

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR - Minutes of Meeting 16 December 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Hiles at 8:01 a.m. at Park located at 4380 Nocona Parkway, Columbia, MO: <https://www.dineatpark.com> The colors were posted prior to the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by guest/inductee Dayton Shepherd. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM Hank Hammonds. Chaplain Bryan Bradford offered the opening prayer.

24 members and guests were in attendance. See appended list.

Birthdays this month included COM Dr. Luke Lukas, 78. COM John Coutts and his Linda are celebrating their 46th wedding anniversary.

Members under the weather were COM Terry Jones' wife Deborah, COM J.Y. Miller's wife Mary, COM Floyd Strader and COM Dale Bland. Members signed a card for each of them wishing them a speedy recovery.

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

At 8:40, President Hiles announced a break for breakfast, served buffet-style.

President Hiles reconvened the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

President Hiles announced the installation of a new member, Dayton Shepherd. Sponsored by COM John Coutts, President Hiles conducted the swearing in and welcomed COM Dayton Shepherd as the newest member of the Chapter.

COM Sheperd was given an opportunity to address the members. COM Shepherd's patriot ancestor was from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and at the age of 16 moved to serve in the militia in North Carolina in the years 1779 though 1781. His patriot ancestor was wounded during the attack by Tories on Ft. Orangeburg, S. C., and was the only member of his contingent to escape capture.

COM Shepherd was a C-130 pilot during the war in Vietnam and will have stories to present as meeting programs on in the future. COM Sheperd was also a computer programmer until his retirement.

COM J.Y. Miller's planned program was cancelled as he was attending to his wife Mary's recovery from knee surgery and other medical issues. President Hiles invited members to speak on topics of interest, including their patriot ancestors, the process of proving lineage, etc.

COM Terry Jones reminded members that the day is the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, December 16, 1773. There was a general discussion of the festivities of the day, including a reenactment in Boston. The tea was extremely valuable, and the act enraged the King.

COM Vic Duncan and others remarked how their Quaker ancestors were shunned for joining the cause.

Secretary Mitchell Moore, knowing in advance of COM J.Y. Miller's expected absence, gave what morphed into a program on the history of his patriot ancestor, Jeremiah Greenman, who joined the Rhode Island contingent at the age of 17 just after the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775 and kept a daily war journal until he left service on Christmas Day, 1783. His fairly unique war journal was known only to family members until the Bicentennial year of 1976 and has been published and is available online and on Amazon entitled, "Diary of a Common Soldier in the American Revolution, 1775-1783.

A more readable and well-known first-hand account by a common soldier was that of Joseph Plumb Martin who published his book in 1830, nearly 50 years after the war. Martin was in some of the same battles as Greenman.

Greenman was on Montgomery and Arnold's expedition to Quebec and one of 400 soldiers captured after the failed attack on New Year's Eve, 1775. Greenman was lucky to be released in September of 1776. Enlisted prisoners later in the war were treated quite harshly. <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Prisoner-of-War-Briefing-by-Paul-Chase.pdf>

After his "parole," young Greenman soon joined the Continental Army as a sergeant and participated in the intensely fought Defense of the Delaware which delayed British reinforcements to Philadelphia for 6 weeks as Washington escaped to Valley Forge.

Thereafter, Greenman was sent with his lieutenant to Rhode Island to recruit soldiers. Slave owners were paid by Rhode Island and the slaves were given their freedom after the war. Known as The Black Regiment, it was one of two Rhode Island regiments at the time and was made up almost entirely of black and Indian troops.

Returning to Valley Forge where Baron von Steuben had arrived and was drilling the troops, the newly trained Greenman, the Black Regiment, and the American Army proved a professional fighting force in the 1778 Battle of Monmouth and the subsequent Battle of Rhode Island. With its veteran and highly motivated troops, the Continental Army was superior to the British Army by the end of the war.

On May 14, 1781, Greenman's commander Lt. Col. Christopher Greene, a third cousin to General Nathanael Greene, was captured, tortured, and killed by hundreds of Loyalists under Lt. Col James De Lancey while guarding the strategic Pines Bridge crossing of the Croton River. Newly promoted Lt. Jeremiah Greenman was guarding a second crossing and when set upon by the Tories surrendered and was captured and was a POW during summer and autumn before the Battle of Yorktown.

Greenman's experience as a POW as an officer was different from that of an enlisted man. He was permitted visitors and could walk freely around the area on Long Island; and on the 4th of July Greenman had wine and hosted an Independence Day celebration with other officer POWs. He wrote an account of the 13 toasts made at that party of POWs in 1781. Likewise, in 1782, he was posted in Philadelphia and attended an "Elegant Dinner" and recorded the 13 toasts. Finally, in 1783, Greenman hosted a party at his post in Saratoga and recorded the 13 toasts. A copy of the toasts is attached hereto.

Greenman was the Regiment's adjutant and responsible for the paperwork including that involved with mustering out the soldiers after news of the Treaty of Paris reached Saratoga. As a result, Greenman was one of the last soldiers mustered out on Christmas Day, 1783.

Greenman went on to serve in the precursor to the Coast Guard in Philadelphia. He later owned and sailed a merchant sloop sailing across the ocean until the Napoleonic War, and Greenman's wife persuaded him to take his veteran's 100 acres in Ohio where he retired as the local magistrate and tended a "rocky" farm. Towards the end of his days, Greenman, as well as many other troops, had to appeal to the War Department the denial of a needs-based pension that was important for their survivors to have after their death. He complained with some degree of disgust that his condition was worse than neighbors who had gotten pensions and had served far less time. Greenman served 8 years, 7 months, and was a prisoner of war twice and wounded thrice. His appeal was granted.

As proud as your humble secretary is of his patriot ancestor Jeremiah Greenman, there is the more problematic side to discovering more about one's ancestors, as he recently discovered. Ambrose Madison is the 8X-great-grandfather of your secretary, and Ambrose was the grandfather of James Madison. James Madison's uncle was the 7x-great-grandfather of your secretary. The Madison family slave owners and are the first slaveowners discovered in your secretary's family history so far, with some consternation. To make matters more uncomfortable, in 1732 three slaves were convicted of poisoning Ambrose Madison, the first time in Virginia that slaves were convicted of killing a planter.

Treasurer Russell DeVenney reminded members that the Chapter needs a new treasurer to replace him.

President Hiles informed the Chapter that Park could no longer serve as the meeting place because of staff shortages and because they usually do not open for breakfast. There followed a discussion regarding whether to widen available options by going to a continental breakfast and not a full breakfast.

COM Moore moved to establish a committee to study the issue and find a new place to hold chapter meetings. COM Wayne Merrill seconded. Motion passed. COM Moore, COM Hammonds, and President Hiles agreed to serve on the committee.

The subject of a tip or bonus to the Park staff was discussed and it was moved and seconded and passed that the Chapter present a \$100 tip to the staff.

Chaplain Bradford announced that he expects to move to another state this spring and we will need a new chaplain

The minutes of the previous meeting are posted on the website, although a change needs to be made. A reference to COM Dr. Lucas' wife "Val" should have been "Kathryn" as they celebrated last month their 54th wedding anniversary. Val would have been a reference to the wife of COM Hank Hammonds and the secretary apologizes for the error.

Treasurer Russ DeVenney reviewed the Treasurer's Report through 12-16-23.

COM John Coutts gave the Genealogy Report dated December 16, 2024. John Haines and his son Nick have had their applications approved. Several applicants have not followed through yet and a number of applications are in various stages. Report attached.

The **2024 MOSSAR State Convention** will be **April 26-27, 2024** in Columbia, at the Courtyard by Marriott, hosted by the M. Graham Clark Chapter.

COM DeVenney handed out a "Convention Report" detailing our planning progress, what we still need, etc. COM DeVenney and COM Merrill are confident that we are on track to be ready for the convention April 26 & 27, 2024.

There will be volunteer opportunities for all members, auxiliary members, and supporters and all are needed to volunteer, even if only as a "greeter" to assist guests as we host this convention.

The next meeting of the M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR will be **January 20, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.** at Park at 4380 Nocona Parkway, Columbia, MO.

There was no Color Guard to retrieve the colors.

The SAR recessional was then led by COM John Coutts, followed by the closing prayer offered by Chaplain Bryan Bradford.

COM Russ DeVenney moved to adjourn the meeting. COM Moore seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned by President Hiles at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

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RSVP DEC	
NAME	#
Barber, Nicholas & Sarah	2
Blanco, Fred	1
Bradford, Bryan	1
Coutts, John	1
DeVenney, Russ	1
Duncan, Victor	1
Hammons, Hank	1
Hiles, Alan & Wayland	2
Inghram, Rob	1
Jones, Terrill	1
Lee, Jim	1
Lucas, Luke	1
Merrill, Wayne	1
Miller, Ray & Ruth	2
Moore, Mitchell & Sharon	2
Pickard, Blair	1
Shepherd, Dayton	1
Thomas, Samuel & Stephanie	2
Tuttle, James	1
	24

Genealogy Report December 16, 2023

Approved:

John and son Nick Haines applications

At National

At State

none

Working on: 3 applications

Jordan Shikles -out to be signed

James Dixon – 2 b/c & 2 d/c

Melvin Gilbert – b/c & d/c

Terrell Stamps – Primary documents

Donny Bryson - 9 documents

Royce Barondes - almost ready

Tony Smee – connect 3 generations and one d/c

Johnny Hendren – one generational connection and one b/c

Christopher Mathis – will send lineage

Timothy Boltinghouse, SR. -have contacted

Charles Gilreath - have contacted

Will Sherman - have contacted

Craig Hosey - have contacted

Have contacted Authur Dollins should send lineage

Supplement for Blake Frevert – one document reference

5 supplements for Floyd Strader

Pended:



The M. Graham Clark Chapter of
The Missouri Society of
The Sons of the American Revolution
Chartered March 15, 1982
Incorporated April 23, 1889
Columbia, Missouri

26 & 27 April 2024 Convention Report

16 December 2023

1] We continue to make progress towards the planning of our hosting of the MOSSAR April 2024 Conference. We are rapidly developing our 'Costs' for the Conference.

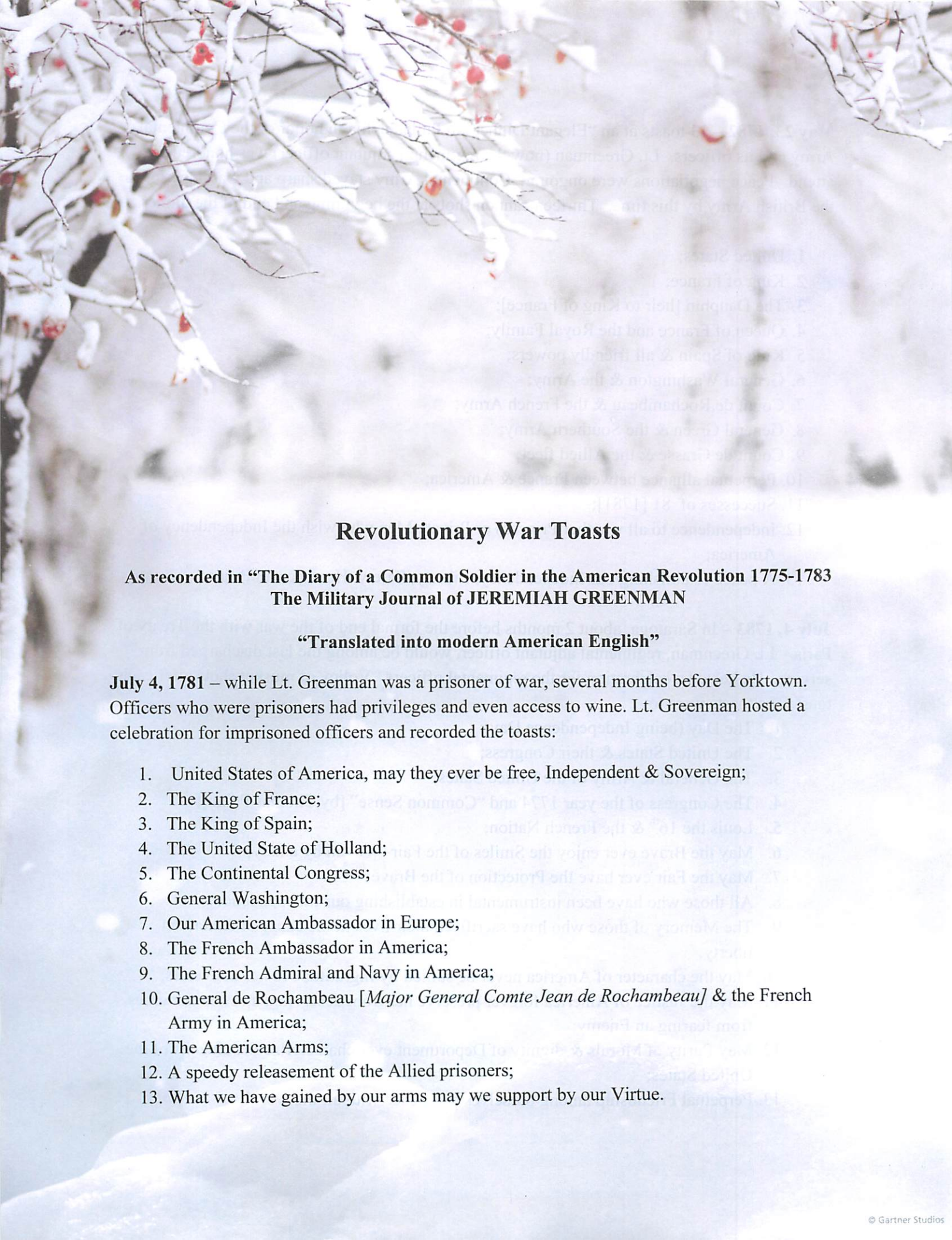
We mainly lack:

- (a) Audio-visual equipment rental costs.*
- (b) Gifts for the Dignitaries.*
- (d) Miscellaneous administration costs.*

2] We now have 'firm' Meal Pricing from Courtyard by Marriott which. Wayne and I are in a position now to develop 100% of our Meal Charges and now that we have the 2023 Conference Registration Roster develop the Member Registration Fee for the Conference and the *Conference Registration Form*. *(Note: This will allow us to complete the Conference Registration Form and About 90% of the Conference Booklet.*

3] It is still too early to finalize the decorations. However, we think that we have most of the items we need for the dinners.

Russ DeVenney & Wayne Merrill



Revolutionary War Toasts

As recorded in “The Diary of a Common Soldier in the American Revolution 1775-1783
The Military Journal of JEREMIAH GREENMAN

“Translated into modern American English”

July 4, 1781 – while Lt. Greenman was a prisoner of war, several months before Yorktown. Officers who were prisoners had privileges and even access to wine. Lt. Greenman hosted a celebration for imprisoned officers and recorded the toasts:

1. United States of America, may they ever be free, Independent & Sovereign;
2. The King of France;
3. The King of Spain;
4. The United State of Holland;
5. The Continental Congress;
6. General Washington;
7. Our American Ambassador in Europe;
8. The French Ambassador in America;
9. The French Admiral and Navy in America;
10. General de Rochambeau [*Major General Comte Jean de Rochambeau*] & the French Army in America;
11. The American Arms;
12. A speedy releasement of the Allied prisoners;
13. What we have gained by our arms may we support by our Virtue.

May 23, 1782 – 13 toasts at an “Elegant Dinner” in Philadelphia in honor of the Continental Army and its officers. Lt. Greenman (now the regimental adjutant officer) was honored to attend. Peace negotiations were ongoing; Continental Army stayed sharp and was superior to the British Army by this time. Thirteen cannon shots at the beginning and end of the dinner.

1. United States;
2. King of France;
3. The Dauphin [heir to King of France];
4. Queen of France and the Royal Family;
5. King of Spain & all friendly powers;
6. General Washington & the Army;
7. Count de Rochambeau & the French Army;
8. General Green & the Southern Army;
9. Count de Grasse & the Allied fleet;
10. Perpetual alliance between France & America;
11. Successes of 81 [1781];
12. Independence to all whether Princess or Private Men who wish the Independency of America;
13. A peace establishing our Independency, Liberty, Safety, Honor or no Peace.

July 4, 1783 – In Saratoga, about 2 months before the formal end of the war with the Treaty of Paris. Lt. Greenman, regimental adjutant officer, would be among the last discharged from service. He hosted a celebration for the regimental officers. Volley of musket shots after each toast. The toasts were to:

1. The Day (being Independence Day);
2. The United States & their Congress;
3. The General & Army of the United States;
4. The Congress of the year 1774 and “Common Sense” [by Thomas Paine];
5. Louis the 16th & the French Nation;
6. May the Brave ever enjoy the Smiles of the Fair—Given by a lady;
7. May the Fair ever have the Protection of the Brave;
8. All those who have been instrumental in establishing our Independence;
9. The Memory of those who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of American liberty;
10. May the character of America never be sullied by Ingratitude to her deliverers;
11. May the Justice of America forever preserve her from deserving, and her resources from fearing an Enemy;
12. May Purity of Morals & dignity of Department ever characterize the citizens of the United States;
13. Perpetual Friendship among ourselves and Peace with all the world.