

**M. Graham Clark Chapter
Missouri Society
The Sons of the American Revolution
16 April 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Opening: The meeting was gaveled to order by President Chance at 8:37 a.m. The color guard presented the colors, after which COM Kerr as acting Chaplain gave the Invocation. COM Garland led the Pledge of Allegiance and COM Terrill Jones led the SAR Pledge.

There were 18 members and 12 visitors present for a total of 30. Visitors of note were: Judge Kevin Crane, the speaker of the program; his mother Laura Pace Crane, his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Robert and Connie Pugh; Alan Hiles, an applicant for membership and Liam VanCleve, COM DeVenney's 2 year old grandson.

President Chance asked if there were any birthdays to announce. COM Terrill Jones stated his birthday was coming up later in April.

At this time the meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m. for breakfast.

Reconvened/Genealogy Report: The meeting reconvened at 9:06 a.m. Since Nancy Thomas was going to leave to attend the Quilts for Valor program in Columbia, President Chance asked her to give the Genealogy Report. Mrs. Thomas stated that President Chance has 3 supplemental applications at National that are pended, COM Coutts has one supplemental application at National awaiting decision, Alan Hiles' new application is at the State Genealogist, Randall Meyer's new application is ready to sign and send in but he was ill today, Denis Grev's new application is almost finished (needing a couple things). COM Bartlett's supplemental is ready for him to sign and be sent in.

Roger Fries's new application is proving difficult to locate some marriage records for and Mrs. Thomas said Elaine Olson will be going to Utah in August and will try to locate these when she is there. COM Terrill Jones's supplemental has been sent to the State Genealogist, Kanoa Fujita's new application is almost completed. Mrs. Thomas further stated that Ken Anderson's new application is still being worked on. Some other possible applications coming up are: John Dorlock, Brad Harriman and Jason Miller.

Mrs. Thomas also gave seven more supplemental applications to President Chance to sign and send in.

Program: At this point, President Chance introduced Judge Kevin Crane, the speaker for the program. Judge Crane is the judge of the 13th Missouri Judicial Circuit, which includes both Boone and Callaway Counties. Judge Crane is alum of the University of Missouri, having both his undergraduate and law degrees from there. He graduated with his Juris Doctorate in 1987 and then worked as Assistant Missouri Attorney General, then Assistant Prosecutor of Boone County starting 1990 and becoming Prosecutor of Boone County in 1993. He was elected Judge in 2006 and is to be in that capacity until 2018.

Judge Crane's presentation was on the "Kingdom of Callaway". He stated by way of introduction that the 200th anniversary of the courthouse of Boone County was recently celebrated. He said the columns by the courthouse are from the old courthouse built in 1847. This one was torn down, not burned, in 1909. During the Civil War, the courthouse was the one where the columns are. He said the Tigers Union Camp was housed in that courthouse and at one point there were rumors that bushwhackers were going to come to try to burn down the courthouse. Attorney of the area, including Switzler dug a ditch around the courthouse to prevent burning wagons from being pushed into the courthouse, an activity he wonders if present-day members of the bar would do.

Judge Crane stated the 13th Missouri Judicial Circuit Court includes Boone and Callaway Counties. Present-day Callaway County has a population of about 45,000 people and Fulton has about 13,000 citizens. The county was named after James Callaway, a Missouri Ranger in the War of 1812. There has been talk of Callaway County seceding from the 13th district for some time, and, in fact, there is a bill in the Missouri House at present (HB2743) currently under discussion.

The information Judge Crane took this discussion from comes from a 1952 article written by Ovid Bell entitled "Kingdom of Callaway" which he got from the State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia. In 1861 when Fort Sumter was attacked there were mass meetings in Callaway County. There was much talk of Missouri seceding from the Union.

Callaway County was pro-South. In fact, Abraham Lincoln in the 1860 election received only 15 of the more than 2000 votes cast for United States President. Callaway County was pro-South, but was against going to war. The viewpoint was if Missouri left the Union, they would go along but not fight in the war. In October 1861 the "State Lunatic Asylum" (now the Mental Health Hospital) closed and all the patients were sent home. The "Deaf and Dumb Asylum" (now the School for the Deaf) closed. Westminster College also closed.

Word came that the Union soldiers from Montgomery County were coming to the county so Callaway County attorney Jefferson Jones from near Auxvasse got the word out to get a group of men together and camp at Brown's Spring which is on Auxvasse Creek. COM Lehenbauer stated he owns the land where this is located at, presently.

The group of men, which was comprised of mostly young boys and old men, since men of fighting age were gone to war, congregated as Jones called for. Jones took on the title of "Colonel" though he had no military experience. He was 43 years of age. There were between 250-300 men who showed up. Women from the area cooked for these attendees and also looked after the animals. The men camped under the open sky since this was an Indian Summer and weather was nice. The men who showed up had squirrel rifles, pistols, or showed up with no arms at all. There was no discipline and one attendee called it a "lark".

Meanwhile, in Montgomery County, Union General John B. Henderson was told that there were 1000 rebels encamped, ready to fight and that soon there would be 2000. He was told there were 4 canons there as well. In reality, there were "Quaker guns"—tree trunks made to look like canon.

So, Jones had 250-300 young boys and old men whereas Henderson thought he had 1000, and soon to be 2000 men ready to fight. Henderson then called for reinforcements. Jones, meanwhile, was turning people away. Among those he turned away was Robert Swinney from Renick who had 50 riders. Two other groups of Southern sympathizers from Boone County numbering from 50 to 600 left to take part of Jones's group and en route they stopped to "meditate" and after this "meditation" they turned back to Boone County.

The two groups in this standoff were about 3 miles apart. Jones sent a message to Henderson, with two messengers, stating basically, "If you leave, we will go home and we will keep our guns. We won't fight, just don't molest us. We don't wish to fight." Henderson was not there when the messengers arrived with this message and the other Union officers, thinking there were 2000 encamped under Jones were apprehensive and took the messengers into custody and sent for reinforcements. When Henderson found out about this, he let the messengers go but his actual reply to this message is not known. Jones addressed his people that the terms were accepted and there was a Jacob Mayfield who had sent whiskey there so Jones told his men to take a drink of whiskey and go home.

This was called the Birth of the kingdom of Callaway. They were truly detached from the Union but not an aggressive entity. But, the story does not end there. When word got out about all this, Henderson was called an idiot. The paperwork associated with the truce was lost and destroyed. Jones was taken prisoner in Mexico, Missouri and Henderson's men stayed on the Jones farm and ate all his food, took all his animals. Later, Jones, his wife and all 10 of their children were arrested and placed in prison in St. Louis and not released until July 1865—a full 2 months after the end of the Civil War.

Jones was eventually elected twice to the Missouri Legislature and tried unsuccessfully to have Frank and Jesse James and the Younger Brothers legislatively exonerated.

After the presentation, President Chance gave Judge Crane a 25 year membership certificate and pin.

50/50 Drawing: In an effort to bring in more funding, the chapter Executive Committee decided to start a 50/50 drawing at each meeting, wherein the winner gets 50% of the money brought in and the chapter gets 50%. The drawing was done and Ed and Nancy Thomas won. They instructed that the winnings they got be given back to the chapter, so the drawing brought in a grand total of \$86.00 this month.

Treasurer Report: President Chance then asked COM Dietzel to give the Treasurer's Report. COM Dietzel stated that as of 31 March 2016, the money in the M Graham Clark Endowment Fund was \$13,136.42, of which \$360.90 is in available funds.

He further stated that, as of 31 March 2016 the checking account had \$805.95. After expenses were paid between 31 March 2016 and 16 April 2016, the checking account balance was -\$3.37. He stated there would be further discussion in the meeting as to ways to alleviate this issue.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Secretary Report: President Chance called on COM Kerr to give the Secretary's Report. COM Kerr stated he was aware of one issue: the first name of Mr. Bill Krauses's wife is Winifred, not Irma. No other issues being noted, COM Miller moved and COM Coutts seconded that the Secretary Report be approved. Motion Carried.

Induction: COM Edward L. Hampton III was then called up to be inducted. He was sworn in and given a rosette by President Chance.

Alfred Jones: At this point President Chance called COM Alfred Jones to come up front. COM Jones was given a 20-year membership certificate and pin and also a Certificate of Distinguished Service for giving 13,996 actual man-hours volunteer service at the Harry S Truman VA Hospital.

ROTC Report: President Chance called on COM Albert "Buff" Chance to give the ROTC report. COM Chance stated he went to the University of Missouri awards ceremony where the following cadets were awarded SAR awards:

Cadet Jacob Thompson, United States Army
Cadet Robert Spalding, United States Air Force
Midshipman Matt Raithel, United States Navy

COM Chance stated the Dean of the Business School was the speaker and he was impressed with the ceremony and the excellence portrayed. COM Chance stated he would be following up with the Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, Missouri, once they are finished with their inspection they are presently undergoing.

Missouri State Officers from Chapter: President Chance then stated that the Missouri SAR State Convention is later this month and that COM Merrill is up for State 1st Vice-President and COM Dietzel is up for State Sgt. at Arms.

Flag Day Picnic: COM Lehenbauer stated there will be a Flag Day Picnic and Ceremony on Saturday, June 18, 2016 starting at 11:30 am, hosted by his daughter and son-in-law, Esther and Steve Rosner and the Jane Randolph Jefferson Chapter, DAR at the home of the Rosner's, 900 Esther Lane, Jefferson City MO. Bring a lawn chair if you have one. The phone number is 573-893-4328 and if there are questions or RSVP to jan.r.jefferson@gmail.com The Mayor of Jefferson City, Carrie Tergin, is invited, as are the Christopher Casey Chapter of SAR, the M Graham Clark Chapter, the Jefferson City Symphonic Band will provide patriotic music, and the American Heritage Girls—DAR and the Junior American Citizens Club are invited. Bring your spouse and friends.

Books for Schools: In the absence of Vice-President Reynolds, COM Miller presented the Books for Schools report. He stated that the chapter has spent about \$1500 on this project and it has been very well received by the 13 school districts we have been working with. We have covered Elementary Schools and started on Junior and Senior High Schools and the money has run out. That is why the 50/50 was done today and will be done in the future.

COM Coutts contributed another \$100, COM Miller and his wife Mary contributed \$200 and COM Merrill and his wife Pat contributed \$100. COM Kerr's sister Mary Ellen Kerr has contributed \$100.

COM Miller made the following report concerning the fiscal situation of the chapter:

“Our new Executive Committee met on Wednesday, 13 APR, to consider our current financial situation and other pending business.

Our funds are currently limited for several reasons:

1) For some time, we charged \$1.00 MORE for breakfast than the actual cost. When the Country Club raised our cost, we began to charge the actual amount of \$12.00.

We usually have several meals for which we do not charge – guests, program presenters, etc. This means that we have a loss for meals of \$12.00 to \$36.00 at every meeting.

2) We have begun some outreach programs that cost money. The Books For Schools has been very well received and is quite expensive. We have spent about \$1600.00 for the books donated so far. We have received \$640.00 in donations to this program as of last Wednesday. Several more donations have been received in the past few days, bringing the donation total to at least \$1000.00. We hope for more to come today. See below, more donations did come in.

3) We have had a record number of new members. That is wonderful, but there is a cost for record copies, ink and special paper plus postage to prepare their applications. We currently owe nearly \$200.00 for these and other reimbursable expenses. We might consider passing some of this cost onto the new member.

4) We give a number of awards, medals, and certificates. These have a significant cost. This recognition is important for Chapter public relations.

5) Our Treasurer reported at the beginning of the 16 APR 2016 meeting that our bank balance was -\$3.37. That is a negative balance!

We considered a number of plans to either reduce expenses or increase revenue. We would welcome additional suggestions. Let me stress that this financial situation is the result of our success, not our failures.

At the 16 APR meeting we began a 50-50 drawing, which is one way to raise, some money in what we hope is both fun and easy. Ed & Nancy Thomas won the drawing and their share was \$43.00. They donated it back to the chapter, so our account was advanced by \$86.00.

We also have recommended that we limit the book donations to three books per school. Also, our initial donations have covered most of the schools in our target area. These expenses will not continue at this rate.

We offer the opportunity for members and others to make additional donations to fund the books program. Donations so far have come from Jack and Buff Chance, Harold Kerr, Mary Ellen Kerr, Loren Reynolds, Russ DeVenney, Mary & J. Y. Miller. John Coutts, Wayne Merrill, Jesse Lybarger.

There are funds in our endowment fund. We are limited by our rules as to how much of these funds we can spend. Today we will ask you to approve a transfer of \$300.00 of these funds to our general fund. The motion was made by Russ DeVenney and approved without dissent.

We also propose an increase of \$1.00 for our breakfast charges. This will enable us to break even on our meal expenses, as it will cover the meals for our guests.

We will propose an increase of \$4.00 in our annual dues. This will raise the amount billed annually covering National, State, and local dues from \$61.00 to \$65.00.

These last two measures will be discussed and voted on at our May meeting and if passed will go into effect next September. This gives us the opportunity to announce the items to be voted on to the total membership a month in advance.

Your officers gave considerable time and discussion to these matters. We sincerely believe that the combination of these items will put us back on a stable financial footing while allowing us to serve our community and honor our heritage.

Presented at the 16 APR 2016 meeting by Past President J. Y. Miller on behalf of the Executive Committee”

COM DeVenney then made the motion, which was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting to “transfer \$300.00 from the MGC Money Market-Endowment Fund to the MGC Operating fund, to reimburse the MGC Operating Fund for school books that have been purchased to date.” COM Coutts seconded. President Chance asked for comment. There being none, President Chance asked for a vote and all present voted aye; none abstained or voted nay.

The issues of the increase of the cost of breakfast by \$1 and the increase of chapter dues by \$4 will be discussed in the May 2016 meeting. COM Kerr asked how long the chapter dues have been \$10 and was told at least 20 years by COM Alfred Jones.

Speakers Bureau: COM Coutts and COM DeVenney discussed the speaker’s bureau activities. To date there have been presentations made to Centralia, Westran, Hallsville, Columbia Grant Elementary schools. COM Coutts stated he has been in touch with Midway Elementary as well. COM Kerr mentioned that if there is press coverage for these, he needs a copy of the articles for the President General/Americanism Reports.

COM DeVenney mentioned that new members are encouraged to come see these in action and participate.

Closing: At this point, there being no further business, President Chance called on COM Kerr to give the Benediction and COM Stone to lead the SAR Recessional. The Color Guard then retired the colors.

Adjourned at 10:22 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold H. Kerr, II, Secretary
M Graham Clark Chapter
Missouri SAR