

**The M. Graham Clark Chapter
Missouri Society
The Sons of the American Revolution
19 April 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Opening

President J. Y. Miller II opened the M. Graham Clark Chapter meeting at 8:35 am at the Hy-Vee store located at Providence and Nifong in Columbia, Missouri. In attendance were 19 members and 20 guests. The colors were symbolically posted by COM Lybarger and the invocation was given by Chaplain Merrill. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Chance and the SAR Pledge was led by COM Ed Bullard.

Visitors of special note were as follows: Members of the Dr. Keith Harlan Byington family: Sharon Naylor, Bill Byington, Nancy Byington, Ann Krohn, Mike Krohn, Tammy Byington and Courtney Byington; prospective member Cameron Bird; Keena Collick, granddaughter of COM Steve and Sharon Foltz; Remy Collick, Keena's husband; and Connie Lessley, COM Garland Lessley's wife.

At this point the Draping of the Chapter was done in memory of COM Dr. Keith Harlan Byington, who passed away 1 April 2014. Chaplain Merrill led the Chapter in the Prayer.

April birthdays were then noted, as follows: COM Terrill Jones and Mrs. Laura DeVenney. COM Alfred Jones announced that he and his wife had their 66th wedding anniversary on 5 April 2014.

The Chapter adjourned at 8:47 am for breakfast.

Reconvened

The Chapter reconvened at 9:10 am. COM Kerr was called to give the minutes of the 15 March 2014 meeting. The following items were corrected: COM Lybarger received the Distinguished Service Medal on 15 February 2014; the quilt being raffled off by Mrs. DeVenney is 6 tickets for \$5; not 3 tickets for \$5.00; the cookbook being sold by Mrs. DeVenney is \$17.00, not \$17.50. The money from the quilt and cookbooks goes to the Headquarters in Louisville. The minutes were then approved.

COM Coutts was then called to give the Treasurer's Report. He the M. Graham Clark Operations Account balance ending 31 March 2014 was \$1,332.41. The M. Graham Clark Endowment Fund balance on 31 March 2014 was \$13,123.28, of which \$350.81 is in available funds. The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Announcements

COM Chance addressed the group about the upcoming Centralia Battle and Mt. Moriah Battle re-enactments to be held on 13 and 14 September 2014. It is a maximum effort re-enactment under the guidelines of the Missouri Civil War Re-enactors Organization, meaning there will be cannon fire there, even though the actual battles did not have cannons. There will be books sold, other information, demonstrations, crafts, etc. The website for this is www.centraliabattlefield.com.

COM Merrill told the group that on the evening of Thursday, 24 April 2014 there will be held at Jesse Hall at the University of Missouri Campus a Musical Show about several battles in the Civil War, being put on by the Columbia Civic Orchestra and the M.U. Choral Union. Tickets are \$15.00, at the Missouri Theatre.

President Miller mentioned that on October 10 & 11 there will be a re-enactment of the Battle of Glasgow, Missouri.

President Miller stated there is no further information on the Pilot Grove grave marking, but it looks like it will be in September, 2014.

President Miller read a thank you from Bridger Creed for the SAR Eagle Scout Award he received for his presentation on "Revolutionary War Patriot Prisoners". President Miller also stated Bridger received a national award.

COM Coutts discussed the ceremony of the 100th anniversary of the Howard County Chapter of the DAR, which was on 22 March 2014. He showed the newspaper article in the Fayette newspaper and also passed around photos COM Merrill had of this day. COM Bradford suggested this be sent to the SAR Magazine so we can get points for this.

COM Terrill Jones read an article his father, COM Alfred Jones, found in Readers Digest about the "Founding Fathers Were Kids". In it, Marquis was listed as being 19 in 1776, James Monroe 18, Aaron Burr 20, Alexander Hamilton 22, and James Madison was the "old man of the group" at 26.

COM Cunningham mentioned another "Kilroy Was Here" article. In it, COM DeVenney is mentioned as surprising the Robert G. Combs Language Preschool with a check for \$10,000 from Rite Care of Columbia, the philanthropic division of the local Scottish Rite Freemasons.

President Miller mentioned May is likely our last meeting until September 2014, and there is no word yet on the country club's remodeling. COM Chance says there is a hope they will be ready for fall.

Mrs. DeVenney reminded the group that there is a quilt called "Patriots and Petticoats" being raffled off at 6 tickets for \$5.00 and also cookbooks being sold for \$17.00 each. These funds will go to NSSAR in Louisville.

Mr. DeVenney was then asked to come forward for a Quilt of Valor to be awarded to COM Garland Lessley. COM Lessley was a Major in the United States Air Force and was in the service for 26 years. COM Cunningham assisted in making this award. The quilt is called "Stars and Stripes" and was very beautiful.

COM Cunningham mentioned a couple days prior they had awarded a Quilt of Valor to COM Tom Bogard, who is in ill health.

Awards: At this time, COM DeVenney and President Miller awarded the following medals:
MOSSAR Silver Medal to COM Alfred Jones
Chapter Distinguished Service to COM Alfred Jones and COM Reynolds
Bronze Roger Sherman Medal to COM Bradford

Program

At this time President Miller asked COM Foltz's wife Sharon to introduce the speaker. Betty Taylor is a Missouri "Rosie the Riveter", and a member of the Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Mrs. Taylor began by passing a couple photographs of real Rosie the Riveters for the people to see. She stated the jobs these women did during World War II was more than just "riveting", and that the poster most people think of when they think of Rosie the Riveter is a composition of several jobs they did. The jobs they did freed men to fight in the war. Mrs. Taylor then went on to describe several "Rosie the Riveters" and the kinds of work they did.

These jobs were as follows: Tool and Die Inspector; repairing and cleaning aircraft operator instruments damaged in war; blueprint changing called Engineering Orders or Short EO's, during which they would drive a three wheel bike in the factory to get around; airplane spotter in Norfolk Virginia; testing and repairing planes; and taking care of babies of mothers who were traveling.

Much of this work was dangerous, and in some instances the women had to wear rubber boots and work in water so not to have explosions while making rounds. Women were told to wear bandanas so their hair would not get caught in the moving machinery. One woman's hair did get caught and she was scalped. Much of this work was so secret the women didn't know for sure what they were working on. Security was tight. The people were encouraged to carpool since gas was rationed. Women worked days and nights and often had only one day a week off, if that.

For the women that were riveters, they worked in tandem with a "bucker". These teams had to work in perfect unison to do the quality of work required. One way to help ensure quality was that women were chosen at random, and unexpectedly, to fly in the planes after they were built. This drove home to the women the importance of this work.

Mrs. Taylor said her own mother, Billie, was a "Rosie the Riveter", but, in keeping with the varied jobs described, Billie worked for the Santa Fe Railroad, doing jobs men would have done if they were home and not fighting the war.

This was affine program and Mrs. Taylor had books to sale entitled "Show Me, Rosie!" which was printed by Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

After the presentation, COM Fultz mentioned that his mother was a riveter and was a drill press operator and was there when a woman was scalped.

COM Cunningham reminded the group that 70 years ago on April 18th, General Doolittle attacked Tokyo.

COM Bartlett mentioned that he was also an airplane spotter in the east coast during World War II.

COM DeVenney reminded the group of the MOSSR State Convention next Saturday, 26 April 2014, in Blue Springs. He also stated on 1 May the SAR was making a trip to Ireland.

COM Bradford mentioned the State DAR Convention is May 2nd and there would likely be a color guard there. He also said there would be a color guard at the Missouri Capitol Rotunda on 9 May. He also said on Friday 25 April at the American Legion there will be "Grand Ole Opry" and the cost is \$10.

COM Coutts mentioned that on 26 April COM Bradford would likely be making the presentation to ROTC at the University of Missouri.

Closing

With no further business to come before the Chapter, President Miller proceeded to close the meeting. COM Bradford led the SAR Processional and Chaplain Merrill gave the benediction. President Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:35 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Harold H. Kerr II, Secretary
M. Graham Clark Chapter, SAR