

Minutes of Meeting 19 April 2025

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR

The meeting this day was called to order by President Hank Hammons at 9:02 a.m. in the Memorial Room 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. COM Wayne Merrill offered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Randy Palmer. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM Ewell Lawson.

A total of 21 members and guests were in attendance. (See appended list) There were 18 meals served.

Guests were introduced and included wives Ruth Miller, Val Hammons, Linda Coutts, Leslie Fowler, Kathryn Lucas, junior member Nicholas Barber and his grandmother, Grovone, to be inducted as member Kevin Summer, his wife Levina and daughter Brittany, and Special Friend Dr. William Krause.

President Hammons welcomed all guests and thanked COM Randall Palmer for bringing cupcakes and cookies. COM Palmer also brought a bottle of Kentucky Bourbon to be raffled off for the Chapter. COM Russ DeVenney sent challenge coins for fund-raising from the estate of deceased member Dr. Floyd Harold Shrader.

At 9:07, President Hammons announced a break for breakfast served in the ballroom. The menu was pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and beverages for \$12, and paid individually by members.

President Hammons reconvened the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

COM Dr. Luke Lucas presented the program on the Boston Massacre which occurred on March 5, 1770.

COM Lucas relied on the research and the book *Boston Massacre* written by judge/author Hiler b. Zobel https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiller_B._Zobel

Described as an “affray” that ended in the deaths of five Bostonians, the Captain in charge of the troops concluded that the soldiers panicked, the victims were troublemakers who got more than they deserved.”

COM Lucas detailed the tensions leading up to the affray: Irish Catholic troops stationed in a heavily Protestant Boston to enforce unpopular laws and a series of minor interactions, insults, and fisticuffs which steadily escalated over months’ time.

Eventually, emotions boiled on the evening of March 5, and riotous behavior by the colonists grew against the Captain Preston and seven soldiers who faced them and in the confusion snowballs, ice and oyster shells were thrown at the soldiers who had standing orders not to fire. Taunting of the troops escalated and a large crowd had gathered. Then a British soldier was hit by a large piece of cordwood thrown at him causing him to go to his knees and his gun discharged, probably intentionally. The word “fire” was heard (perhaps Captain Preston said, “Don’t fire!” although the crowd were yelling “fire” as they taunted the troops... and the troops discharged their weapons killing 5 and wounding others. In the aftermath, both sides used the media with the British referring to the event as an “incident” and the colonists calling it a “massacre”.

The matter was thoroughly investigated and the soldiers charged with murder. Scores of depositions were taken, and John Adams represented the soldiers because he believed everyone deserves a fair trial. Adams remarked that even 50 years later, some Americans considered him an enemy for acting as the defense attorney for the soldiers.

The jury trial resulted in the acquittal of 6 of the 8 soldiers. Two soldiers were convicted of manslaughter for firing into the crowd and given light sentences given the riotous nature of the crowd putting the soldiers in fear for their safety. All of the accused were in jail some seven months awaiting trial.

The Boston Massacre was perhaps the seminal moment that turned a large number of colonists against the British Crown.

The members applauded the presentation by COM Lucas.

A detailed timeline: <https://historyofmassachusetts.org/boston-massacre-timeline/> and more information at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boston_Massacre

The sister of Lori Mayes, manager of American Legion Post 202, was killed in a traffic accident. Members signed a card to be sent to Lori.

COM Robert Bartlett looks forward to his 100th birthday on May 18, the day after our next meeting. COM Robert Hill has a birthday this month.

The 250th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord is April 19, 2025, on the day of this meeting.

The 50-50 drawing, drawn by Val Hammons, the \$12 was won by COM Raymond Miller.

A bottle of bourbon, donated by COM Randy Palmer, was won by COM Hank Hammons. The Chapter received \$25.00 for the drawing.

Kevin Summer was inducted as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. COM Summers was sworn in by President Hank Hammons and sponsored by COM John Coutts. COM Summers gave brief remarks thereafter and was accompanied by his wife Levina and his daughter Brit, a member of the DAR.

Treasurer Paul Whatley was absent and there was no Treasurer's report.

Secretary Mitchell Moore announced the minutes of the previous meeting are on the webpage. No corrections were suggested by members. COM J. Y. Miller moved the minutes be approved. COM Ray Miller seconded. Motion passed.

Genealogist COM John Coutts updated membership on the progress of several applications. A detailed Genealogy Report of April 19, 2025 is attached.

President Hammons related that he has worked recently with COM Fred Bianco and have prepared awards to be sent out to MU's Air Force, Army, and Navy ROTC programs and an award to a recipient in Moberly in a Junior ROTC program.

COM J. Y. Miller explained the requirement that all members complete the youth Protection program as soon as possible. It is online and takes about 20 minutes and the goal is to protect youth, local members, and the state organization.

Youth Protection Training is **REQUIRED** for any member who has any contact with youth relative to SAR and **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** for all members.. This protects both SAR and the youth that we serve. This is a link to that [policy](#) including Appendices A & B. This is a link to that [TRAINING](#) and the test. It does not take long to complete. Once you have completed the test and downloaded the completion certificate, send a copy of it to our Education Chairman, COM Randy Palmer. COM Palmer will maintain a file of completions and will notify the State Education Director. This certification is good for three years and must then be repeated.

Permission from parents must be obtained prior to using any picture or video of a minor. The Two-Deep Leadership Rule as used by the Scouts is adopted. Activities with minors present should have at least two adults present.

The May 17, 2025 meeting program will be a presentation by COM Mitchell More on the United States Constitution. The September 20, 2025 meeting will be a presentation by COM Charles Lee on his experiences in the military.

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.

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 **May 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.** at the American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Columbia, MO 65201: <http://mgcsar.org/legion.html>

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

The closing prayer offered by President Hammons. The SAR recessional was then led by Junior Member Nicholas Barber.

Meeting adjourned by President Hammons at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore

Secretary

MGC - SAR. April 2025	
Barber, Nicholas & Grovene	
Coutts, John & Linda	
Fowler, Gary & Leslie	
Hammons, Hank & Valerie	
Hill, Robert	
Inghram, Rob	
Krause, William	
Lawson, Ewell	
Lee, Charlie	
Lee, Jim	
Lucas, Luke & Kathryn (only 1 meal)	
Merrill, Wayne	
Miller, J. Y.	
Miller, Ray & Ruth	
Moore, Mitchell	
Palmer, Randy (NO EAT)	
Summer, K.L. & Levina & Brit (only No meals)	

Genealogy Report April 19, 2025

Approved:

At National

Mark Scheiderer 4-11-25

Matt Freihofer 4-11-25

Fred Bianco supplement 2-21-24

John Coutts supplement 3-26-25

At State

Working on several applications

Johnny Hendren – 2 b/c & order one d/c

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

Tony Smee – connect 3 generations and one d/c

Christopher Mathis – 2 connections

Jim Clark new, have contacted, one reply

Chris Beckett new, have contacted, no reply

Christopher Overly-McDowell, one reply

Nick Richards, have contacted, no reply

Dennis Kidwell, contacted, no reply

Supplement for Blake Frevert – one connection

Brad Funk – one connection brick wall

Pended: