

**M. GRAHAM CLARK CHAPTER**  
**MISSOURI SOCIETY**  
**THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**  
**September 17, 2017**

President Harold Kerr called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. with the presentation of the colors by Color Guardsmen Coutts, DeVenney, and Merrill. The Chaplain, Alan Hiles, gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Com. Robert Freeman, and the SAR Pledge being led by Com. Sonny Raines. President Kerr then called for the posting of the colors. There were 28 members and 22 visitors, making a total of 50 present. The visitors were introduced at each of the tables. Those members and guest having birthdays over the summer were recognized (one in June, one in July, and four in September). Com. Al Jones told us that he had celebrated his 95th birthday and the group responded with a standing ovation for his faithfulness in attendance and his service to the VA Hospital. President Kerr reported that Com. Jim Cunningham and his wife wished to express their gratitude for all of the cards they had received for their 70th wedding anniversary. The meeting was then recessed for breakfast.

President Kerr reconvened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. and introduced our speaker for the day, our own Compatriot Colonel Jim Coy. Dr. Coy served as a medical consultant for the U.S. Army Special Operations Command and with numerous Special Operations units, and with the 3rd Group Army Special Forces (AIRBORNE) in the 1991 Gulf War. He has received many military honors, awards and badges over his long career. Dr. Coy has authored numerous journal articles on combat trauma medicine and the Eagle series books on Leadership, Courage, Hope and Faith. He retired from the Harry S. Truman Memorial VA Hospital in 2013. His topic was Hacksaw Ridge and how he became friends with Desmond Doss. He recalled how Desmond was despised as a conscientious objector but won the respect of those he saved along with others with whom he served. Dr. Coy raised the questions of "What is success?" and "What is significance?" and came to the conclusion that success is what you do for other people and significance is that which is eternal. His presentation was very well received and President Kerr presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation.

It was time for the induction of three new members, but first Com. Jack Chance was recognized as having his nineteenth supplemental approved. One at a time, Gil Stone, Robert Bland, and Anthony Robertson, were asked to come forward to be sworn into the Chapter. Each received his Certificate of Membership, rosette, and was given a chance to address the membership. Each responded with their gratitude to those who had helped them do the research needed to prove their lineage to their patriot ancestor. In lieu of giving his usual history of the SAR and of our chapter, Com. J. Y. Miller gave printed copies to the new members.

The President called for the usual reports. The minutes for the May meeting were taken by Com. Coutts in the absence of Secretary Merrill. Com. J. Y. Miller moved that they be accepted as printed on the webpage and Com. Jack Chance seconded the motion and it was passed. Treasurer Dietzel gave the Treasurer's Report and a motion was made by Com. Charles Lee and seconded by Con. Alan Hiles and was passed. Genealogist Coutts reported on the applications that are at national and said that about sixteen applications are being worked on for submittal in the near future. Com. Jim Lee gave a brief Eagle Scout Report. President Kerr noted that the Law Enforcement Commendation Award could be ready by our next meeting. He also mentioned that our Books for Schools should move forward as we have funds, and that he is continuing to collect points for the Americanism/Fogg Report.

Under "Old Business" President Kerr thanked Com. Charlie Lee for laying the Chapter wreath during the Memorial Day Commemoration at the Boone County Court House and noted that it had appeared in the newspaper. President Kerr also thanked Com. J. Y. Miller and Com. John Coutts for their help during the William Harvey Grave Marking on July 1st of this year. He recalled how difficult it was to get to this old cemetery but that about 50 to 60 people were present for the event.

Under "Current Business" President Kerr called on Laura DeVenney and two members of the Colonel Hugh Crockett Chapter CAR to inform the group about the MOSSCAR Operation Gratitude CAR Program. They also invited our members to encourage their grandchildren to join CAR and pointed out that it would be very easy using their SAR lineage documents. Com. Russell DeVenney then reported on this year's National SAR Congress held in Knoxville, Tennessee. He spoke of the success of this year's meeting but fears that next year could witness a contentious one due to the present incumbent president seeking a second term which is quite unheard of in recent history.

Breaking from reports, President Kerr called Com. Ed Thomas to the front to award him the SAR Liberty Medal. He noted all that Ed and wife, Nancy, have done to build up our chapter with their genealogical research for prospective members.

The Friends of the Library fund was next on the agenda and Com. J. Y. Miller made a motion that we join by making our \$25.00 donation and Com. Merrill seconded it and it passed. President Kerr reminded everyone about the Speakers Bureau, the DAR Wheels for Healing that will be held on Saturday, September 30, 7:40 a.m. at Roslyn Heights in Boonville, and the Walk Back in Time which will be in Mexico, Missouri, September 22-24.

Under "New Business" President Kerr noted that the Chapter Officers had met to discuss and begin the initial planning for the 2019 MOSSAR Annual Conference that will be hosted by our chapter in April of that year. He asked for members to begin to think about areas that they might be willing to take charge of and listed some that will need to be covered: Registration, Programs, Meet & Greet, Food & Beverage, Room Arrangement, Hospitality Room, Decorations, SAR Set Up, Displays, Photographer, and Medals & Awards. He then noted that we need to begin thinking about officers for next year and perhaps splitting the Secretary's job into a Corresponding Secretary and a Recording Secretary.

He said for now Com. Merrill will continue the recording area and that he would do the corresponding part. The importance of wearing name tags was brought up. Since we are such a large group and with so many new faces we really need to wear our name tags to help everyone to get to know each other. President Kerr asked if there was a volunteer to help pass out the name tags and see that they are turned back in at the end of our meetings, if so, to see him at the end of the meeting. He reported that the new Recruitment Brochure was ready and that he would have it at the next meeting. The Budget Committee reported that the budget had been finalized and that we just need to follow those recommendations. Treasurer Dietzel said a good number had paid their dues for the coming year and that he plans to send out dues notices this month.

Com. DeVenney moved that we adjourn and Com. Charlie Lee seconded the motion. The SAR Recessional was led by Com. Bruce Hillis and the Benediction was given by Chaplain Hiles. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Wayne Merrill, Secretary