



Minutes: Meeting of the Bourbon Republic, Sunday, March 29, 2026. Athens Grill.

Members started filtering in at 4pm, enjoying Bee's amazing appetizers. After general socializing (including Tom's always refreshing drinks), Andy called the meeting to order at 5:30pm in his typical, bourbon pounding way.

There were a number of announcements:

- The group met and decided to have smaller, more intimate events. When we have 40 or so, groups start to form and folks don't seem to talk to each other that much. But with 20 or so, everyone seems to chat with each other. With that in mind, it is more like a supper club than a membership club. Tonight, for example, there were 23 folks.
- The fee for the dinner/tasting will be \$125 per meeting, except for the Holiday Meeting which will be c. \$150. More about that later. Currently, the plan is to have a Spring and Summer Bourbon Republic meeting, a golf outing fundraiser, and then a Holiday dinner.
- To welcome new attendees, Alan played the Bourbon Republic Sea Shantee. Two folks requested a copy of it, so they were sent the mp3. It is, of course, playable and downloadable from the top of the website: bourbonrepublic.org.
- Bee announced his interest in organizing a bottle share for 10 or so folks at Athens Grill on certain Saturdays. Once a month kind of thing. The group seemed interested in it. At least once a month on a Saturday. More info will be sent in an email. Also, the group gave a rousing round of applause to Jon Zimmerman and Brandon Trefey who helped Bee prepare the oeuvres and main food tonight.
- Kyle reported that the 3rd Annual Bourbon Republic Golf Outing will be September 9, 2026. There will be drinking at various holes, as in the past. It has yet to be determined where the fundraising will go to, so there was a lengthy discussion. The two options were DAIS (domestic intervention service) or River Food Pantry. The group voted for next year to raise funds for River Food Pantry (last year the funds were given to DAIS).
- There will not be a Sugar River Bourbon Fest at Seven Acres this year. But there will be some music and events there that will have Knoche's Meats.
- Then...Andy gave a history on each bottle/bourbon before tasting occurred. The choices are listed below. Andy led a very informative discussion about the particulars of each drink. Very informative. Tom and Sarah were speedy in delivering the drams.
 1. Elmer T. Lee at 90%
 2. Stag at 125%
 3. Dickel 17 year at 92%
 4. Garrison Bros. LadyBird at 110%
 5. Willett 7 year rye 104.4%
 6. Peerless Single Barrel at 111.7%
 7. Heaven Hill 20 year at 114.4%
 8. Oban Scotch 10 year at 116%

An amazing dinner followed. It was 'over the top' as usual. Following dinner, we had our popular raffle. The members started disbursing at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Garfield, Secretary and Web Editor.

FYI, the Bourbon Republic Board for 2026:

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