

Minutes of Meeting 18 January 2025

M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Hiles at 9:00 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 as Chaplain Sam Thomas was absent due to illness. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Mitchell Moore. The Pledge to the SAR was led by COM Hank Hammons.

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

Guests were introduced and included wives Waylene Hiles, Ruth Miller, Leslie Fowler, Ruanne Stamps, Sharon Campbell-Moore, and junior member Nicholas Barber and his grandmother Grovone Henderson.

At 9:05, President Hiles announced a break for breakfast served in the ballroom. The menu was scrambled eggs, hash browns, sausage, bacon, scones and muffins, fruit, and beverages for \$12, and paid individually by members.

President Hiles reconvened the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

President Hiles had a birthday on January 12.

COM Merrill, will attend the State meeting next week. President Hiles may also attend.

The 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, died on December 29, 2024. President Carter was a member of the SAR.

The 45th President of the United States, Donald Trump, will be inaugurated as the 47th President of the United States on January 20, 2025.

President Alan Hiles gave a presentation on James Reese Europe and the Harlem Hellfighters.

An early Ragtime band leader at the turn of the century, Europe played multiple times at Carnegie Hall and helped popularize “Negro” music and earned the title “Jazz King”.

Lieutenant James Reese Europe was also the first African-American to lead troops in combat, the “Harlem Hellfighters,” who served with distinction in France and popularized American music on the Continent.

There are many Youtube videos of James Reese Europe including one by LT Europe and the Harlem Hellfighters, Missouri Blues: <https://duckduckgo.com/?t=ffab&q=james+reese+europe+youtube&atb=v383-1&iax=videos&ia=videos&iai=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DpFK-UPdikSs>

COM Paul Whatley gave a report that included suggestions for community service by the Chapter and its members, including the VA's need for volunteers and a Trivia Night fundraiser on April 5.

COM Whatley suggested that the Chapter has sufficient funds to pay \$1,000 for a Life Membership as a Friend of the SAR Genealogical Research Library. A motion to approve that had been tabled and COM Charlie Lee moved to take it from the table. COM J. Y. Miller seconded. Motion passed.

COM Moore moved the Treasurer's report be approved. COM J. Y. Miller seconded. Motion passed.

COM 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 Charlie Lee seconded. Motion passed.

COM John Coutts announced that three new members have been approved and we are awaiting their certificates. The new members are Terrell Stamps, Ewell Lawson, and Damien Wilhelm. Three other applications are pending at National for approval. Supplementals, however, are far behind.

The 50-50 drawing, drawn by COM Merrill, for \$9 was won by COM Hank Hammons.

We need FOGG and Americanism Chairmen. The Executive Committee will meet after the February meeting to name chairmen.

COM J. Y. Miller moved, and COM David Bartlett seconded that the slate of officers for next year be to be voted on during the February meeting. They are as follows:

President – COM Hank Hammons; **Vice-President** – COM Rob Ingram; **Secretary** – COM Mitchell Moore; **Executive Secretary** – COM Paul Whatley - DECLINED, COM Terrell Stamps nominated from floor.; **Treasurer** – COM Paul Whatley ; **Genealogist/Registrar** – COM John Coutts; **Historian** – COM Charlie Lee; **Chaplain** – COM Samuel Thomas; **Sergeant-at-Arms** – COM James Lee And appointed positions include: **Webmaster** – COM J. Y. Miller; **Trustees** – COM Charlie Lee, COM David Bartlett, and COM Alan Hiles

COM Paul Whatley declined to serve as Executive Secretary. COM Terrell Stamps was nominated for the office of Executive Secretary and the revised slate was approved

The membership will vote on the new slate of officers at the February 15, 2025 meeting.

At least one new member will be inducted at the February meeting. The election and installation will be the February program.

The March 15, 2025 meeting program will be a presentation by State President Gene Henry.

The April 18, 2025 meeting program will be presented by COM Luke Lucas. The May 17, 2025 meeting is open at this time.

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 **February 15, 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 National Flag, Missouri Flag, and the SAR flag currently displayed in the meeting room are the property of the M. Graham Clark Chapter.

The SAR recessional was then led by COM Paul Whatley followed by the closing prayer offered by Past Chaplain Merrill.

Meeting adjourned by President Hiles at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

RSVP 18 JAN 2025	
Barber, Nicholas & Grovone H.	2
Coutts, John	1
Fowler, Gary & Leslie	2
Hammons, Hank	1
Hiles, Alan & Waylene	2
Inghram, Rob	1
Lee, Charlie	1
Lee, Jim	1
Lucas, Luke	1
Merrill, Wayne	1
Miller, J. Y.	1
Miller, Raymond & Ruth	2
Moore, Mitchell & Sharon	2
Stamps, Terrell & Ruanne	2
Whatley, Paul	1
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