

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

Opening: The meeting was gavelled to order at 8:37am by President Chance. The Color Guard posted the colors and Chaplain Merrill gave the Invocation, COM Moreau led the Pledge of Allegiance and COM Jim lee led the SAR Pledge. There were 20 members and 8 visitors present, for a total of 28.

President Chance asked if there were any birthdays recently, COM Buff Chance stated his birthday was in October. President Chance asked if there reports for any ill members and none were reported. President Chance introduced Michael Breedlove, whose application was recently approved by National. He will be inducted when his certificate is received.

The meeting adjourned for breakfast at 8:42 a.m.

Reconvened: The meeting reconvened at 9:08 a.m. The 50/50 contest award winner was announced; COM Kerr was the winner. The 50/50 brought in \$28 so COM Kerr won \$14 and the chapter brought in \$14 clear.

President Chance asked COM DeVenney to introduce the speaker, COM Cliff Olson of the Christopher Casey Chapter in Jefferson City. COM Olson is a past President of MOSSAR and is the Chair of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolutionary War Committee.

COM Olson is a 1980 graduate of the University of Missouri and began his working career working for Missouri Representative Dan Ichord's staff in Jefferson City. He stated he had been thinking about writing a book wherein a conversation of sorts would be held between himself and Thomas Jefferson since about 1994. The problem was he had employment at the time that did not allow for external work of which writing this book would be classified. So, when his employment situation recently was such that he could do this, he began writing the book he has entitled, *Thomas Jefferson America, Please Listen*.

COM Olson quoted President John Kennedy when in 1962 he had several Nobel Prize winners to the White House and he said there had not been so much intelligence in the room they were in since Thomas Jefferson dined alone there. There are 27,000 Thomas Jefferson documents on the Library of Congress website.

COM Olson said Jefferson in 1804 had a pantograph which was the copy machine of the day and so his writing are copied and available. COM Olson read several of Jefferson's quotes which are in his book, and the tone and content of these quotes are such that one would think they are from today's society. These illustrates the issues of then are pretty much the same as they are now.

While Jefferson was President, the number of federal employees was halved. The aspect of Executive Authority was pretty much gotten rid of. Taxes were reduced and there was a system in place to pay off the Public Debt in 18 years.

One Executive Order Jefferson did utilize was the one that brought in the Louisiana Purchase. He was told he had no right to do this, but he was decisive because the concern was France had New Orleans which would not be in the interested of the United States. This gave America control of the Mississippi River and the French sold more land than he wanted so he decided to go ahead with it.

COM Olson stated that Jefferson and John Adams were in Europe when the Constitution was written but that Jefferson was a big supporter of the Bill of Rights. The 225th anniversary of the Bill of Rights is December 15, 2016. There were originally 12 Bills of Rights, but 10 were adopted. One that was not adopted at the original time became the 27th Amendment making it so that representatives cannot vote for pay raises for themselves. Another one that was not adopted never became adopted—apportionment—because it became antiquated.

Jefferson felt that only foreign items should be under federal government control and all other government should be locally controlled. He was most proud of being a founder of the University of Virginia, bringing Religious Freedom to Virginia, and being a founder of America.

Jefferson brought about the legal importation of slaves into Virginia and the Northwest Territory, which was comprised of present-day Ohio and new states.

COM Olson had several copies of his book for sale and several members purchased copies. It also is available on Amazon.com.

At the end of the presentation, President Chance gave COM Olson a Certificate of Appreciation.

Reports:

Secretary Report: The Secretary Report was approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dietzel reported the Operations Account has \$1,889.13, of which \$583.67 is in the School Book Library Fund. The Endowment Fund has a balance of \$12,840.19, of which \$63.49 is in available funds. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Eagle Scout: Com Jim Lee reported he is distributing 56 certificates of participation and the winner will be at the March 2017 meeting.

ROTC: COM Buff Chance is working with Mexico Military Academy and the University of Missouri on this project, which is coming along well.

Color Guard: COM Merrill reported that he, COM Lybarger, and COM DeVenney went to Rolla on 5 November 2016 for the Veterans Monument Park dedication. He also reminded the chapter of the Christmas Tree lighting at the DAR House at Roslyn Heights in Boonville, Missouri on 4 December 2016. There also is the Wreaths Across America being held on 17 December 2016 in Jefferson City. COM Olson said he will get the information about the time to COM Merrill.

COM Merrill stated he was at a grave marking in Wallard Missouri for a Patriot who was the last surviving Patriot in Missouri to die, after the Civil War. COM Kerr asked COM Merrill to give him the information on this for the Americanism/President General Streamer Report.

Genealogy Report: President Chance asked Nancy Thomas to give the Genealogy Report. She stated the following Supplemental Applications are at National:

COM Bartlett, 1 supplemental
COM Jack Chance, 9 supplementals
COM Strader, 3 supplementals
COM Lybarger, 2 supplementals
COM Strader has 1 supplemental at State

New Applications:

Michael Breedlove -- Application approved 14 Nov 2016
Jake Krause -- Jr. Membership approved 19 Oct 2016
Also approved this year--
Alan Hiles-- approved 7 Jul 2016
Jerry Ransdell -- approved 9 Sep 2016

SAR Applications at National:

Bruce Hillis: received 19 Sep 2016
Randall Meyer: received 31 Oct 2016

Jr. Membership Applications at National:

Stanley Collett: received 29 Sep 2016
Jeffrey Collett: received 29 Sep 2016
Lucas DeVenney: received 03 Oct 2016

Memorial SAR Application:

Russell DeVenney: received 03 Oct 2016 at National

SAR Applications at State:

Brad Harriman
Russ has other Jr. Membership Applications at State.

Gil Stone's SAR Application is typed up, waiting for COM Jack Chance's supplemental to be approved before submitting Gil's application to avoid complications if there are changes needed to the supplemental application.

Mentoring Program: COM J. Y. Miller told the chapter that National is asking chapters to institute a Mentoring Program and he has been working on this to discuss at a future chapter meeting to have it placed in the chapter's bylaws.

Closing: There being no further business, the color guard retired the colors, Chaplain Merrill gave the Benediction and COM Woodward led the SAR Recessional. The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

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