

**M. GRAHAM CLARK CHAPTER**  
**MISSOURI SOCIETY**  
**THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**May 19, ~~2019~~ 2018**

President Kerr called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Color Guardsman J. Wayne Merrill presented the Colors. Chaplain Hiles gave the invocation; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM DeVenney; and the SAR Pledge was led by COM Raymond Miller. President Kerr then called for the posting of the Colors by Color Guardsman Merrill. There were 17 members and 9 visitors present. First time visitors were recognized by President Kerr as were four attendees with birthdays in May. The health status of several Chapter members was acknowledged.

The meeting was recessed for breakfast at 8:51 a.m.

President Kerr reconvened the meeting at 9:24 a.m. to introduce the speaker for the meeting, James “Jim” Steele, Editor Emeritus and former owner/publisher of the Fayette (MO) Newspapers, one of which, the Fayette Advertiser, is the third-oldest continuously published paper in Missouri. Mr. Steele, who retired in 2011, spoke on “The Press, in the Past, Present, and Future”; and, the indispensable role of a free press –“to keep a wary eye on those with the power to tax and spend” - to be a government watchdog.

Following a warm acknowledgment of appreciation by the meeting attendees and a session of questions and answers, President Kerr presented Mr. Steele with a Good Citizenship Award and pin for his presentation.

Upon the call for induction of new members: COM Russell Reith and COM David Bartlett were formerly inducted and presented with SAR membership certificates. Both new members also received a SAR rosette lapel pin. Each new member, in turn, made brief comments in acknowledgement of their membership responsibilities.

President Kerr then asked that the usual reports be offered:

April minutes: President Kerr advised that the minutes for the April meeting had been distributed in advance. Upon inquiry by President Kerr and hearing no call for amendments, COM Charles Lee made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. The motion was seconded by COM DeVenney. The motion to approve the April minutes was unanimously adopted. Treasurer’s Report: In COM Stone’s absence, President Kerr announced that the Treasurer’s report was attached to the table copy of the April minutes and asked that the report be filed for audit.

Genealogy: COM Coutts reported the approval of three new members in May with three additional applications, including one supplemental, filed in April, at National awaiting approval action. Two additional applications have been submitted to the State Genealogist and COM Coutts is working on 6 of 15 prospective new member or supplemental applications.

Eagle Scout Committee: No report

ROTC/JROTC: President Kerr announced that he and COM Merrill attended a Pass in Review conducted by the University of Missouri ROTC on May 4<sup>th</sup>. COM Hillis was asked to deliver the Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate to the Missouri Military Academy, which is to be presented next week to the winning cadet. COM Hillis will advise the name of the recipient to President Kerr, following the MMA award ceremony.

Books for schools: No report

Americanism/Fogg Report: President Kerr announced that he continues to collect points for the report.

Chapter Website Report: Webmaster J.Y. Miller announced that a member obituary section has been added to the chapter website, with COM Randall W. Meyer, who passed away on 14 May 2018, as the website's first obituary entry. President Kerr advised that a Drape the Charter Ceremony, as is described on the website, will be conducted for COM Meyer. Members will be advised of this event.

Webmaster Miller asked that those who have not already done so to submit bios and pictures to his personal email address, found on the chapter website under officers, for his addition to the new web site.

Public Service Committee Report: Chairman Mitchell Moore and COM Charles Lee will evaluate and confirm the recipient of the 2018 Fire Safety Commendation and Medal and report their findings to President Kerr.

Following Chapter reports, the 50/50 drawing was conducted by COM JY Miller. The winner of \$15 was COM Raymond Miller. The distribution of the remaining fifty percent was made to the breakfast wait staff, as a gratuity, as was earlier proposed without objection from any of the drawing donors. This practice will continue at future meetings of the chapter.

President Kerr offered a report of the chapter's acknowledgements and awards that were presented at the 2018 MOSSAR Convention:

CHAPTER AWARDS:

- Josiah Fogg: The M. Graham Clark chapter was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation
- MOSSAR Flag Award: The M. Graham Clark chapter was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation
- MOSSAR Americanism Award: The M. Graham Clark chapter earned 5<sup>th</sup> place

PERSONAL AWARDS:

Distinguished Service Award: COM J Y Miller, COM DeVenney, COM Kerr

Silver Roger Sherman Award: COM Wayne Merrill

President Kerr also announced that M. Graham Clark chapter's own COM Wayne Merrill is now the newly elected President of the Missouri Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Following the report on the 2018 MOSSAR Convention, President Kerr discussed the process that he will be pursuing to collect the most recent 30 year history of the M. Graham Clark chapter to be used by MOSSAR for a supplement to the 100 year history of MOSSAR, originally published in 1989. The goal is to complete this project in time for the 2019 MOSSAR Convention, which will be hosted by the M. Graham Clark Chapter, the planning for which, President Kerr announced is under way. President Kerr also announce that more information and solicitations for assistance for the 2019 Convention will be forthcoming.

Following all announcements and other business, a motion was made by COM J Y Miller, seconded by COM DeVenney to recess for the summer months and reconvene in September, as has been the previous practice. The motion carried.

There being no further business, COM Charles Lee led the SAR Recessional, followed by the benediction by Chaplain Hiles.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Bruce Hillis, Recording Secretary