

M. GRAHAM CLARK CHAPTER
MISSOURI SOCIETY
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

October 21, 2017

The October meeting was called to order by President Harold Kerr at 8:32 a.m. There being no color guard members in uniform, the colors were presented in place. In the absence of the Chaplain, Com. Merrill gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Com. Terrell Jones and the SAR Pledge was led by Com. Randall Meyer. There were 18 members and one junior member present. Visitors included several in the Chance family and members of the Dietzel family, Com. J. Y. Miller's mother-in-law, and several wives. Dee Woodward was recognized as the only one having an October birthday. President Kerr noted that Com. Alan Hiles had had a heart procedure and that we should remember him in our thoughts and prayers. The meeting was then recessed for breakfast.

President Kerr reconvened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. The first item on the agenda was the awarding of the Law Enforcement Commendation Award to Com. Larry Dietzel in recognition of his 32 years of service in the Boone County Missouri Sheriff's Department. President Kerr then introduced Com. Dietzel as the presenter of our program which was an overview with pictures of his and Nora's trip to Germany last winter. One of the main goals for the trip was to find more information about their German roots. While visiting some of the towns where they knew some of their family had come from they met with the town historian who was able to come up with some family documents of interest. Most everywhere they journeyed they found the food to be excellent. It was a good time of the year to take advantage of the Christmas markets. This was a self guided tour.

Following the program, President Kerr asked Com. Paul Whatley, who has transferred to our Chapter from the Monticello Chapter in Kansas, to come forward to receive his certificate and Past President's pin from the Monticello Chapter. Com. Whatley was a charter member and the first president of the Monticello Chapter.

Two new members were inducted into the Chapter by President Kerr. Com. Harold Meyers and Com. Jackson Chance, a junior member, were presented their membership certificates and their rosettes. Com. J. Y. Miller, who usually relates the history of the SAR and the M. Graham Clark Chapter, due to time constraints, presented printed copies to the new members. While at the podium, Com. Miller held the drawing for the 50/50 chances and Com. Ed Thomas was the winner.

The reports were called for, beginning with Com. Merrill's minutes of the September meeting. Com. Larry Dietzel made the motion to accept the minutes as printed on the web page and Com. Jack Chance seconded it and was passed. Treasurer Dietzel presented the Treasurer's report and Com. Charles Lee moved that it be accepted and Com. Bartlett seconded it and it was passed. Genealogist, John Coutts, reported that he was working on 15 applications and there are two supplementals at National.

Com. Ray Miller moved the acceptance of the report and it was seconded by Com. J. Y. Miller and it passed. Com. Jim Lee, the Eagle Scout Chairman, reported that he had sent out 58 certificates to Eagle Scouts in our area. His report was approved by a motion made by Com. J. Y. Miller and seconded by Com. Charles Lee. President Kerr said he had received a thank you note from the Fayette School for the books the Chapter had donated to them. In the absence of Com. Russell DeVenney, Com. Merrill gave a report on the NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference held in Louisville, Kentucky. He talked about the various meetings he attended, including the planning for the 250 anniversary of our Nation. He also mentioned that President General Larry Guzy had withdrawn his bid to run for a second term. While at the Conference, Com. Merrill received his 20 Year Membership Award and pin.

Under "Current business," Com. Merrill noted that as MOSSAR's Executive V. P., he had been appointed the Nominating Chairman for the Missouri Society and all of the Chapter Presidents of the fifteen chapters serve on the committee to choose the officers that serve on the State Board. He asked that anyone wishing to serve as an officer at the state level to make that known to him. President Kerr noted that all former presidents of our Chapter who make up our nominating committee need to be thinking about the slate of officers for next year. He then addressed the splitting of the Secretary's job into two parts, a Reporting Secretary and a Corresponding Secretary. He then appointed Com. Paul Whatley to the nominating committee since he had served as a president of another chapter. It was then reported that the SAR Operation Ancestor Search (OAS) Program was not going anywhere at the Truman VA Hospital due to the fact that they do not have any computers for use by the patients.

There was a discussion of the 2019 MOSSAR Conference that will be hosted by the M. Graham Clark Chapter here in Columbia. As President Kerr listed the various committees needed to put on a successful conference, he asked that the members think about what areas they would like to volunteer for. Com. Jack Chance volunteered to seek assistance from the Columbia Visitors Bureau concerning choosing a hotel and places for the ladies to visit. Others were invited to accompany him.

A couple of reminders were given: First, that dues are due, and that if anyone has a new address, phone number, or email, that they should get that information to President Kerr or to Treasurer Dietzel.

Com. J. Y. Miller moved that the meeting be adjourned and Com. Lee Woodward seconded the motion. The SAR Recessional was led by Com. Charles Lee and the Benediction was given by Com. Merrill. The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Wayne Merrill, Secretary