

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR - Minutes of Meeting 17 February

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Hiles at 8:30 a.m. at the American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://americanlegionpost202.org/>

The meeting scheduled for January 20, 2024 was canceled due to inclement weather.

This is the first time in recent memory that the Chapter has met at the American Legion and the members were impressed with the newly renovated facility and its veterans-centric atmosphere and by the warm hospitality shown the Chapter by the facilities' manager, Lorri Mayes.

There are two rooms we can meet, and which will prevent conflicts when a particular room is needed by another organization. Both rooms have excellent provisions for audio-visual presentations. Parking is plentiful. The Facebook page will post some pictures soon.

The meeting took place in the smaller meeting room, which seats up to about 40 people or more, in a room with walls covered with pictures, displays, patriotic memorabilia and the like of Post 202 members.

Breakfast was eaten in the large ballroom and consisted for biscuits and gravy, tater tots, and scrambled eggs for the modest price of \$10 which is paid directly to the American Legion and goes to support the American Legion Women's Auxiliary. Fruit and juice will be added to future menus.

For the next two meetings, on March 17 and April 13, the large ballroom is reserved for the VFW's "Pancake Day" fundraiser. The menu will be pancakes, eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, and beverages. The cost for this VFW fundraiser breakfast will be \$13.00 and we will pay individually as we did today. Chapter members needing special diets can bring food into the facility.

The Sons of the American Revolution at its core is an organization honoring our nation's first veterans and so it is with no small degree of satisfaction that we have established this relationship with our country's largest veterans service organization.

The colors were posted prior to the meeting. Flags are permanently posted in both rooms where we will meet.

Chaplain Bryan Bradford offered the opening prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Paul Whatley. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM Paul Whatley.

A total of 23 members and guests were in attendance (See appended list) . President Hiles recognized guests in attendance which included many members' wives Waylene Hiles, Val Hammons, and Sharon Campbell-Moore, and Priscilla Bartlett. Other guests included junior member Nicholas Barber and his mother, Sarah.

Birthdays this month and January included COM Alan Hiles, 70 on January 12, COM Paul Whatley on February 8, COM Fred Bianco, 67 on February 6. COM Charles Lee celebrated his 83rd birthday and COM J.Y. Biller celebrated his 80th birthday on February 3. COM Terrill Jones new grandson was born February 6. And looking ahead, COM Robert Bartlett will celebrate his 99th birthday on May 18.

Members and spouses under the weather were Mary Millar and Debbie Jones. Terrill Jones announced that Debbie is improving. Members signed a card for each of them wishing them a speedy recovery.

At 8:43, President Hiles announced a break for breakfast in the large ballroom which consisted of real eggs (scrambled), tater tots and biscuits and gravy for \$10 paid individually by members.

President Hiles reconvened the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

There was a discussion regarding the best time for meetings. Some felt that a luncheon meeting (11:00) would be easier in bad weather for members who travel some distance. Others commented that a later meeting would sometimes interfere with attending MU football games and would keep members from having the full afternoon for any other activities. **It was decided to change the meeting time to 9:00 am as a compromise.**

The program consisted of nomination, election, and swearing in of officers.

COM DeVenney desires that a treasurer to replace him be found no later than the end of May. He is willing to serve until then. No one has yet volunteered. COM Merrill remarked that one of the most time-consuming details of the office is the annual collection of dues and he urged members to pay their dues in a timely manner to make easier that part of the treasurer's duties. A new treasurer must be found.

COM J.Y. Miller moved, and COM Bryan Bradford seconded the slate of officers:

President	Alan Hiles
Immediate Past President	David Bartlett
Vice President	Paul Whatley
Secretary	Mitchell Moore
Treasurer	Russ DeVenney

Genealogist	John Coutts
Historian	Hank Hammons
Chaplain	Hank Hammons
Sgt. At Arms	Jim Lee

COM Charles Lee moved the slate be approved by acclamation. COM J.Y. Miller seconded. Motion carried.

COM Wayne Merrill swore in the officers and also conducted a ceremony swearing in all members to defend the Constitution and fulfill their obligations to the organization.

Treasurer Russell DeVenney was absent, however his Reports for the past two months were distributed to members.

COM Paul Whatley reported on our points for the Americanism and Fogg Awards. It is clear we are ignoring reporting on programs that would count for points. Members were encouraged to report any potential point-generating activities and not worry about whether they truly qualify or not as he can sort those out.

COM J. Y. Miller suggested we present the American Legion with a Flag Certificate. COM Moore moved to make it so. COM J.Y. Miller seconded. Motion carried. American Legion Commander, and recent MGCSAR compatriot Dale Roberts will be invited to attend.

COM Coutts announce that 3 new members have been approved at national and others are in the pipeline with the main holdup now being follow-through by applicants a communication issue. With the end of winter, it is hoped that problem will lessen. A report is attached.COM Moore announced the minutes of the previous meeting are on the webpage. He also announced that as past Chair of the Public Service and Heroism Committee it has come to his attention that three people from Fayette, Missouri are good candidates and after describing their actions, he moved that the Chapter ask the State honor them at the Convention. COM J. Y. Miller seconded. Motion carried.

A general discussion took place regarding the awarding of ROTC medals and how to generate interest in the award. One suggestion was to invite an instructor from the ROTC program to be a guest of the Chapter and give a brief presentation on the ROTC program.

Outgoing Chaplain Bryan Bradford, who will soon be relocating to the state of Kansas, reported that all death records have been reported to National.

COM J. Y. Miller put a call out for members to present programs for the end of the year. Simply email him with your idea. The next three meetings will feature programs by COM Hank Hammonds, COM Dr. Luke Lucas, COM Paul Whately. Programs are needed for meetings in September and the following months, except December.

COM Terrill Jones suggested an informational program by a member of the American Legion focused on the many historical pictures and displays on the walls of the meeting room.

COM Mitchell Moore suggested a program explaining the protocol for the wearing of SAR medals and insignia at SAR functions (but not in public, unless representing the SAR at certain events...it's complicated, hence the need for a program on protocol.) The rosette should be worn in public as often as possible to generate interest in the SAR. He pointed out that All Compatriots are encouraged to purchase and wear the SAR Badge available at the SAR online store.

<https://store.sar.org/sar-members-badge-p3.aspx> The rosette is never worn with the badge or medals.

Members are reminded that the Chapter has its own Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MGCSAR1776> and now a LinkedIn page; and also a video of highlights of this year as well as our webpage at <https://mgcsar.org/> .

Members are reminded about Youth Protection Certification and members can go to the website at: <https://www.sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training> . The online program is free and all members are encouraged to complete the program and be certified as soon as possible. It is required for anyone working in any way with youth.

A variety of online informational and orientation programs and courses are available via the SAR website at: <https://www.sar.org/courses/>

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. Links to the convention registration form and the hotel registration form are on our Chapter webpage.

COM Merrill presented a **Convention Report** detailing progress made and a schedule to get ready for the rapidly approaching MOSSAR Convention. A copy of the Report is attached. COM Rob Ingram has developed a Name-Tag prototype.

Laura DeVenney will coordinate decorations and will welcome assistance.

The Chapter also welcomes ideas for gifts to be given to National officers and their wives. perhaps something representative of the state or local community.

There will be presentations of awards for Public Service and Heroism at the Convention luncheon. Three local candidates for the Life Saving Commendation Medal have been identified. In September of 2022 at Central Methodist University, a basketball referee collapsed on the court and his heart stopped. Two college athletic trainers and one student performed life-saving CPR on the referee before he was transported to the hospital.

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 50-50 drawing for \$25 was picked by COM Wayne Merrill and was won by junior member Nicholas Barber, et al.

COM Paul Whately and COM Hank Hammons presided over the presentation to COM Bob Bartlett of the War Services Medal – WW II. COM Bartlett received the medal and framed certificate with his wife, Priscilla, and son, COM David Bartlett in attendance.

The next meeting of the M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR will be **March 16, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** at the American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://americanlegionpost202.org/>

There was no Color Guard; and the Stars and Stripes are permanently in place at the American Legion in each meeting room as well as our SAR flag.

The SAR recessional was then led by COM Paul Whately, followed by the closing prayer offered by Chaplain Hank Hammonds.

Meeting adjourned by President Hiles at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

Barber, Nicholas & Sarah	2
Bartlett, Bob & Priscilla	2
Bartlett, David	1
Blanco, Fred	1
Bradford, Bryan	1
Coutts, John	1
Hammons, Hank & Valerie	2
Hills, Alan & Waylene	2
Ingram Rob	1
Jones Terrill	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lee, Jm	1
Lucas, Luke	1
Merrill, Wayne	1
Miller, J. Y.	1
Moore, Mitchell & Sharon	2
Tuttle, Jym	1
Whaley, Paul	1
	23

Genealogy Report February 17, 2024

Approved:

At National

At State

Fred Bianco supplement

Working on: 3 applications

Jordan Shikles -out to be signed again

James Dixon – 2 b/c & 2 d/c will get soon

Melvin Gilbert – b/c & d/c contacted

Terrell Stamps – Primary documents

Tony Smee – connect 3 generaticns and one d/c

Brad Funk – one connection

Gary Fowler –Need one document

Johnny Hendren – one generational connection and one b/c

Christopher Mathis – working on

Charles Gilreath - have contacted

Will Sherman - have contacted

Craig Hosey - have contacted

Brian Philips – 2 emails Kohoka

Authur Dollins - waiting on lineage, not hopeful

Supplement for Blake Frevrt – one document reference

Donny Bryson - 9 documents

Pended: