

M. Graham Clark Chapter
Meeting Minutes
19 October 2019 8:30 a.m.

Opening: President Charles Lee gaveled the meeting to order at 8:29 a.m. The Color Guard presented the colors and President Lee gave the opening prayer in the absence of Chaplain Hiles. The group then gave the Pledge of Allegiance and MOSSAR President James E. Osbourn led the SAR Pledge. There were 23 visitors and 18 members present, for a total of 41. Visitors of note were Bobbi Malone, the awardee of the Life Saving Award and her special guest Sherry Dana. There were several friends of hers present to witness the presentation of this award. Also, MOSSAR President James E. Osbourn and his wife Becky were present. COM John Coutts introduced his brother Bob from Frankfort, Kentucky. Doug Fitts from the Christopher Casey Chapter was also present.

President Lee asked if there were any October birthdays and none were noted. Carol Lee stated she and President Lee celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary which garnered a well-deserved round of applause.

President Lee mentioned that Compatriot Jack Chance has been in the hospital and Secretary Kerr has a card to be circulated for signatures. President Lee also mentioned that Chaplain Alan Hiles was absent as he had shoulder surgery.

The meeting then was recessed for breakfast at 8:36 a.m.

Reconvened: The meeting was called back to order at 9:05 a.m. At this time President Lee asked Compatriot Mitchell Moore, Chair of the Public Service & Heroism Committee to come forward and Compatriot Moore escorted Bobbi Malone to the front of the room. The presentation of the Life Saving Award was then made by President Lee and Compatriot Moore. Compatriot Moore asked if Ms. Malone would describe what occurred and she gave a very compelling account about the events in June 2019 where she and her children came upon a burning apartment building. She stated they stopped as no fire or emergency services were yet there and she went to the building to see if anyone needed help. She saw a small figure in a doorway trying to get out and she had an oxygen tank on. That was Sherry Dana, who told Ms. Malone she was afraid the oxygen tank inside her apartment would explode so the two of them went in and got it out of the building and also found some things Ms. Dana needed. Ms. Malone then helped Ms. Dana to her car and her children helped comfort Ms. Dana.

Ms. Malone stated that Ms. Dana lost almost everything in the fire and was trying to help her with her limited resources. She said it is sometimes frustrating because they have developed a true bond and are like family now. She said Ms. Dana is a grand ma to her children.

At this point President Lee thanked Ms. Malone for her comments and asked Ms. Dana to come forward and he presented her with a check in the amount of \$250, which was from donations M Graham Clark members had made in the past month. Ms. Dana thanked everyone for their support and said she realizes there are people worse off than she is and is very, very thankful to Bobbi Malone for all she has done and continues to do.

There was a photographer and reporter from *The Columbia Tribune* present who covered this event as well.

Presentation: At this point, President Lee introduced David Sapp, the speaker for the meeting. Mr. Sapp is the President of the Boonslick Road Association and has a long history of historical society membership and leadership. He is a retiree from 3M of Columbia.

Mr. Sapp's presentation was on "The Boone's Lick Road: Missing Link to the Trans-Mississippi West." He said this route came through the area of Columbia, and traversed from St. Charles to Franklin, Missouri. Many American Patriots who traveled to Missouri likely took the Boonslick Road. The Missouri River Valley was the major highway but an overland route was needed as well as the Missouri River.

Franklin Missouri was settled very early on because Daniel Morgan Boone and Nathaniel Boone developed the Salt Lick in the Franklin area and that is how the term "Boonslick" came to be. Mr. Sapp discussed the journal by William Clark called "Westward with Dragoons" which was from 1808. And that James Harlan, a geographer with the University of Missouri inferred the route based on waterways and distances described in this journal. James Denny has also mapped the road using information from this journal and other sources.

Mr. Sapp mentioned the webpage for the Boonslick Road Association, boonslickroad.org, and that this site has over 150 sources of information on it—both scans and bibliographical information.

Another local historian, Lynn Morrow, wrote "Boone's Lick in Western Expansion: James Mackay, The Boones and the Morrisons." In this, Mr. Morrow discussed the survey of 400 arpents Spanish Land Grant. The Boone's never actually OWNED the salt lick. James Mackay was the owner and he lived in St. Charles. Prior to the Boone's running it, the place was called Mackay's Lick.

Then Mr. Sapp mentioned stops along the way of the Boonslick Road: going west—St. Charles, Loutre Lick/Van Bibber's Tavern, Fruit's/Williamsburg, Hinkson, Thrall's and, finally, Franklin.

Williamson is also called Mineola. In 1814-1815, more surveys were being completed with more specificity. One can still see ruts east of Mineola that were part of the road.

A couple other sources of information were (1) Lewis Beck's Gazetteer of 1823 and (2) Melish's Travelers Directory of 1822. These gave place names and mileages between them.

In discussing New Madrid Claims—where people who lost land in the New Madrid earthquake gained land along the Boonslick Road, Mr. Sapp described one specific example. Grayum's Tavern. This was laid out to have more frontage land along the road so the road went through the survey which was laid out diagonal. This gave Grayum more business as it kept competition further away from the tavern.

The best piece of the road available to see now is called the Sanders-Powell Tract. This is owned by Boone County but surrounding land is owned by private landowners that are not fond of people visiting the site. Mr. Sapp said this would be a good place to have a park but the surrounding landowners may be a challenge for this.

The westernmost point of the road is at Franklin and that was the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail. In 1819 there were between 600 and 1000 people in Franklin and these people were not "ruffians" but were professionals and merchants.

Mr. Sapp said the reason he started being an advocate for the Boonslick Trail was because in 2000 there was an article in the National Geographic and all the other trails were on the map but not the Boonslick Road. He said the road was only about 150 miles long and did not have the romance one might associate with the Santa Fe or California trails. He said it is an important part of history, all the same.

Today, about half the road—west of Williamsburg—is still in use in one way or another in highway or county roads. The rest is in fields.

Mr. Sapp said the Boonslick Road Association was just given a grant for the bicentennial and this consists of two parts: a) Dr. Larry Brown will be delivering presentations about the Boonslick Road and b) to develop a 10 month exhibit at the Boone County Historical Society.

At the end of the presentation there was a short Question and Answer. One question was what the major draw of Franklin was and Mr. Sapp said the hunger for land and the Boone's Lick itself. Another question was if the Boonslick Road followed Indian Trails. Mr. Sapp said that was possible, but the Indian Trails were not very well developed.

President Lee then presented Mr. Sapp an Outstanding Citizenship Certificate and Pin.

MOSSAR President James E. Osbourn: President Lee then introduced MOSSAR President James E. Osbourn. President Osbourn thanked the chapter for the hospitality shown him and his wife, Becky and encouraged members to be active in the chapter and invited members who had yet to get challenge coins he had developed to commemorate the 130th anniversary of MOSSAR to come forward and get these.

President Lee presented President Osbourn with a Certificate of Appreciation for all the work he is doing for MOSSAR as President and other activities in MOSSAR.

Reports:

Secretary: President Lee asked Secretary Kerr to discuss the minutes from the Sept 2019 meeting. Kerr asked if there were any corrections/additions needed. Compatriot J. Y. Miller made the motion to approve the minutes, Compatriot Robert Hill seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer Gil Stone, President Lee gave the report.

As of 30 September 2019, the Money Market Account had a balance of \$12,858.91, the Checking Account had a balance of \$6,861.93, and the chapter had \$60.00 cash on hand. The total cash assets were \$19,780.84.

Income/Revenue for the period ending 30 Sept was \$2,883.00 including \$0.53 interest to the endowment, \$364.00 breakfast charges, \$6.00 50/50 drawing and \$15.00 past breakfast payment. **Expenses** were \$2,299.10 including \$312.00 Sept meeting charges, \$31.10 for office supplies, and \$1,956 member dues to MOSSAR. This resulted in a net **PROFIT** of \$584.43.

President Lee accepted this for audit.

Genealogy Report: Compatriot Coutts said there was a supplemental approved, there is a new application at National, 2 applications at the State Genealogist and COM Coutts has 12 he is working on—all need maybe 2-4 things is all.

Eagle Scout: Compatriot Jim Lee reported letters were being updated and he is waiting for the certificates and scholarship information will be mailed.

50/50: Compatriot J. Y. Miller did the 50/50 and Compatriot Hank Hammons won \$18.00. This is his second win in a row!

Operation Ancestor Search: President Lee then asked Compatriot Dog Fitts to discuss Operation Ancestor Search (OAS). COM Fitts is the MOSSAR Chair for this program which is designed to allow SAR and DAR volunteers to go into VA hospitals and veteran nursing homes and help veterans research their family history. If anyone is interested in volunteering please let President Lee know.

A volunteer does on their own time and there is no set schedule. A volunteer gets a Certificate of Appreciation and the chapter gets a streamer for their efforts.

Veteran Legal Assistance: President Lee mentioned that COM J. Y. Miller had contacted him about an email he received about free legal assistance for veterans through the University of Missouri Law School. COM Miller stated he had learned a bit more about this—that it is pretty limited in scope. They will assist veterans in working to upgrade a discharge type (i.e., possibly general to honorable) and also to assist veterans who are having trouble getting benefits. If you are interested contact President Lee or COM Miller.

VA Hospital Issue: President Lee read a letter Compatriot Russ DeVenney sent him. COM DeVenney said that M Graham Clark has a 30 year history of volunteering at Harry S Truman and this is coming to an end unless someone will volunteer. COM Alfred Jones, who passed away last May, had several thousand hours and the chapter received several awards through the 1980s to 2011. COM DeVenney has been the VA Liaison and is announcing he is resigning, effective the end of 2019. Anyone wanting to work in this please let COM DeVenney or President Lee know.

Future Programs: President Lee reminded people to let either him or COM Kerr know if you are interested in doing a program, or know of someone who can possibly do one. COM Kerr stated next month is a person who was one of his college instructors and she will be talking about the Missouri State Fair during the World Wars

Compatriot Merrill said he has a person who can do one in December 2019. President Lee had been in touch with the Columbia DAR Chapter about doing a combined meeting but since we have this line up we won't do that with DAR.

Certificate for Retirement of U. S. Flag: COM Kerr, Flag Chairman, mentioned to the chapter that SAR has a new certificate to acknowledge groups who properly retire U. S. Flags. He then gave one to COM J. Y. Miller, whose American Legion Post 211 had done this twice in 2019. COM Kerr asked for anyone who knows of groups doing this to let him know and he will ensure they get this certificate.

Adjournment: There being no further business, President Lee asked to have the colors retired. President Lee gave the closing prayer and the group recited the SAR Recessional.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am

Respectfully
Submitted,

Harold H. Kerr II
Secretary

OCTOBER RSVP REPORT		
Charles Lee, 2		
J. Y. Miller. 2		
Mitchell Moore 1		
Raines 2		
J. Wayne Merrill and Pat Merrill - (two breakfast)		
Gil Stone - 0		
Bruce Hillis. 1		
Jim Lee 1		
Oct Mtg: Harold Kerr 5 (MARR, Life Saving Awards and Her 5 guests and James an		
Robert N. Hill --1		
Hank Hammons two	No RSVP.	
	Sturbingner.	0
Terrill Jones --2	Doug Fitz, CC Chap.	1
	Tribune Report.	2 No food
Coutts 2		
David Bartlett (1)		
Re: M. Breedlove 1		
James & Becky Osbourn. 2		
Lifesaving Award 6		
MEMBERS = 15. GUESTS = 21 MEALS GUARANTTED= 31		