

## Minutes of Meeting 18 April 2026

### M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR

The meeting was called to order by President Hank Hammons at 9:00 a.m. in the Memorial Room of American Legion Post 202. There was 27 members and guests present (see appended list).

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by COM Jim Koppenaar. The Pledge to the SAR was led COM Jim Lee. Chaplain Samuel Thomas offered the opening prayer.

COM Billy Voight and COM Mitchell Moore attended in uniform.

At 9:03, President Hammons announced a break for breakfast served in the ballroom. It was VFW Pancake Day. The menu consisted of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and beverages for \$16, paid individually by members. President Hammons reconvened the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

President Hammons informed members that the SAR monthly magazine is going “digital only” and will no longer be mailed to members, except by email.

President Hammons informed members that there is no dress code for meetings and casual dress to the meetings is perfectly acceptable. Some members wear a coat and tie, etc., but the main thing we want from members is their presence. As always, members with uniforms are encouraged to wear those to meetings.

Guests were introduced and included COM Nicholas Barber’s grandmother, Grovone and wives Ruanne Stamps, Ruth Miller, Linda Coutts, Carol Lee, and Stephanie Thomas.

The wife of former Chapter president Keith Roys passed away recently. COM Paul Whatley’s wife Donna received some good news on her recent medical tests. COM Jim Koppenaar will have heart surgery in a few weeks. COM Terrill Jones and his wife, Debbie, are both dealing with health issues.:

April 19, 2026 is the 251<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord...the beginning of major hostilities between Great Britain and its American colonies.

COM Coutts, in uniform, Linda Coutts, and COM J.Y. Miller attended the ROTC Ball sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Boonville, Missouri where they presented a SAR medal to a distinguished Cade Zeke Lyons.

The Missouri State Convention will be in Springfield April 24-25 and will be attended by COM Wayne Merrill.

The Chapter’s Friend, Dr. William J. Krause, was recognized for his extraordinary contributions and consistent generosity and support for the Chapter. In appreciation, Dr. Krause was given large book of illustrations on the American Revolution.

The program for the day was a presentation by COM Paul Whatley on the Use of Artificial Intelligence for Genealogy Research.

COM Whately showed how quickly and easily some AI programs can trace ancestry, catch mistakes and inconsistencies and very much simplify or at least greatly aid the process of tracing one's ancestors. COM Whately's AI program of choice is ChatGTP, although there are others. The AI programs can also do amazing things with family photo collections.

COM Robert Hill reported on his recent trip to the SAR's Headquarters and Library in Louisville, Kentucky. Although he intended to use the library to do research for his supplementals, he found the books and displays in the library so fascinating that he gave up on the research and just spent all 7 hours there just enjoying the books and displays. The museum displays are still being developed and the SAR hopes to have it ready to open to the public by the end of this summer or early this fall.

Color Guard Commander William Voight reported on upcoming events including the planting of a Liberty Tree (a native elm tree) in Fayette, MO on May 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. and an event in Moberly on June 26, and a wreath-laying in Boonville on May 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cooper County Courthouse. COM Whately moved for approval of the Color Guard report. COM Coutts seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Paul Whately reported on the accounts. And he updated the Chapter on COM Bob Bartlett's Life Membership being completed. It was also reported that memberships for COMs George Holmes and Larry Dietzel have been reinstated. COM Moore moved the report be approved. COM J.Y. Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary Mitchell Moore thanked COM Charles Lee and COM Drayton Shepherd for filling in for him the past two meetings and complimented them on the manner and styled in which they did the minutes. The minutes were posted on the webpage. No corrections were suggested by members. COM J. Y. Miller moved the minutes be approved. COM Coutts seconded. Motion carried.

Genealogist COM John Coutts updated membership on the progress of several applications, with that of Craig Jones' application and Clark Mershon's applications being approved. COM Jim Koppenaar has two supplements. Applications for Michael Treasure and Stephen Treasure are ready for their signatures. A detailed Genealogy Report of Genealogy Report April 18, 2026 is was presented.

COM More moved the Genealogist Report be approved. COM Charles Lee seconded. Motion carried.

It was agreed by the membership that we should plan on our normal 3-month hiatus June through August and no special meeting was needed prior to the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence because there would be special activities at the American Legion on July 4, 2026.

Craig Jones was inducted as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Sworn in by President Hammons, COM Riley was sponsored by COM his father-in-law. COM Jones' patriot ancestor is Daniel Boone.

The 50-50 drawing of \$13 was won by COM Samuel Thomas.

The Program for May 16, 2026 will be by Color Guard Commander, COM William Voight giving a presentation on James Madison and the First Amendment.

The next meeting of the M. Graham Clark Chapter of the SAR will be May 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the American Legion Post 202 located at 3669 Legion Lane, Colpumbia, MO 65201: <http://mgcsar.org/legion.html> .

The SAR recessional was led by President Hammons. The closing prayer was then offered by Chaplain Samuel Thomas.

Meeting adjourned by President Hammons at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Moore, Secretary

Name	meals	uniform
Barber, Nicholas & Grovene	2	
Coutts, John & Linda	2	
Hammons, Hank	1	
Hill, Robert	1	
Jones, Craig	1	
Koppenaar, Jim	1	
Krause, William	1	
Lawson, Ewell	1	
Lee, Charles & Carol	2	
Lee, Jim	1	
Merrill, Wayne	1	
Miller, J. Y.	1	
Miller, Ray & Ruth	2	
Moore, Mitchell	1	Y
Palmer, Randy	1	
Riley, Charles	1	
Stamps, Terrell & Ruanne	2	
Summers, K. L. NO MEAL	0	
Thomas, Samuel & Stephanie	2	
Voight, Billy	1	
Whatley, Paul	1	Y
	26	

**Approved:**

Craig Jones

Clark Mershon

**At National**

James Koppenaal Supplement – Trull 10 Feb 2026

James Koppenaal Supplement - Bailey Jr 10 Feb 2026

Matthew Treasure – Yaden 17 Feb 2026

Stephen Treasure – Yaden 17 Feb 2026

**At State**

**Working on several applications**

**Jeffrey Davis**

Briar McClain – need one primary documents

Travis Barnes – will send info

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

Supplement for Blake Frevert – one connection

Brad Funk – one connection brick wall

**Pended:**