

The PATRIOT Newsletter



Ozark Mountain Chapter Springfield, Missouri

Established 18 July 1981

Missouri Society

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

December 16, 2017 Volume 37 # 12



President's Letter

President J. Howard Fisk



Message from President Fisk is displayed on Page 5.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

January 20, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. at the Ozarks Technical College Room 108.

Guest Speaker

Lt. Cris Brayman, Branson High School Air Force JROTC Senior Instructor.

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Minutes from the OMCSAR Chapter Meeting, December 16, 2017

President Howard Fisk called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM at the Ozarks Technical College, Room 108, with 24 members and 18 guests.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick delivered the invocation. **Compatriot** John McAlear led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Compatriot Norm Knowlton** led the Pledge to the SAR.

Vice-President George Swales introduced our speaker Edna Oswald, President of the Missouri State Society Children of the American Revolution (M.S.S.C.A.R.). Edna is a member of her local chapter, the Petite River Platt Society, which was founded in 2007. She has held several state society offices before becoming President. Her project and theme for her presidency is "Have a Heart" to support "Operation Gratitude."

The program's mission is to thank our service men and women who serve overseas with a "Care Package" from home. These care packages are also sent to veterans, first responders, and military families. Edna is home schooled and teaches Sunday school at her church. She participates in the church choir, bell choir and is a member of the swim team.

Edna began her power point presentation with a description of the events and activi-

ties of the C.A.R. and her role as State President this past year.

The following are the bullet points of her discussion.

Edna made an appearance at the 60th anniversary of the "White Aloe" Kansas City DAR chapter where she heard MSSDAR State Regent Susan Bowman speak.

"Regional Tour" held in St. Louis, Mo where Edna spoke to the conferee's and brought "greetings" as President of the hosting state was a treat. She had the opportunity to visit with the C.A.R. National President, Erin Moore on the national project "Browsing History, James Monroe Online". This project is an opportunity for all C.A.R. members to research online archived material on President James Monroe.

Edna commented that most of his private messages and letters were burned as he was a very private man. So, finding personal information was difficult.

"Rosalyn Heights" in Boonville is the home to the Missouri D.A.R. In June they host a Flag Day celebration. Edna participated along with her senior president Betsy Layton selling pins and raising funds for her state project.

The state workshop was held in Columbia, Mo in August and Edna led her "Have a Heart, Operation Gratitude" project where C.A.R. members made Para cord bracelets for her "Care Baskets". Also, members made heart shaped American flag ornaments. Afterwards, Edna and past state president, Emma Guenther laid a wreath at the Boone County Courthouse.

"Wheeling for Healing" a bicycle ride on



the “Katie Trail”, a fund raiser for Veterans was attended by Edna and her C.A.R. team.

Edna promoted her state project at the D.A.R. district tour in St. Joseph, Mo.

The C.A.R. Christmas tree decorating ceremony at “Roselyn Heights” in Boonville was held using decorations and the Para cord bracelets made by C.A.R. members at the regional meeting.

Accepting an invitation from the “Spirit of St. Louis” chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Edna traveled to St. Louis for a presentation of a check from James Osborn for her project “Operation Gratitude”.

Edna revealed a picture of awards won by the state C.A.R. by participating in different contests.

Edna closed her remarks by explaining the origin and details of “Operation Gratitude”. The Project was founded by Carolyn Blashek, who was moved by a conversation at an airport with a returning veteran that was down on his luck. He had just lost his mother; his wife had left him, and his daughter had died. He confided to Carolyn that after his mother’s funeral he would be returning to the war front, where he knew he would not return.

He lamented that no one would care about him here in the United States and he had lost all hope.

Carolyn knew after that conversation she had to do something so that our war veterans would know that we care and very much appreciate their service to our country. Carolyn started “Operation Gratitude” to say “Thank You” to our service men and *women* and let them know that we as a country are thinking about them and what they are going through.

She came up with the idea of “care packages”. The contents of the package represent “Home” and are filled with reminders of life “back home”. These packages contain Thank-you notes, toiletries, candy, Para cord bracelets, beanie babies and anything to remind them of the USA. The care packages are assembled in California with donated items from across the country at the cost of \$15.00 for each box. They are packed in a U.S. Postal service box and shipped all over the world to our men and women.

Edna related that some service personnel, after receiving their “Care Package”, are so overwhelmed that they are moved to tears.

Tom Sentman and President Fisk presented Edna with a check for \$100.00 for her project “Operation Gratitude”.

Edna then presented President Fisk with one of her heart shaped pins as a “thank you” for her invitation to speak at our meeting.

Vice President George Swales and **Historian Dan McMurray** inducted five (5) new members into our organization. Those new compatriots are Eric Griessel, Amos Lundy (Al) Walden, Curtis Trent, Wayne Jones, and Steven Ray Rinker. Family members in attendance pinned the SAR rosette on the inductee’s lapel. Each new member was presented their national membership certificate and the SAR challenge coin.

President Fisk introduced the finalists of the Ozark Mountain Chapter winners of the SAR Youth Poster contest. The criteria for this program is to display an activity of the American Revolution in a poster format. Julie Anderson’s 5th grade class from Summit School participated in the poster contest.

The poster contest winners are as follows;

Third place, **Judy Shi**

Second place, **Cadance Gefner**

The **First-place** winner and recipient of \$250.00 was **Sydney Walker** for her depiction of Paul Revere’s Ride.

President Fisk presented a Flag Certificate to the Summit School teacher, Julie Anderson, for her patriotic outreach and participation of her class in the SAR poster contest.

Matt Brunner, of the Willard High School History department, introduced his student **Jayce Burney**. Jayce is the Ozarks Mountain Chapter winner of the Knight Essay Contest. Jayce is involved in choir, speech and debate, theater and History club. Matt invited Jayce to come forward and present his essay on “*The Pursuit of Happiness*”.

After reading his essay, Vice President George Swales and President Fisk presented Jayce with a medal and a check for \$250.00 as our chapter’s winner of the Knight Essay contest.

*All local chapter youth contest winners will move on to be judged at the State level. The winner of the State competition will have the opportunity to advance to the national contest.

Officers Report

Vice President Report: Vice President George Swales asked for any address changes that members have made to please get in touch with him.



Treasurer Report: Treasurer Glenn Gohr reported the October Total Balance was \$11,026.75.

The December Checking Account balance of \$2,235.19 and the December Savings Account balance of \$9,641.83 for a Total December Balance of \$11,877.02.

Glenn announced we have 84 members and one dual member for a total of 85 members.

Two members on our list are deceased leaving a total of 83 living members, of which 11 still owe dues. Glenn made known that we had recently lost Dr. Calvin Holsinger, a lifetime member who passed away December 15.

Glenn stated we have had 7 new members join since September 1st giving us a total membership of 90 in the Ozark Mountain Chapter.

Secretary Report: Secretary Ken Lawrence asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting as published in the newsletter. The motion was carried and approved.

Genealogist Report: Genealogist Dan McMurray reported that he has four new applications at national awaiting approval. One application is awaiting approval at the state Genealogist with three other applications complete and waiting on signatures. Seven others are in various stages of completion.

Editor Report: Editor Tom Sentman talked about the upcoming new changes in the newsletter which include interactive components with links to other documents or stories to supplement and enhance the perspective of the reader. Tom asked for members to help him with pictures, documents, sounds and video all of which would augment the newsletter readers experience to a particular event.

Historian Report: Historian Norman Knowlton referenced the October State meeting to announce this year's total number of members in the national SAR of 35,795 an increase of 1271 from the previous year. Missouri had 752 members. The Ozark Mountain chapter is the four largest in the state behind The Spirit of St Louis Chapter, the M. Graham Clark Chapter and the Fernando De Leyba Chapter.

Norman conveyed to the members that we have had 27 new members just this year.

Norman made a plea to those new members to become active and involved in the chapter. He made clear that in the future someone from our chapter will be person-

ally contacting new members to solicit help in chapter activities.

Sgt. at Arms Report: Sgt. at Arms Charles McMillan announced he is in possession of all ROTC and JROTC medals and certificates and will soon be distributing them to the different schools for presentation. He asked for additional presenters to help with the awards ceremonies.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports

Old Business

There was no old business

New Business

Nominating Committee Chairman Dan Philbrick was called on to announce the Proposed Slate of officers for 2018.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of compatriots Dan Philbrick, Tom Sentman, and Phil Reinbold.

The nominees for 2018 are as follows:

President - George Swales

Vice-President - Ken Lawrence

Secretary - Norman Knowlton

Treasurer - John McAlear

Interim Historian - Howard Fisk

Chancellor - Gary Bishop

Genealogist - Steve Perkins

Editor - Tom Sentman

Chaplain - Dan Philbrick

Sgt. at Arms - Charles McMillan

*This slate of officers or other nominees from the floor will be voted on and installed at the January meeting.

President Fisk conveyed that our chapter is planning to present flag awards to each of the 12 Springfield Fire Stations.

A motion to Adjourn was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Historian Norman Knowlton led the Recessional.

Chaplain Dan Philbrick led the Benediction.

The Meeting ended at 10:40 A.M.



OMC presented an Award of Excellence to Captain Stephen Burnett, Navy JROTC Senior Leader at Willard High School December 12, 2017.

Captain Burnett commands more than 150 Navy JROTC cadets. Compatriots Steven Perkins (left) and Charles McMillan made the presentation.



January Birthdays



Edward Choate January 8
Gerald McCoy January 12
George Cindrich January 14
Jonathan Pike January 31
Richard Snelson January 31

Chaplain's Corner

As we think on the past year and anticipate the year to come, we reflect on these words from Psalm 65: 12 -14.

"You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty. May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills clothed with joy. May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing."

Compatriot Dan Philbrick

Chaplain

Ozark Mountain Chapter

Photos by Margaret Swales, Jan Fisk, Norm Knowlton, Charles McMillan, Ken Lawrence and Steven Perkins.

Editor: Tom Sentman 417-823-3902 tsentman@msn.com

[Click for more OMC Activities](#) ➡



In Memoriam

Dr. J. Calvin Holsinger, longtime member of the Ozark Mountain Chapter, passed away on December 15 in Des Moines, Washington at the age of 89. He was born January 2, 1928 in Trafford, Pennsylvania.

Dr. J. Calvin Holsinger received his undergraduate and master's degrees in history from the University of Pittsburgh and his doctorate in history from Temple University in Philadelphia. He has served on the history faculties of state and private universities, including Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania; Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, California; Central Bible College; and 30 years at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri. Most of his career he served as chairman of the Social Studies Department at Evangel University until his retirement. He is also recognized as the founder of Chi Alpha, an international Christian outreach to college students.

He has been honored for his classroom achievements with the [Missouri] Governor's Award for Excellence in University Teaching, the Sears Foundation Teaching Excellence Award, and the Assemblies of God Educator's Award. He served on the Bicentennial Committee for Springfield in 1976. He also established the Celtic Society of the Ozarks and the German-Austrian-Swiss Society of the Ozarks.

Dr. Holsinger joined the Ozark Mountain Chapter when he joined SAR on June 13, 1984. He always said that he wanted to belong to an organization that honored the accomplishments of our forefathers in fighting for our freedoms and separating from England to establish the United States of America, along with the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and an independent Supreme Court. He was very proud of his membership in the Sons of the American Revolution.

His Revolutionary ancestor was James Clarke (1750-9 Feb 1840) Private VA & MD. He also submitted supplementals to David Joslin/Josselyn (24 AUG 1760-JAN 1844) Private CT and Jacob Kimball, Sr. (12 OCT 1706-4 MAY 1788) Patriotic service CT.

Dr. Holsinger served one term as Ozark Mountain Chapter Secretary (1986-1987) and was always supportive of the chapter's activities, even after he moved to Des Moines, Washington, a suburb of Seattle, to live near his daughter, Cori (Holsinger) Hartje.

He married Adena (Seguine) Holsinger, who became a member and Regent of the Rachel Donelson Chapter DAR in Springfield, Missouri. She passed away in November 2013 after 59 years of marriage. He is survived by his only daughter, Cori (Holsinger) Hartje and her husband, Lacey, and two grandsons, Ryan and Kent Hartje.

There will be a celebration of life for Dr. Holsinger on January 20, with a visitation at White Chapel Memorial Gardens from 1-2 p.m. and a memorial service at 2 p.m. at Maranatha Village Chapel, here in Springfield.

Christmas at Valley Forge

by President J. Howard Fisk



General George Washington (left) with his army at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania during the winter of 1777-1778

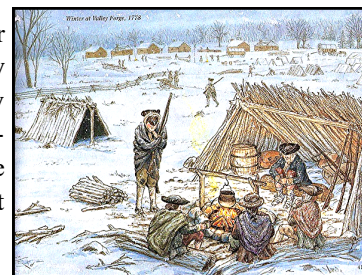
We are mindful of the holiday season as we make our way through December with the joy of Christmas and all that it brings to mind. I wonder how many of us give thought to the men and women who began winter quarters at Valley Forge on December 19, 1777.

Valley Forge was about 18 miles from Philadelphia and located on the Delaware River. It was chosen because the British were occupying Philadelphia for the winter and Washington wanted to keep them in check so that they would not forage for the food that his troops and animals needed for survival that winter. The temperature would hover near freezing all winter which made foraging difficult.

During the winter of 1777-78, over 12,000 were encamped at Valley

Forge and fell victim to malnutrition, disease, and exposure which eventually killed over 2,500 by the time they broke camp in February 1778. Sanitary conditions in the 18th Century were deplorable. Small pox, typhoid, pneumonia, and dysentery were common maladies. Even though the conditions were nearly unbearable, the suffering troops were held together by loyalty to the Patriot cause and to General Washington, who stayed in camp with his men.

Nothing could have looked bleaker for the Continental Army of George Washington than to make camp in this barren site on the Delaware River. Troops had to go about the task of creating log lodges to protect them from the weather. Their rations were minimal as each was to receive daily: 1-1/2 pounds of flour or bread, 1 pound of beef or fish, 3/4 pound of pork, and 1 gill of whiskey or spirit; or 1-1/2 pounds of flour, 1/2 pound or pork or bacon, 1/2 pint of peas. Most often, troops had no more than some flour that they mixed with water and baked on a rock in the fire.

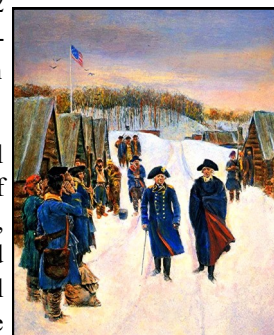


Encampment at Valley Forge



General Nathaniel Greene

Washington found the savior of his men in the appointment of Nathaniel Greene as Quartermaster of the Army. Greene was able to take charge of available stores and expedite resupply of the Valley Forge camp with food, blankets, uniforms, and munitions. The action by Greene saved the army and perhaps the revolution by his immediate action in rescuing the Continental Army at Valley Forge. This decisive leadership of Greene would change the way that military goods were distributed in the future and bestow on him the ghostlike presence as the savior of Valley Forge.



Washington with Troops

This good news was followed by the commitment of Lafayette and the French to take up the American cause and commit troops, including Lafayette as commander of the French Troops. Another foreign ally was Prussian General von Steuben, who arrived at the Valley Forge encampment in the spring ready to take the field with Washington's troops and personally attend to their military drill. It is with this newly invigorated army that van Steuben found eager troops ready to learn the field drill and tactics that would ensure victory by instilling new confidence and discipline in the demoralized Continental Army.



General von Steuben drilling troops at Valley Forge

This new beginning gave Washington and his men renewed courage that set the stage for victory and would inspire Washington to turn command of the Continental Army over to Nathaniel Greene who secured victory in the Southern Campaign.

We owe our past and our future to these brave men and women who placed their lives and fortunes in the hands of George Washington during that fateful Christmas of 1777.



Washington and Lafayette at Valley Forge

The British juggernaut was tamed and sent home as America took her place in the world economy.

Remember those who sacrificed their lives and liberty during Christmas 1777 so that we could celebrate as free citizens today.





WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DECEMBER 16, 2017

Let it be known that one of the initiatives of the Sons of The American Revolution is to honor ALL veterans, living and deceased. Memorial Day is the springtime day on which we formally participate as a nation for those who have passed. Near the start of winter, we can do this with the national **Wreaths Across America**.

Following on the heels of Thanksgiving and preceding the holiday season, it is appropriate we take a few minutes to reflect on our good fortune to be in this country amidst wealth beyond the imagination of those who created the living document that is our country and heritage. We all can find our brothers, fathers, uncles, aunts, cousins, or other relatives, friends and fellow countrymen who served us and are now resting in National and other cemeteries across the country.

On December 16th, take a moment or more to remember that we owe a debt of gratitude to those who served us, for without their sacrifices we would not have been able to keep the Republic that our Founders gave us. The **Wreaths Across America** programs at National Cemeteries allows each of us an opportunity to personally thank our relatives and friends by placing a wreath at someone's grave in memory of all, for as long as we remember, their lives are real to each of us.

Grateful for all we have,

Larry T. Guzy

President General 2017-2018



Chapter Events



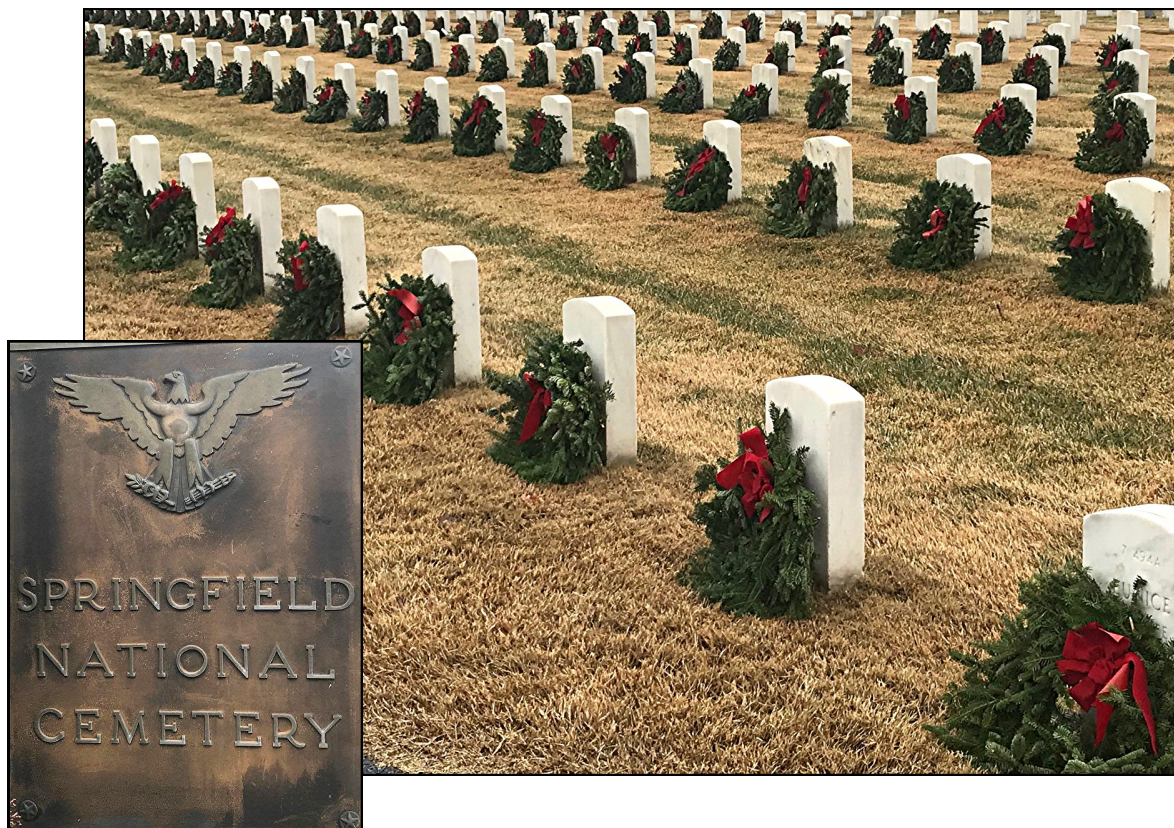
Ozark Mountain Chapter Wreaths Across America Ceremony

BENEDICTION

Father we depart this ceremony with the wisdom of shared history and understanding of the value of our pioneer ancestors and the courage of their contribution to this great land.

We ask that you go with us today in the spirit of this shared kinship and reverence for those ancestors who founded, established and preserved our free nation.

Until we meet again, we pledge to be ever vigilant to the preservation of our way of life by sharing our knowledge of those patriot ancestors and pioneers who carved out this new nation. Amen.



Chapter Events

National Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance



OMC Color Guard, Scout Troop 16 and CAR Missouri Society President Edna Oswald, Remember the Pearl Harbor Memorial at the Springfield National Cemetery December 16, 2017.

Wreath Laying on the grave of Revolutionary War Patriot William Freeman



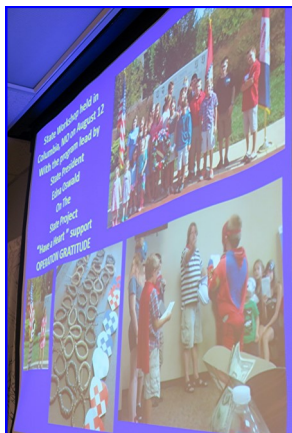
OMC Color Guard, Scout Troop 16 and CAR Missouri Society President Edna Oswald, lay a wreath on the grave of Revolutionary War Patriot William Freeman at the Springfield National Cemetery December 16, 2017.

Chapter Events

Guest Speaker Edna Oswald, President of the Missouri State Society Children of the American Revolution (M.S.S.C.A.R.). Edna is a member of her local chapter, the Petite River Platt Society.



President Edna Oswald presented an overview of the Missouri State Society CAR



A Heart Pin was presented to President Fisk.



OMC President J. Howard Fisk presents a Flag Award Certificate to Edna for her work in the CAR.

OMC also presented a check for \$100 to the Missouri Society CAR.



Edna Oswald with a CAR Display

Five New Members Sworn in to Sons of the American Revolution December 16, 2017

Vice President George Swales and Genealogist Dan McMurray welcomed them to the OMCSAR at the chapter meeting.



Left: Amos Lundy (Al) Walden, Steven Ray Rinker, Eric Griessel, Wayne Jones, and Curtis Trent. Family members in attendance pinned the SAR rosette on the inductee's lapel.

Chapter Events

Willard Middle School Participants Win Poster Contest



First Place winner and recipient of \$250 was Sidney Walker for her depiction of Paul Revere's Ride.



Cadance Gefner wins 2nd Place



Judy Shi wins 3rd Place

President Fisk presented a Flag Certificate to Summit School Teacher, Julie Anderson, for her patriotic outreach and participation of her class in the SAR poster contest.



Jayce H. Burney from Willard High School Wins Knight Essay Contest



Jayce H. Burney won the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay contest. The award is presented by the Ozark Mountain Chapter. Mr. Burney will present his essay at the Missouri Society Annual Meeting in April 2018.



Left: OMC President J. Howard Fisk, Matt Brunner, Willard High School History Teacher, Jayce Burney and Vice President George Swales.

A Tribute to Freedom

Washington Crossing the Delaware—December 26, 1776

General George Washington's army crossed the icy Delaware December 26, 1776, and over the course of the next 10 days, won two crucial battles of the American Revolution.



The Battle of Trenton—December 26, 1776

In the Battle of Trenton (December 26), Washington defeated a formidable garrison of Hessian mercenaries before withdrawing.



At the Army-Navy Game in November 2017, cadets performed a tribute to our National Anthem **The Star Spangled Banner.**



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At Close, at top left, click Esc

Key then click  Arrow



January Events

January 9, History Explorers Presentation 7:00 p.m. Library Center.

January 20, Chapter Meeting 9:00 a.m. OTC Room 108.

OMC Election of Officers 2018-2019.

President General David N. Appleby (2008-2009) , will swear in OMC officers for 2018-2019.

January 27, Quarterly MOSSAR Meeting 10:00 a.m. Columbia, MO.

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