

Minutes of Meeting 26 October 2024

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Hiles at 8:53 a.m. at the Ballroom of American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://americanlegionpost202.org/>

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

COM Hank Hammons offered the opening prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Hiles. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM Mitchell Moore.

A total of 26 members and guests were in attendance (see appended list).

Guests were introduced and included wives Waylene Hiles, Linda Cotts, Ruth Miller, Cindy Voight, and Cheryl Bland. New inductee Matthew Forney was present with his wife, Donna, daughter Annabelle, and grandchildren Tiana and Keelan. Future member Kevin Summers was present with his wife Levina. COM Billy Voight's wife Cindy and their son Adam was also present.

COM Dale Bland was welcomed back after being unable to attend due to health issues. COM Bland expressed his appreciation for the supportive wishes he received from members during his absence.

At 9:06, President Hiles announced a break for breakfast served in the ballroom. The menu was French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, Mandarin oranges, yogurt, pastries, and beverages for \$12, provided by the VFW and paid individually by members.

President Hiles reconvened the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

Notable dates – October 19, 1781, the British surrendered at Yorktown.

COM Billy Voight, a member of the Chapter's color guard, in authentic Colonial militia uniform, began by quoting the opening of Longfellow's famous poem The Midnight Ride. <https://www.paulreverehouse.org/longfellows-poem/>

COM Voight's presentation detailed the collective effort of Paul Revere and other patriots to sound the alarm as the British marched to Lexington and Concord to capture "rebel leaders" and destroy the colonists' store of arms.

Using a detailed map of the Boston area, and pictures of the patriots sought by the British, COM Voight recounted the British plan and the response of the patriot militia.

The British were the best trained and equipped army in the world at the time. The colonial militia, whom one British general referred to as “peasants,” had training as well and were better organized and prepared for the action than the British expected.

COM Voight recounted some little-known facts, including that Paul Revere was one of the men who hung the lanterns in the Old North Church.

Another little-known fact was that multiple riders rode to warn the colonists of the British advance on Lexington and Concord on April 18, 1775, including Paul Revere, William Dawes, Samuel Prescott, Israel Bissell, Sybil Ludington, and two riders whose names are unknown who may have been captured by the British and summarily executed.

COM Voight traced the routes they took, recounted how some had been captured, some may have been captured and executed, all contributed in helping the patriots achieve on that date a stunning victory over the best army in the world.

COM Voight’s presentation well-received and extremely informative.

Matthew Fornay was inducted as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. COM Fornay was sworn in by M. Graham Clark Chapter President Hiles and sponsored by COM Coutts, in the presence of COM Fornay’s wife, daughter, and two grandchildren. Wife, Donna Fornay pinned on his rosette.

COM Fornay expressed his gratitude to COM Coutts for his assistance in seeing his application approved.

COM Moore announced the minutes of the previous meeting are on the webpage. There were two corrections. COM J.Y. Miller moved to accept the report. COM Raymond Miller seconded. Motion carried.

COM John Coutts announced newly inducted Matthew Fornay’s application had been approved. Five applications have been sent to National for approval. Gary Fowler and Kevin Summer have applications at State. Eight other applications are in earlier stages of the process.

The 50-50 drawing for \$7 was picked by COM Dayton Shepard and was won by COM Hank Hammons. COM J. Y. Miller will not be present for the November due to a commitment to present his Battle of Glasgow Program to the DAR Chapter in Moberly. With no volunteers to run the drawing in November, it was announced that for November only, the drawing will not be held.

On Nov. 2nd 2024 the DAR will work with the MO. Dept. of Conservation and Arrow Rock State Park officials to help restore 1800 trees on a trail in Arrow Rock. The Columbian DAR chapter is inviting us to assist with this Service project.

All tasks are supervised and managed by the experts (Dept. of Conservation and MO. Conservation Corp). They show us what to do. The Trail Service project is from 1-5pm on Nov. 2nd. Participants do not have to stay the whole time.

Permanent displays at the Missouri History Museum will include a variety of programs and reenactments. <https://mohumanities.org/event/museum-of-missouri-military-history-10th-anniversary/2024-11-02/>

COM J. Y. Miller reminded members of the need for members to RSVP for meetings and the process to do so in response to the meeting notice sent by email. This assists in giving the American Legion Auxiliary information in planning to have enough food for breakfast and to help us provide the information included on our minutes. COM David Bland was thanked for being the first to RSVP, even ahead of J.Y.

The Chapter needs to designate a member with the task of keeping track of points.

For the November meeting, COM Hank Hammonds will give a presentation on the Arabia, a side-wheeler steamboat that sank in the Missouri River, on September 5, 1856, and was rediscovered in 1988 by a team of local researchers in what became Kansas City, Kansas.

COM J.Y. Miller will give a presentation at the December meeting entitled, "Silent Night."

We need a program for the January Meeting.

The March meeting will include a visit by State President Gene Henry and his address will be our program, along with our vote on new officers.

The February meeting will include the installation of new officers, who will officially begin their terms at the March meeting.

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We also need programs for the April & May Meetings.

President Hiles reminded members that Election Day is November 5, 2024.

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 November 23, 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 meeting will be on the 4th Saturday of the month rather than the 3rd Saturday of the month because the 3rd Saturday was booked by the American Legion prior to the Chapter’s beginning to meet at the American Legion Post 202.

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

The SAR recessional was then led by COM Mitchell Moore followed by the closing prayer offered by COM J.Y. Miller.

Meeting adjourned by President Hiles at 10:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

RSVP	26 Oct 24
NAME	MEALS
Bland,David & Cheryl	2
Coutts, John & Linda	2
Forney, Matthew & amily	6
Hammons, Hank	1
Hiles, Alan & Waylene	2
Inghram, Rob	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lee, Jlm	1
Lucas, Luke Wilson	1
Miller, J. Y.	1
Miller, Ray & Ruth	2
Moore, Mittchell	1
Shepard, Dayton	1
Summers, K. L. & Levina	2
Voight, Billy & Cindy + Adam	3
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