

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

Opening

The meeting was opened by President J. Y. Miller II at 8:30 am at the Hy-Vee store located at Providence and Nifong, Columbia Missouri. The colors were posted and Chaplain Merrill gave the invocation, followed by COM Chance leading the Pledge of Allegiance and COM Bradford leading the SAR Pledge.

There were 18 members and 13 visitors present. Visitors of note were Dr. William Krause, the father of three prospective SAR members; Virgil "Sonny" Rains, prospective SAR member and his wife, Emma Jo, who is a DAR member; and Bill Nix, also a prospective SAR member. Also of note was Lt. Col. C. Daniel Hudson, the presenter of the program.

President Miller asked for October birthdays and DAR member and guest, Dee Hudson, stated hers was in October. The meeting was then adjourned at 8:39 am for breakfast.

Reconvened

The meeting was reconvened at 9:05 am and Secretary Kerr was called to read the minutes from the 20 September 2014 meeting. They were read and approved. Treasurer Coutts was called to give the Treasurers Report, which was read. The only correction from the 20 September 2014 report was that on 31 August 2014 there should have been read \$353.02 in available funds in the C. Graham Clark Endowment fund, not \$352.02.

The 18 October 2014 Treasurer's Report was that, as of 31 September 2014, the balance of the M. Graham Clark Operations Account balance was \$1,252.22. The balance of the M. Graham Clark Endowment Fund as of 31 September 2014 was \$1,084.44 of which \$353.44 is in available funds. The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Announcements

COM DeVenney reported on events from NSSAR. He said the old building in Louisville was sold for \$1.2 million. He further stated the library is completed, and is located across from the Louisville Slugger Museum in Louisville. The work on the museum continues. \$20 million has been raised for that, and these funds come from both membership and foundations. There is about \$10 million needed to complete the museum. COM DeVenney said at the end of the year the money making campaign of selling pins will end and then it the approach will be to sell for feet of museum. In other words, if one donates a certain amount of money, a part of the flooring will be listed in that person's name. COM DeVenney stated that Dr. Powell is a great representative of SAR in assisting in these endeavors.

COM DeVenney further stated that, regarding his seeking of the Registrar General position with NSSAR, the man who was running against him has withdrawn and given his support to COM DeVenney. COM DeVenney stated he greatly appreciated the letters of support he received from the chapter. COM DeVenney also gave his wife, Laura compliments, which the chapter greatly agreed with, for her part in contributing to his popularity within SAR.

President Miller stated that one thing COM DeVenney has been in charge of, which needs to be addressed by someone else due to COM DeVenney's additional responsibilities forthcoming, is being the coordinator of the Eagle Scout Program. COM Bradford suggested that COM Dietzel do this since he already is heavily involved in Boy Scouts. COM Dietzel agreed to take this responsibility. We are sure he will do a fine job in this regard.

COM Chance reported that the meetings can start to be held at the County Club of Missouri starting next month and that the costs of the meals will go up to \$12 from \$10, beginning in January 2015. Some discussion was held as to whether to pay \$13 instead of \$12, since we were paying \$10 for breakfasts there but were paying the County Club \$9 per meal. COM DeVenney moved and COM Woodward seconded that we just pay the \$12 and the motion carried unanimously.

A Certificate of Appreciation was then awarded to Hy-Vee for the fine job they did for the chapter during the time we were unable to meet at the County Club.

President Miller stated that COM Merrill is the Central Missouri Color Guard Commander, at which point Nancy Thomas, DAR member asked if a current meeting could be made about the color guard. COM Merrill stated that this could be done in the November 2014 meeting.

A Flag Certificate was then awarded to St. Mary's Catholic School, of Glasgow, Missouri, for the proper flying of the American flag.

Genealogist Report

President Miller then called on Sharon Foltz, wife of Genealogist Steven Foltz, who was absent due to illness, to give the genealogist report. Mrs. Foltz stated the application for Bill Nix is making progress, as are the applications for the sons and grandsons of Dr. Krause. The application for Harry Lehenbauer has been mailed in, according to Nancy Thomas, DAR member, who has been assisting with these. The application for Virgil Rains is almost ready to mail. The following supplementals are almost finished: COM Kerr, COM Terrill Jones and COM Strader. Mrs. Foltz thanked the people who have been helping for their help.

Program

At this point, President Miller introduced Lt. Col. C. Daniel Hudson, the program speaker. The topic was "Railroad History and Safety". Col. Hudson gave a brief biography of himself. He has extensive experience in counseling law enforcement and military personnel in dealing with the fallout of stressful experiences and situations. He also works in prison ministries and he and his wife have been Chaplains in the Salvation Army for fifty years.

Col. Hudson stated that the Hudson family started the first railroad in the United States in 1823 and also the Hudson family was instrumental in starting the first England railroad.

He gives training sessions to drivers education students on railroad safety and stated Operation Lifesaver has the "Three E's": Education, Engineering, and Enforcement. He stated, when this program started, there was a fatality every 2 hours on railroads in the United States. Now, that figure stands at once every 4 hours. He said there is "Suicide by Train" every 6 months.

As for enforcement; the first police unit was begun by the railroads. Now the enforcement is shared by the railroads, local, state and federal law enforcement.

Regarding engineering; it is important to note that trains cannot swerve to miss people or cars; they travel at speeds between 55-80 mph, and it takes a train a full mile to stop at that speed. Trains weigh about 12 million pounds. Railroad crossing signs represent yield signs. They also often have gates that come down and those are stop signs. Col. Hudson said that, starting with 2015, automobiles will be designed to shut off when coming up to the train gates when they are down.

A few other things regarding education are the “Three L’s”: Look, Listen and Live. He showed a slide of two motorcycles that were getting ready to take off across a railroad track after a train going one way was past, but there was another train coming the other way that they could not have seen was coming on.

Some other safety rules: if your car quits on a railroad track, get out. Don’t put things on the tracks. They become shrapnel when the train runs over them. The distance between the two rails is 4 feet, so don’t think that is enough for safety to get down between the tracks since the wheels overlay these rails. One thing people do is try to outrun trains on a bridge—don’t walk on tracks on a bridge. “Stay Off, Stay Away, Stay Alive”.

Closing

After the presentation, a Certificate of Appreciation was given to Col. Hudson.

President Miller asked COM Lybarger to lead the SAR Recessional. Chaplain Merrill then gave the Benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 am

Respectfully submitted,

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