

**M. Graham Clark Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
Meeting Minutes 17 October 2020**

Opening: The meeting was called o order by President Charlie Lee at 8:30 a.m. There were 19 people in attendance—14 members and 5 guests (see appended listing).

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Compatriot Mitchell Moore, the SAR Pledge was led by Compatriot Luke Lucas and the Opening Prayer was given by Chaplain Alan Hiles.

President Lee asked if there were any visitors of note; there were none. He asked if there were any members or members' family members on sick call; there were none.

The meeting was then adjourned for Breakfast at 8:38 a.m.

Reconvened: The meeting was called back to order at 9:10 a.m. President Lee asked Compatriot Russell F. DeVenney, Jr., Chapter Treasurer, to give the Treasurer's Report since Compatriot DeVenney needed to leave early.

Compatriot DeVenney reported the Checkbook balance as of 17 October 2020 is \$7,939.84. This reflects checks written to reimburse Compatriot Kerr for awards certificates, paying for the breakfasts at our September meeting, and the purchase of 250th anniversary lapel pins which the chapter is reselling for a slight increase. He furthers stated the Endowment Fund has a balance of \$12,865.35 as of 30 September 2020 and we have \$83.99 available to spend.

Compatriot DeVenney reported there are still 20 members who need to pay dues and that this is going well. He stated if all pay, we will have about 107 members in total (86 regular members, 14 Junior members, 2 life members, 3 dual members and 2 transfers). This number is consistent with past years.

At the end of the report President Lee asked if there was comment. There being none, Compatriot J. Y. Miller II made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for audit and Compatriot Moore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Program: President Lee then called on our speaker, Compatriot Robert Bartlett, to give his program. The title of the program was "John Bartlett's War." Compatriot Bartlett stated the program was about his patriot and that he served in the first two years of the Revolutionary War. He said his great grandfather's grandfather wrote a book about the experiences and showed the book to the group.

John Bartlett was born about 1752 in Massachusetts. He was the youngest of 5 children. When he was very young his parents decided to pioneer in present-day Maine and when they were there, they tried to raise sheep. They were there in the final years of the French-Indian War.

At one point about 400 Indians and French came down from Canada and killed several of the pioneers, including many of John's family. The bodies were put in a boat and this was one of the first memories John had. After this tragedy, John, his mother, and his sisters moved back to Massachusetts. In 1765 the Stamp Act was passed by Britain which the Americans revolted against. The legislature passed a draft stating they were against this and John's grandfather was one of the people to deliver the draft.

After this the Brits landed 10,000 troops and had a fleet of ships in the Boston harbor. The Minutemen developed and John Bartlett was one of them. He served in this under Captain John Bradford. After a year, the Brits discovered arms and powder was stored in Concord and they sent troops to Lexington and Concord. After that full-scale war started. John enlisted in the Army in April 1775 in Colonel John Cotton's line. In September 1775, this unit was ordered to Boston Neck. In 1776 he reenlisted for another year.

George Washington then came to Boston and reorganized the situation. He got the cannons that were captured by Ethan Allen and brought down to Boston. John's unit was one of the units to put these guns on the Dorchester Heights overseeing Boston.

Finally there was an agreement to get the Brits to vacate Boston and they were to go to Halifax. Instead, they went to New York. The Patriots go wind of this and went there as well. While there the Continental Congress prepared the Declaration of Independence and it was read to the soldiers there. John was in that group of soldiers.

Eventually the Brits attacked, and the Patriots were removed and ended up in New Jersey. In December when John's enlistment was almost up, he asked to be allowed to leave as he was in poor health and this was approved so he left and two months later married. He was not there when Princeton happened, but John served very honorably through all the time he was in under very trying circumstances.

John and his wife eventually had 7 children. In 1790 the family decided to move to Maine and bought a 90-acre farm there. They were one of the first five families there. While there, they had one more child. He lived until 1847 when he died at the age of 95. He and his wife had five sons and 3 daughters. When he died, he had 60 grandchildren and 183 great grandchildren. As a result of this very fruitful life, there are still a lot of Bartlett family members living in the area.

Award: At the end of his presentation, President Lee gave Compatriot Bartlett a much-deserved Outstanding Citizenship Certificate and Lapel Pin. Awards Chair Kerr told the chapter this award is in recognition of his service during World War II, his career in Engineering and education as well as his outstanding membership in SAR.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: President Lee asked for Compatriot Kerr to give the Secretary's Report. Kerr gave a summary of the minutes and Compatriot J. Y. Miller made the motion to approve the minutes, Vice-President David Bartlett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Genealogy Report: President Lee asked Compatriot John Coutts to give this report. There is one application at National and should be approved any time now. Compatriot Floyd Strader has a supplemental application at State. Compatriot Coutts is working on several more applications.

Eagle Scout Report: President Lee stated there is nothing to report here, in the absence of Compatriot Jim Lee, chair of Eagle Scout Committee.

Americanism/Fogg Report: Compatriot Kerr just reiterated to let him know if there are any activities they have done that can be reported on these. Compatriot J. Y. Miller and wife Mary had attended the Howard County DAR meeting that week. Chaplain Alan Hiles gave a presentation to the Bowling Green DAR Chapter. These are two examples of what can be reported.

Nominating Committee: Compatriot Kerr is the chair of this, being the Immediate Past president of the chapter. Kerr stated this committee will meet in November and that we will be needing people for some offices. Kerr stated he does not wish to be secretary again, having held the office 5 years. Kerr stated he feels this needs to have a new person as it is not good for the same person to do the same thing and not open it up for others. We will also need a Vice-President. David Bartlett is our present Vice-President, so he is “in line” for President if the chapter decides this.

Kerr asked people who are interested in serving to let one of the nominating committee members know: himself, J. Y. Miller, Wayne Merrill, John Coutts, Russ DeVenney, Jack Chance or Charlie Lee.

50/50: We had the 50/50 drawing and Compatriot Raymond Miller won \$10! Congratulations!

Future meetings: Compatriot J. Y. Miller said we have speakers lined up for meetings through May 2021 with the exception of January 2021 so if someone is interested in helping out, let him or President Lee know.

Closing: There being no further business for the chapter, President Lee called on Compatriot Wayne Merrill to lead the chapter in the **SAR Recessional** and Chaplain Alan Hiles to give the **Benediction**.

The meeting closed at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold H. Kerr II

NAME	MEALS
Bartlett, Bob & Pat	2
Bartlett, David	1
Coutts, John	1
DeVenney, Russ & La	2
Hiles, Alan & wife	2
Jones, Terill & Wife	2
Kerr, Harold	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lessley, Garland	1
Lucas, Luke	1
Merrill, Wayne & Pat	2
Miller, J. Y. & Mary	2
Miller, Raymond	1
Moore, Mitchell	1