

**M Graham Clark Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
Columbia, MO.
May 18, 2013**

Opening

Chapter President J. Y. Miller II opened the meeting up at 8:35am. with 14 members and 6 guests. Chaplain Cunningham gave the opening prayer. COM Chance lead the Pledge of Allegiance and COM Bullard lead the SAR Pledge. The M. Graham Clark Chapter Color Guard posted the colors. Those Color Guardsman were COM Merrill and COM Bradford.

Chapter President J. Y. Miller II asked for any birthdays, there were 2 in May, COM Bartlett and Chaplain Cunningham. At this time Chapter President J. Y. Miller II adjourned the meeting for breakfast. The meeting was then reconvened at 9:03am.

Reports

Secretary Bradford read the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Coutts read the financial report. Copies were given to the chapter president, secretary and Trustee Jones. The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

COM Merrill commented on the MOSSAR State Convention in April 2013 in Jefferson City, MO.

Old Business

None

New Business

Chapter President J.Y. Miller II awarded the Country Club of Missouri with a Flag Certificate and a Certificate of Appreciation for the staff. This is for all the hard work they do for our chapter.

COM Merrill was awarded the Lamp Lighters Award and medal. COM Whitener, who was not present, also received the Lamp Lighters Award and medal.

Chapter President J.Y. Miller II commented that he had updated the chapter website. He also mentioned about the programs that needed to be filled for the upcoming months starting in September 2013. If you have any ideas/programs in mind, please contact either the Chapter President, COM Coutts, or COM DeVenney Jr.

A motion from Chaplain Cunningham to have a summer recess (June, July, August) and reconvene September 2013. Seconded by COM Jones and all approved. M. Graham Clark Chapter will reconvene on September 21, 2013 at 8:30am.

Chapter President J.Y. Miller II called on COM Dr. Woodward to talk about exciting news of his wife Dee. Dr. Woodward (Dee) was recently awarded special recognition by Central Methodist University for her volunteer work in aid of the university.

Program

COM Bradford introduced our program. Nathan Witt, Harry S. Truman Hospital Volunteer Program Manager. Who will talk about the Voluntary Program at the VA Hospital. Nathan attended Tulane University where he earned a Master of Health Administration degree in 2003. Following graduation, he accepted a position with the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and soon began working with the VA's Voluntary Service Program. He previously served as the volunteer program manager at the VA Medical Center in San Antonio and currently serves in the same position at Harry S. Truman Memorial Veteran's Hospital here in Columbia.

In this position, Nathan helps lead a program of 800+ volunteers who contribute more than 62,000 hours of service to Missouri veterans receiving VA Health care services. Next month, Nathan will transition into a similar position with Bay Pines VA Health Care System in Florida where he'll lead a program of 1,500 volunteers at nine VA sites of care. Nathan handed out flyers of the different programs and events going on at the VA Hospital. Currently there are 883 volunteers and 63,922 volunteer hours served.

Patient Escort Program: 21,000+ Veterans transported by wheelchair, bed or gurney.
DAV Volunteer Transportation Network: 425,945 miles driven to bring Veterans to 5,200+ appointments. Nathan talked about how the M. Graham Clark Chapter has helped supply them with volunteers. At the meeting there were 3 in attendance: COM Foltz, COM Jones, and COM Dr. Col. Coy. Al Jones is a patient transport volunteer (the same volunteer assignment that Stephen Foltz is now volunteering with). Al has served as a volunteer at Truman VA for 23 years and has served over 12,600 hours. Dr. Coy runs the Radiology Department.

Other volunteer programs:

Information Desk, Recreation Therapy, Coffee Cart, Personal Care item distribution, Clerical Assistance, Special event coordinator, Surgery waiting room assistant.

Good of the Order

COM Bradford mentioned that today was National Veterans Assistance Day and that he would be touring the VA Hospital in Columbia at 2pm. He also wanted to "Thank" those in the chapter that were veterans for their service. COM Bradford also commented that today was Armed Forces Day.

Chaplain Cunningham talked about the amount of Revolutionary War Veterans we have here in Boone County, Mo. He had a picture of himself at a Revolutionary War Veterans grave with the headstone. It was a picture of Isham Burke's grave and headstone.

COM Bradford and Chapter President J. Y. Miller II mentioned that even though we are in recess. Members should be thinking of people who they think would be good in taking an officer's position for 2014. Chapter Past Presidents will be meeting on November 16, 2013 after the chapter meeting; all past presidents need to stay after the meeting that day.

Closing

With no further business to come before the meeting, Chapter President J. Y. Miller II proceeded to close the meeting.

Chaplain Cunningham gave the closing prayer. COM Chance lead in the SAR

Recessional and the M. Graham Clark Chapter Color Guard retrieved the colors.
The M. Graham Clark Chapter meeting ended at 9:50a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Bryan P Bradford, Secretary