chapter's strong communications and outreach efforts. Individual compatriot accomplishments were also celebrated. Compatriot Richard Morrison received three Supplemental Certificates from the National Society, recognizing additional patriot ancestors documented in his lineage. Compatriot Cole Hale was awarded the Lafayette Volunteer Medal from NSSAR for his outstanding volunteer service, underscoring the chapter's ongoing commitment to active participation in SAR programs and community engagement



Above: President Poole and VP Shepherd present J. Daniel McMichael with a certificate of appreciation for his presentation.



Above: President Poole presents Compatriot Cole Hale with the LaFayette Volunteer Service Medal.



Above: President Poole presents Compatriot Richard Morrison with three supplemental certificates for the three Patriot Ancestors in his lineage, Samuel Eastburn, Joseph Eastburn, and Mary Eastburn.



# Chapter Meeting, 19 May 2026



New members are inducted into the Capt. John Collins Chapter. L-R: Dean Prince, James Thomas Martin, James Thomas Martin Jr, James Thomas Martin III, and Michael Graves. The oath is administered by chapter president Jim Poole.

The Captain John Collins Chapter met on May 19, 2026, at the Hudson Grille in Kennesaw. Several new members were inducted into the chapter, including Michael Graves (who also received a War Service Medal), the Martin family, and Dean Prince. Compatriot Jami Andrew received a supplemental certificate for his ancestor, Benjamin Andrew.

Our guest speaker, Eli Stancel, presented “The Georgia Frontier During the Revolutionary War,” presenting insights into the difficult life on the frontier and the challenges facing not only the military, but the civil population during the war.

President Poole reported on the May 16 grave marking ceremony at Mars Hill Cemetery in Acworth, where a 250th Anniversary marker was dedicated in partnership with the Mars Hill Memorial Association to honor the Revolutionary War service of Captain John Collins. The event included color guard, wreath presentations by SAR and NSDAR representatives, a proclamation

from Cobb County declaring May 16, 2026, as Captain John Collins Day, and participation by Collins descendants and community leaders.

Vice President Shepherd reminded members that all compatriots working directly with youth under 18 years of age in SAR programs will need to complete the Youth Protection Training, which provides important liability protection for those serving in an official capacity.

Upcoming Events Plans are underway for a July 4th parade float. More details will be shared as they become available.



Jason Shepherd and Jim Poole present our guest speaker, Eli Stancel, with a Certificate of Appreciation and the chapter’s trademark \$2 Bill.



The James Thomas Martin family with their Certificate of Memberships in the Georgia Society, SAR. Their Patriot Ancestor was Hugh Rogers, a soldier in the North Carolina Continental Line.



Michael Graves receives his Certificate of Membership in the Georgia Society, SAR, for his Patriot Ancestor, Col Greenberry Lee, who served in both the South Carolina and Georgia militias. Michael also received the War Service Medal.



Dean Prince receives his Certificate of Membership in the Georgia Society, SAR, from President Jim Poole. Dean’s Patriot Ancestor was Samuel Prince, a young drummer and soldier in the Massachusetts line.



Jami Andrew receives his supplemental certificate from Jim Poole for his patrilineal ancestor Benjamin Andrew, who was a Georgia state politician during the Revolution and a member of the Georgia Council of Safety.

**Editor’s note:** In an extraordinary coincidence, it turns out that Michael Graves’ ancestor Greenberry Lee and Jami Andrew’s Benjamin Andrew knew each other and even served together in the state legislature after the war. And furthermore, when Greenberry Lee died in 1784, Benjamin Andrew married his widow!! Small world! Thanks, Michael, for noticing this!

**Editor's Note:** Over 400,000 American servicemen died in World War II. Compatriot Earl Cagle has provided the stories of two of those men, 2LT Andy Webb and PFC Bryan Webb. They were the uncles of Earl's wife Marguerite and the sons of her maternal grandmother.

## Some Gave All

By Earl & Marguerite Cagle

### 2nd Lt. Andrew (Andy) Franklin Webb

Sunday morning, December 7, 1941. The call came in, "Pearl Harbor was under attack by Japanese aircraft." Immediately, the Curtiss P40 War Hawks were scrambled by the United States Army Air Corps pilots. After searching without detecting the enemy, they returned to refuel and get something to eat.

As the servicemen were eating, the alert of incoming aircraft was heard. The pilots ran out of the mess hall toward their aircraft. After the war, two of Andy Webb's buddies called on Andy's parents in Mississippi. They related how they went out one door of the mess hall and Andy went out another. Andy was never seen again. The day after the attack Andy was listed as MIA.

When DNA became popular in genealogy research, Marguerite (niece) placed her test results on file should the occasion present itself, it could be analyzed and a comparison made with that of Andy.

Andy had played sports in both high school and at Mississippi Southern where he excelled as he had done in all his undertakings. He left his teaching position in Pontotoc, Mississippi to enlist in the Army Air Corp.



### Private First Class William Bryan Webb

The "day of infamy" had come and gone, World War II had settled into the terrible death and destruction that brings a numbness at the thought thereof.

William Bryan Webb, known to his family as Bryan, was ten years younger than his pilot brother, Andy Webb. He had enlisted as soon after graduation as he could be accepted.

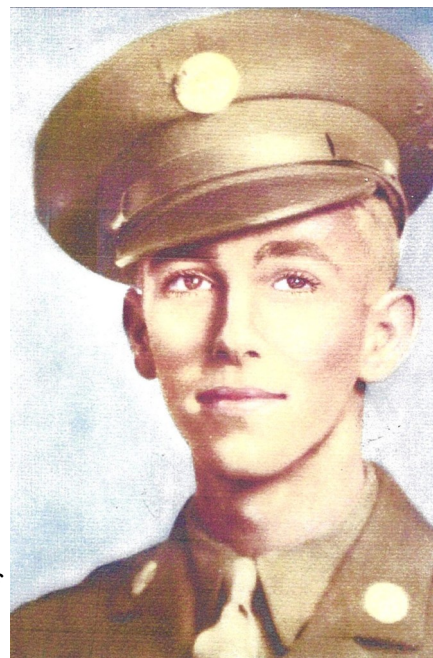
His enlistment no doubt was to serve his country and avenge the death of his brother Andy.

His mother, Arlena Webb, had hopes for Bryan to become "her preacher". Bryan's service began May 14, 1943. He had attained the rank of Private First Class in the Medical Detachment of the 47th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division. His Regiment became the first Allied unit to pierce the Siegfried Line on September 17, 1944. This unit was also the first American unit involved in the Hurtgen Forest battle. The first part of the attack looked successful as they advanced across the Belgian-German border.

However, the well-organized German resistance halted the advances of the 9th Infantry

Division. The fast advance that started two months earlier in Normandy ended there.

Hard and brutal fighting for small objectives was about to start. The Battle of the Hurtgen



## Some Gave All (cont'd)

The following are excerpts from a letter written on December 15, 1944, by Major D. R. Roberts, 47th Infantry Medical Corp., Surgeon. The letter was addressed to Bryan's mother in Mississippi. "I hope we can impart to you in some degree, just how much your son meant to all of us here, how he inspired the men by his gallantry under fire and how he saved the lives of many others before he himself was killed. The end came suddenly as an armor piercing shell penetrated the cellar in which he was eating supper with some of his buddies. We believe he died instantly."

"It occurred near Schevenhutte, Germany, on September 29th. His wounds were of the head and he had a smile on his lips indicating he felt no pain."

Bryan was initially interred in Henri Chapelle American Cemetery in Belgium and later reinterred in Vicksburg National Cemetery in Mississippi.

### Decorations and Awards:

#### **2nd Lt. Andrew E Webb**

WWII Victory Medal, POW Medal, Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal, Army Presidential Citation, Army Good Conduct Medal

Listed as MIA-12/8/41 Pearl Harbor

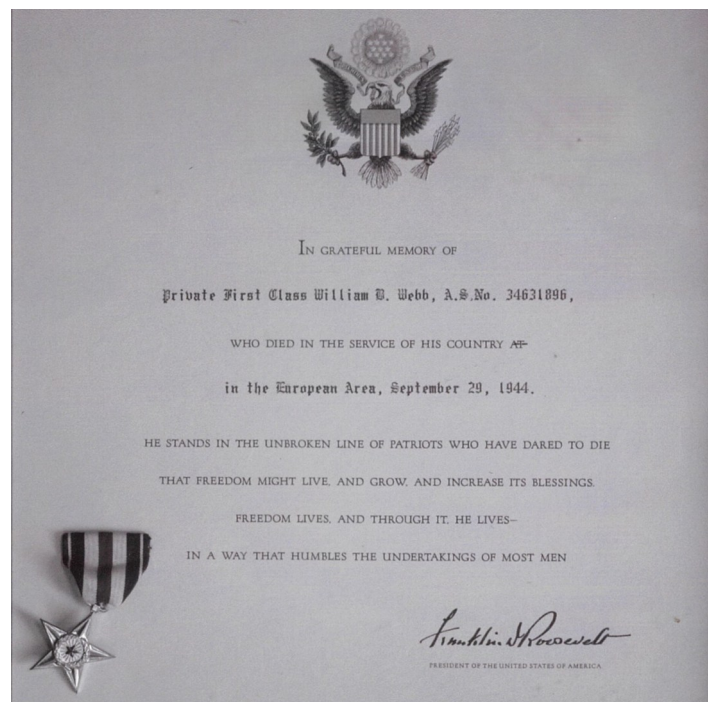
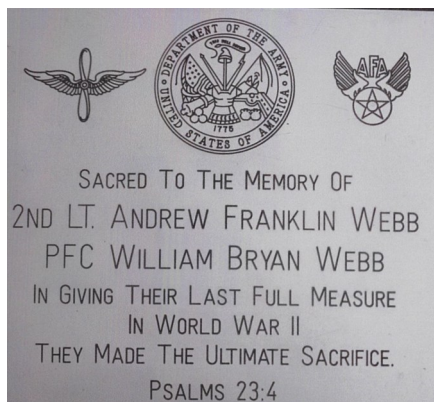
Listed on "Tablets Of The Missing" Manila Cemetery, Philippines

#### **Private First-Class William Bryan Webb**

Purple Heart Medal, Service Lapel Button WWII, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal w/1 Bronze Service Star, WWII Victory Medal,

Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy in WWII.

**Postscript:** At the funeral of Marguerite's grandmother, Erle Johnson, Editor of the Scott County Times told us of receiving the telegrams advising of the deaths of the Webb brothers. When the telegram for Bryan came, he got the family minister to accompany him to the Webb home. Also, Marguerite's middle name is Andrea, in honor of her uncle she never knew.



# Captain John Collins Day, Cobb County, 16 May 2026



Jim Poole, far left, president of the Capt. John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, stands with descendants of Captain John Collins. (L-R) Jeff Donahoo, Maddox Donahoo and Mike Donahoo at the Mars Hill Cemetery in Acworth where Capt. John Collins is buried.

Members of the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution gathered at the Mars Hill Cemetery in Acworth on Saturday to honor a Revolutionary War hero on the eve of America's 250th birthday. The chapter unveiled a plaque honoring its namesake, Captain John Collins, which now sits at his headstone in the cemetery. Collins was born on December 9, 1760, in Frederick County, Maryland. He enlisted in the South Carolina Militia in May 1776 where he served three tours before joining the North Carolina Militia in 1779. He was involved in several prominent battles during the American Revolution, including the Battle of Briar Creek along the Savannah River in eastern Georgia, the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina and the Battle of Green Spring in Virginia. Collins was taken prisoner during the Siege of Charleston in May 1780 and later paroled. However, he was captured a second time in Lincoln County, North Carolina, by the British and sentenced to hang. He was able to escape and rejoin the militia. After the war, Collins settled in Georgia. He made his way to Cobb County after receiving a 200-acre land grant in what is now Acworth. He died on March 8, 1852 and was buried in Mars Hill Cemetery. (cont'd on next page)



Jim Poole, far left, president of the Capt. John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, stands with descendants of Captain John Collins. (L-R) Jeff Donahoo, Maddox Donahoo and Mike Donahoo at the Mars Hill Cemetery in Acworth where Capt. John Collins is buried.

**In memoriam**  
Sons of the American Revolution honor Cobb war hero ahead of America's 250th

**MEMORIAL**—Members of the Capt. John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution gathered at the Mars Hill Cemetery in Acworth on Saturday to honor a Revolutionary War hero on the eve of America's 250th birthday.

The chapter unveiled a plaque honoring its namesake, Captain John Collins, which now sits at his headstone in the cemetery. Collins was born on December 9, 1760, in Frederick County, Maryland. He enlisted in the South Carolina Militia in May 1776 where he served three tours before joining the North Carolina Militia in 1779. He was involved in several prominent battles during the American Revolution, including the Battle of Briar Creek along the Savannah River in eastern Georgia, the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina and the Battle of Green Spring in Virginia. Collins was taken prisoner during the Siege of Charleston in May 1780 and later paroled. However, he was captured a second time in Lincoln County, North Carolina, by the British and sentenced to hang. He was able to escape and rejoin the militia. After the war, Collins settled in Georgia. He made his way to Cobb County after receiving a 200-acre land grant in what is now Acworth. He died on March 8, 1852 and was buried in Mars Hill Cemetery.



Members of the Capt. John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution unveiled a plaque and unveiled a plaque honoring its namesake, Captain John Collins, which now sits at his headstone in the cemetery.



Gravesite of Capt. John Collins (1760-1852)

The ceremony honoring Capt. John Collins was covered in the *Marietta Daily Journal* edition of 18 May 2026.

(cont'd from previous page) Saturday's plaque unveiling brought together community leaders, SAR members and even some of Collins' descendants. Jeff Donahoo, an Acworth resident and great-great-great-grandson of Collins, said it was an honor to see so many people interested in his family's history and to hear from other descendants of Revolutionary War veterans. "At events like this, we're extremely honored to be acknowledged in all of your interest," Donahoo said. "We're extremely proud of John and the things that he did in his war service." In addition to unveiling the plaque, Cobb County District 1 Commissioner Keli Gambrill presented a proclamation from the county declaring May 16, 2026, as Captain John Collins Day. Gambrill said the proclamation is meant to not only honor Collins, but also to remind people of the sacrifices made during the Revolutionary War as America's 250th birthday approaches. "The sacrifices of such soldiers and their families allowed the founders to establish this great nation," said Gambrill. Sen. Ed Setzler, R-Acworth, also attended the unveiling and said the occasion is a reminder of the importance of upholding American values. "Our founding fathers sowed, and we've been reaping the rewards of liberty and prosperity and safety and justice for all," Setzler said. Setzler authored a resolution in the Georgia state Legislature marking the 25th anniversary of the Captain John Collins Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. It was signed into law in January.



The Cobb County Board of Commissioners declared May 16, 2026 as Capt. John Collins Day. Above: Cobb Commissioner Keli Gambrill and Chapter President Jim Poole hold the proclamation.



An estimated 85 people attended the Capt. John Collins ceremony, included Ga. Sen Ed Setzler and Cobb County Commissioner Keli Gambrill. Organizations represented and presenting wreaths were: From the Georgia Society DAR: Etowah DAR, Fielding Lewis DAR, Kennesaw Mountain DAR, Liberty Hill DAR, Roswell King DAR, Atlanta DAR, and Sandy Springs DAR. From the National SAR and Georgia SAR: Capt. John Collins SAR, Atlanta SAR, New Mexico SAR, and SAR Ladies Auxiliary. Other organizations presenting wreaths were: Order of the Crown of Charlemagne and the Descendants of Farmers.



The historical John Collins house, built between 1839-1840 is still a residence and occupied by John Collins' descendants! Located at 4591 Collins Avenue in Acworth.



Ga. Sen. Ed Setzler (R-Acworth) making a few remarks at the ceremony.



The Donahoo Family and SAR members at the grave of Capt. John Collins.

# Sandy Springs Grave Marking—18 Apr 2026



Chapter President Jim Poole and his wife Elaine attended a grave marking for Patriot James Hooper, who is buried in the Sandy Springs United Methodist Church Cemetery on Mt. Vernon Highway.

Pvt James Hooper (1746-1836) served in the Virginia Militia and was present at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina on 15 Mar 1781. After the war, he married Elizabeth Chambers in Virginia and together they had six children. James Hooper moved to Georgia around 1800. Shortly after the 1821 Land Lottery in Georgia, Hooper moved to the Sandy Springs, GA area. He received a Revolutionary War pension. He died in 1836 at the age of 89.



**Upper Left:** Jim Poole with chapter wreath at grave site.

**Left:** Grave of Patriot James Hooper

**Right:** Front Row, L-R,

- Jim Poole, Capt. John Collins SAR
- Samantha Montgomery, Kennesaw Mountain DAR
- Betsy Wampler, Kennesaw Mountain DAR
- Elaine Poole, Kennesaw Mountain DAR
- Tom Hewett, Mt Vernon SAR



# Junior ROTC, Marietta High School—15 May 2026

Captain John Collins Chapter members presented Outstanding Cadet Awards to thirteen cadets in twelve Cobb and Paulding County high schools this year. Thanks to Compatriots Wayne Brown, Gary Hoyt, Lewis Ray, Sr, Lewis Ray, Jr, Bill Coffeen, and Jason Shepherd for making these award events memorable for the cadets, their JROTC units and families.



School	Cadets
Allatoona	Ensign Peerce Matchett
Campbell	Emanuel Puga
East Paulding	Cadet Capt. Alex Crosdale
Harrison	Levi Towne
Hillgrove	Franklin Misner
Kennesaw Mountain	Eli Britt
Marietta	Angel Guzman
North Cobb	Raymond Williams
North Paulding	AnnaBella Spiconardi
Osborne	Cadet Maj Kelvyn Velez
Paulding	Noah Peltier
South Cobb	Cadet Capt. Jesus Flores
South Cobb	Cadet Capt. Melanie Bravo

## Upcoming Events

14 Jun 2026—National Flag Day

20 Jun 2026—Battle of Alligator Bridge, Callahan, FL

20 Jun 2026—Frolic at Kettle Creek

28 Jun 2026—Carolina Day (Battle of Sullivan's Island), Charleston, SC

**4 Jul 2026—Independence Day!**

15 Aug 2026—Battle of Blue Licks Commemoration, Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, Carlisle, KY

12 Sep 2026—Battle of the Capes Commemoration, Norfolk, VA

17 Sep 2026—Constitution Day

25 Sep 2026—Overmountain Men Muster, Sycamore Shoals State Park, Elizabethton, TN

7 Oct 2026—Battle of Kings Mountain Commemoration

9 Oct 2026—Savannah Battlefield Memorial March



### 250 years ago this month!

Above: Braving British naval gunfire, Sgt William Jasper re-attaches the Palmetto flag that had been snapped off its pole by a cannonball. This incident occurred during the Battle of Sullivan's Island just outside Charles Town Harbor on 28 Jun 1776. Sgt Jasper became a national hero. There are 8 counties and 9 cities in the US that are named for Sgt. Jasper.

This battle was an impressive American victory against the British Navy. And the last such victory for the Patriots until Christmas 1776.

## 250 years ago...1776



1 Jun 1776—British Admiral Parker sails his fleet to the mouth of Charles Town Harbor and finds the Patriot forces are prepared to fight and fire on the fleet.

9 Jun 1776—Gen Clinton lands his troops on Long Island, near the entrance to Charles Town harbor.

20 Jun 1776—The Connecticut General Assembly proclaims its independence from Great Britain.

21 Jun 1776—Former Royal Governor of NJ and son of Benjamin Franklin, William Franklin, is brought before the Continental Congress and interrogated. Afterwards, he is turned over to Governor Trumbull of Connecticut.

28 Jun 1776—Battle of Sullivan's Island, SC. The British fleet is repulsed by American artillery under Col Moultrie. Sgt Jasper will become famous for re-attaching the Palmetto flag to the flag post during the

heat of battle.

30 Jun 1776—The initial British invasion force of 120 ships and 9000 soldiers arrive at Staten Island in New York Harbor.

4 Jul 1776—The Continental Congress fully approves of the language in the Declaration of Independence and submits it for printing. But no one has signed it yet! The Declaration will be quickly published in newspapers and read aloud in public places. General Washington orders it to be read to all soldiers in the Continental Army.

9 Jul 1776—After hearing the Declaration of Independence read, a group of 40 Colonial soldiers went to downtown New York (Manhattan) and pulled down the equestrian statue of King George III.

2 Aug 1776—In silence and with great solemnity, the Declaration of Independence is signed by most of the delegates. Many of them believe that they maybe signing their own death warrant.

27 Aug 1776—Battle of Long Island. The American Army is badly defeated and withdraws to Manhattan.

11 Sep 1776—Staten Island Peace Conference. John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Edward Rutledge meet with General William Howe and his brother Admiral Richard Howe for a 3-hour conference on Staten Island. Their positions are irreconcilable.

15 Sep 1776—General Howe lands 12,000 soldiers on Lower Manhattan, taking control of New York City.

16 Sep 1776—Battle of Harlem Heights

28 Oct 1776—Battle of White Plains

16 Nov 1776—British capture Ft. Washington

20 Nov 1776—British capture Ft. Lee

8 Dec 1776—General Clinton captures Newport, RI



*The Kettle Creek*  
**FROLIC**

*An Evening of Music, Food & Merriment*

*June 20th, 2026*

*The Pavilion at Kettle Creek Battlefield*

*299 War Hill Rd, Washington, GA 30673*

*6PM - 9PM*

*Tickets can be purchased through:*

*[rondarenohistoricalconsultant.com](http://rondarenohistoricalconsultant.com) or by*

*dropping by Callaway Plantation or Washington Historical Museum*

*Tickets: \$35.00 per person*

*Contact: [washingtonga250@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonga250@gmail.com) | 706-201-6784 | 706-990-3076*