

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR Minutes of Meeting 18 May 2024

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Hank Hammons at 9:04 a.m. at the Memorial Room of American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://americanlegionpost202.org/>

Vice-President Hammons reminded members of the books for sale at the book table.

Compatriot John Coutts announced that he had about a dozen Betsy Ross flags for members wishing to use them to decorate patriot gravesites on Memorial Day.

At 9:10, Vice-President Hammons announced a break for breakfast served in the ballroom. The menu was eggs, sausage, tater tots, mixed fruit, cinnamon roll bread, and beverages for \$10, paid individually by members.

Vice-President Hammons reconvened the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

There was no color guard. The American Flag and SAR flag is perpetually posted in the Memorial Room where we meet.

COM Samuel Thomas offered the opening prayer.

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

A total of 23 members and guests were in attendance. Vice-President Hammons recognized guests in attendance which included many members' wives, Val Hammons, Ruth Miller, Stephanie Thomas, Emma Jo Raines, Katherine Lucas, Sarah Barber and Mary Miller. Other guests included junior member Nicholas Barber's mother Sarah and MSG's Special Friend, Dr. William Krause.

Birthdays this month included Mary Miller on May 4, Sharon Campbell-Moore on May 5, and COM Robert "Bob" Bartlett on this day, May 18, celebrating his 99th birthday.

Anniversaries included Stephanie and COM Samuel Thomas (55) and COM J. Y. Miller and Mary (54). Notable dates – This day was Armed Forces Day. Memorial Day is May 27, 2024.

The Charter was draped in honor of COM Zachery Fletcher. COM J. Y. Miller noted that COM Fletcher died at the age of 28 on December 22, 2023. COM Fletcher stood 6' 8" tall, was an Eagle Scout and graduate of Columbia Hickman High School, earned a BA from the University of Missouri, and in 2019 married Christina Rees, who survives. A sales manager for the family business, he was also the grandson of MGC's "Special Friend" Dr. William Krause. COM Fletcher's obituary is on the webpage is at: <http://mgcsar.org/bioZRF.html>

COM J. Y. Miller presented the program entitled, “MGC Necrology Report.” COM J. Y. Miller made use of the American Legion’s innovative big screen television to post pictures of members of the M. Graham Clark Chapter who are now deceased. The webpage contains detailed obituaries of each deceased member at <http://mgcsar.org/memorial19.html>.

COM J. Y. Miller gave a brief biographical narrative of each deceased member and noted that by doing so they “continue to live in our memories.” Many of the members present also shared some tidbits and short stories of our deceased compatriots they personally knew.

COM Moore announced the minutes of the previous meeting are on the webpage. He asked members if they had any corrections. None heard. COM Paul Whatley moved to accept the report. COM J. Y Miller seconded. Motion carried.

COM John Coutts announced that COM Fred Bianco’s supplemental is at National. COM Coutts has 17 contacts in process. Gary Fowler’s application is at State. COM Mitchell Moore moved to accept the report. COM Paul Whatley seconded.

COM Russell DeVenney gave members a copy of the Treasurer’s Report and a Final 26 & 27 April 2024 Convention Report (attached) noting that we came out with a profit of over \$600 which he moved we donate to the Missouri SAR to be used together with nearly \$800 raised via donations towards the purchase of an artifact (a Revolutionary War “rundlet” canteen owned by Col. William Falkner of Walkkill, Ulster County, New York) for the SAR Education Center & Museum. COM J. Y. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried. The artifact can be found here: <https://bird1759antiques.com/stock/ols/products/xn--revolutionary-war-rundlet-canteen-owned-by-col-6q42aubwilliam-falkner-1746-1831-of--walkkill-ulster-county-ny>

The Convention Report lists the 22 MGC members who attended and/or volunteered at the Convention with a brief description of their contributions. The Chapter is grateful for their support. The Convention was a great success.

COM J. Y. Miller read a message he received from the new MOSSAR State President

“ Please accept my congratulations to the M. Graham Clark Chapter upon reaching its 43rd anniversary on April 25, 2024. The chapter has a long and honored history of excellence in the Missouri Society and I look forward to seeing that continue. Also, please pass along my most sincere appreciation for the hard work put into hosting the annual conference last weekend. I shall remember it for many years!

Walter E. (Gene) Henry, President, Missouri SAR”

Treasurer Russell DeVenney moved to update the authorized signers for the Chapter's accounts at First State Bank and Central Bank. COM Bryan Bradford moved that the new signers be COM John Coutts, COM Paul Whatley, and COM Russell DeVenney. COM Charlie Lee seconded. Motion carried.

A conference call was made during the meeting to wish COM Robert "Bob" Bartlett a happy 99th birthday. When COM Bartlett was contacted at home, Chapter members and guests sang a rousing rendition of the song "Happy Birthday" and COM Bob Bartlett was delighted and thanked the Chapter members. A birthday card signed by Chapter members and guests was also sent to COM Bartlett through his son, COM David Bartlett.

Vice-President Hammons announced the Chapter made \$8 from the book table this day.

COM J. Y. Miller moved that Samuel Thomas be elected Chaplain for the Chapter and COM Russell DeVenney seconded. Motion carried.

COM Russ DeVenney formally inducted COM Samuel Thomas as the Chapter's new Chaplain.

COM Charlie Lee moved the Chapter take its usual 3-month summer hiatus and not meet in June, July, and August of this year. COM David Bartlett seconded. Motion carried.

To demonstrate our appreciation for how very well we have been treated by the American Legion Post 202, the members discussed purchasing for them a new coffee urn for brewing and dispensing coffee. COM John Coutts moved that we do so, and COM Paul Whatley seconded. Motion carried.

The **Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal** was awarded to **Compatriots John Coutts, J. Y. Miller, and Russell DeVenney**, "in recognition of Outstanding Personal Contribution in support of the activities of the Sons of the American Revolution."

The medals were presented by COM Paul Whatley and Vice-President Hank Hammons.

COM Paul Whatley received the 250th Anniversary Achievement Medal for services performed as part of the 250th Anniversary Committee program.

More information about the program and how a member can earn the medal can be found online at <https://america250sar.org/> and at <https://mossar.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/250th-Medal-Information.pdf> ; or by contacting COM Whatley.

Elected at the Chapter's previous meeting, Vice-President Hank Hammons and Treasurer Paul Whatley were formally inducted into office and administered the oath by COM Russell DeVenney.

COM David Bartlett announced that on Memorial Day, May 27, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. he will represent the Chapter and lay a wreath at the annual ceremony at the Boone County Courthouse Plaza. The Boone County, Missouri Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony is an annual event held to honor fallen military personnel. All members are welcome to join COM Bartlett and attend the ceremonial.

The 50-50 drawing for \$10 was picked by Dr. William Krause and was won by COM Terrill Jones.

COM Bryan Bradford and his friend are moving to Kansas this summer and COM Bradford addressed the Chapter to bid farewell. COM Bradford expressed his appreciation for his time with the Chapter, which began in 2002. COM Bradford served as Chapter President in 2004.

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.

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.

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

Of further interest may be the Official Handbook of the SAR, updated in 2022: <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/NSSAR-Handbook-Volume-IV-06-Feb-2022.pdf>

Our Chapter website is at: <http://www.mgcsar.org/>

The next meeting of the M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR will be **September 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** at the American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://mgcsar.org/legion.html>

The SAR recessional was then led by COM J. Y. Miller, followed by the closing prayer offered by Chaplain Samuel Thomas.

Meeting adjourned by Vice-President Hammons at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

RSVP 18 MAY	
Barber, Nicholas & Sarah	2
Bartlett, David	1
Bradford, Bryan	1
Coutts, John	1
DeVenney, Russ	1
Duncan, Victor	1
Hammons, Hank & Val	2
Inghram, Rob	1
Jones, Terrill	1
Krause, William	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lucas, Luke & Kathy	0
Miller, J. Y. & Mary	2
Miller, Raymond & Ruth	2
Moore, Mitchell	1
Raines, Virgil & Emma Jo	2
Thomas, Samuel & Stephanie	2
Whatley, Paul	1
	23



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

FINAL
26 & 27 April 2024 Convention Report

16 May 2024

All indications are that the Conference was a resounding success. Both SG Addington and SCD VPG Hulse announced that this was the 'best' State Convention they had experienced this year.

[Costs]

[I] *Statistically, the attendance was comparable to our 'estimated' projections. However, two factors affected the Projected Income.*

(A) *Although we had 152 Members & Guests in attendance, many of the Attendees did not Register for 'all' of the meals.*

(B) *Free Meals for the Guests at the Saturday Awards Banquet have always be difficult to project. Over the years it has been standard practice that Host Chapters expense the Award Recipient and one guest. Additional guests of the Recipient were paid for by the Chapter Sponsor or the Family of the Recipient. The guests of the attendees this year were not fully known until as late as Friday night. I made the decision to just absorb the excess guests rather than track down reimbursements, even though some Chapters offered to help with the costs.*

[II] *We confirmed that the Hotel Room Charges and Banquet Pricing was correct at the time Wayne and I settled up with Courtyard. The Hotel was very accommodating and very conservative with their charges for Audio / Visual equipment and the Beverage Station. They bent over backwards to help us throughout the weekend.*

[Revenue]

[I] *We projected as many as (50) SAR Members paying a \$45 Registration Fee. However, many of the SAR Members did not purchase a 'full registration' {all of the meals}. However, we did receive (65) SAR Registration Fees at \$45 each which did help with our Actual Revenue.*

[II] *We received Patron Donations of \$795.00. The Donations in excess of the Cost remains at \$744.75. So, in compliance with the Registration Form, Wayne and I are recommending that MGC add money to the \$744.75 and purchase an Archival Revolutionary War 'item' for the SAR Education Center and Museum.*

NOTE: I have already furnished our Planning Information, Projected Estimates and our Final Income and Expense Items to the Fernando de Leyba Chapter who will host next April. Wayne and I will make ourselves available to assist them.

We would like to thank the following members who Registered for the Conference, attended at least (1) meal or came to just volunteer Friday and Saturday:

1. Nicholas Barber (assisted as bugler for the “*Missing Man Table Presentation*”) and is Grandmother Grovене Henderson.
2. John Coutts (assisted with the Registration Table) and wife Linda (assisted with decorations and Auxiliary)
3. Russ DeVenney (Co-Chairman and presented the EMS Commendation) Co-President Bev Hagenhoff and helped with the Auxiliary.)
4. Hank Hammons (assisted with the Registration Table) and wife Valerie (assisted with decorations and Auxiliary)
5. Alan Hiles (Co-Host) and MGC 1st Lady Waylene
6. Charles Lee (Sent handwritten notes to Patron Contributors and assisted with the Registration Table) and wife Carol (assisted with decorations and Auxiliary)
7. Wayne Merrill (Co-Chairman and presented handmade flowers to our Guests Rooms and presented books about the *Battle of San Carlos* to the SG & VPG)
8. J. Y. Miller (conducted “*Missing Man Table Presentation*” and (assisted with the Registration Table) and wife Mary
9. Raymond Miller and wife Ruth (assisted with decorations and Auxiliary)
10. Mitchell Moore (Presented the Life Saving Commendation) and wife Sharon (assisted with decorations and Auxiliary)
11. Blair Pickard (assisted with the Registration Table all day Saturday)
12. Samuel Thomas (assisted with the Registration Table all day Friday)
13. Billie Voight (registered but did not attend)
14. Rob Ingram (Printed) ‘all’ of the Name tags. He (Printed) the Place Names for the Head Table. (Many times during the Conference he returned to his office to make corrections or duplicates of Name Tags or Place Names for the Head Table.) Rob also furnished his own Projector, Screen, and Microphones & Speakers for the entire Conference which saved several hundred dollars.

Thank You All!

Russ DeVenney & Wayne Merrill