

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR - Minutes of Meeting 15 April 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Hiles at 8:35 a.m. at Park located at 4380 Nocona Parkway, Columbia, MO: <https://www.dineatpark.com>

The colors were posted prior to the meeting by COM Jim Lee.

COM Wayne Merrill offered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Paul Whatley. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM James Lee.

President Hiles recognized guests in attendance which included approximately half-a-dozen wives of members including Priscilla Bartlett, Linda Coutts, Waylene Hiles, Kathryn Lucan, Mary Miller, and Stephanie Thomas, as well as junior member Nicholas Barber, his mother Sarah Barber, Ron Graves and Terrill and Ruanne Stamps. (See appended. List)

Members reported on sick call was Garland Lessley who is battling illness.

April birthdays were recognized including two grandsons of COM Russ Devenney.

Members were reminded of the Book Table set up in the hall.

At 8:43, President Hiles announced a break for breakfast, served buffet-style.

Members reconvened at 9:11 and President Hiles introduced COM J.Y. Miller to introduce present a PowerPoint program on "The Controversial Missouri Waltz."

The Missouri Waltz is Missouri's State song. The song was originally written by Lee Edgar Settle, a well-known ragtime player, entitled "The Graveyard Waltz"; however it was popularized by John Valentine Epple who claimed that he "procured" the song. Sheet music for the song was published in 1912 by Frederick Knight Logan. Many other people were credited with having written the song.

Lyrics for the song were composed by James Shannon and some of the words in the original version of the song would now be considered racially insensitive.

The song became very popular in the 1940s with over 6 million copies of the music sold. It was recorded by Bing Crosby, Perry Como, Gene Autry, Johnny Cash and was featured in many movies from a Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers movie in 1939 to the 2010 Jennifer Lawrence movie, "Winter's Bone." It became the state song in 1949.

Harry Truman's presidency helped popularize the song, although Truman, a piano player, was indifferent to it. In 1945 at the Potsdam Conference both Winston Churchill and Josef Stalin were entertained by the song and were said to have enjoyed it. During his 1946 visit to Fulton, Missouri for his Iron Curtain speech, Churchill was serenaded by the "Missouri Waltz" played alternately with "God Save the King."

Today the song is most associated with the University of Missouri where the song is played by the marching band at every home football game.

COM Miller played a portion of Glenn Miller's and Bing Crosby's recordings and a recording of the lyrics sung by Missouri singer Merideth Sisco from the Winter's Bone movie.

COM Miller's presentation was met with nearly thunderous applause by the members and guests.

Secretary Mitchell Moore announced the minutes of the last meeting were on the website and asked if there were any revisions to be made. He noted the minutes for the past few meetings failed to credit COM Jim Lee for posting and retrieving the colors before and after the meeting. Hearing no other revisions, COM Charlie Lee moved to accept the minutes, COM Dale Roberts seconded. Motion passed.

The members were distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report of April 15, 2023 and reported by Treasurer Russ DeVenney. COM Dale Roberts moved to accept the report. COM Paul Whatley seconded. Motion passed.

Genealogist John Coutts gave a report regarding a pending supplemental for COM Whatley and a pending application at National for Bob Ingraham that was delayed because his birth certificate failed to list his gender. There are two other pending applications and one supplemental. COM Mitch Moore moved approval of the report. COM Charlie Lee seconded. Motion passed.

COM Paul Whatley reminded the members of the 250th Anniversary celebration will be on Sunday, May 28, 2023 at 2 pm at Ste. Genevieve Catholic Church in Ste. Genevieve, MO, commemorating the Battle of Fort San Carlos. <http://www.battleoffortsancarlos.org/>

The 2023 MOSSAR State convention will be April 29-30 in St. Louis, hosted by the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter, which has its own Facebook page.

The 50-50 drawing was held by COM J. Y. Miller with COM Charlie Lee winning \$13.

President Hiles reminded members that the next meeting of the M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR will be **May 20, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.** at Park at 4380 Nocona Parkway, Columbia, MO. The program will be presented by Marvin McKelvey, "Chance Engineering Saves Skylab."

President Hiles asked members to consider presenting a program for after the summer hiatus next year.

President Hiles further reminded members that the 2024 MOSSAR Convention will be hosted by our Chapter and there will be volunteer opportunities for everyone.

President Hiles recommended the Museum of Missouri Military History, 2405 Logistics Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65101. An online search shows some of the collection of artifacts, tanks, planes, cannons, etc.

President Hiles also recommended summer events at Bowling Green, Missouri's bicentennial celebration. <https://bgmo200.com> And also, Mexico, Missouri's "Walk Back in Time" celebration in September.

The SAR recessional was then led by COM David Bartlett, followed by the closing prayer offered by COM Wayne Merrill.

Meeting adjourned by President Alan Hiles at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(s) Mitchell Moore

Secretary

AENDENCE 15 APRIL 2023	
NAME	Meal
Barber, Nicholas, & Sarah	2
Bartlett, Bob & Priscila	2
Bartlett, David	1
Blanco, Fred	1
Coutts, John & Linda	2
DevVenney, Russ	1
Stamps, Terrill & Ruanne	2
Hiles, Alan & Raylene	2
Krause, William	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lee, Jim	1
Lucas, Luke & Kathryn	2
Merrill, Wayne	1
Miller, J. Y. & Mary	2
Moore, Mitchell	1
Roberts Dale & Ron Graves	2
Thomas, Samuel, Stephanie	2
Voight, Billey	1
Whatley, Paul	1
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