



Sons of the American Revolution

East-Fork Trinity Chapter 47

2025 Officers

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Paul Ridenour

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Newsletter Editor:
David Jackson



President's Message:

Good day fellow Compatriots,

I hope you all are having a great summer so far. We have had several meetings in a row with great attendance by you all as well as several events that have been well attended.

First, we are getting ready for our Annual 4th of July Parade in Heath Texas and this year we are looking forward to bringing a trailer for all those that don't feel like they can walk the parade route. We will meet at the First Methodist Church located at 140 Smirl Dr. Heath Texas 75032 at 7:30am to decorate the trailer. We will be joined as usual by the Rockwall DAR Chapter and the Girl Scouts. We have also been invited to park there for the parade and will have access if needed to the bathrooms located at the Church. We have recently been informed by the Parade Planners that the area we line up at has changed due to construction at the city park as such we will follow that trailer to the appropriate location in the lineup for their parade as soon as we have completed the decoration of the trailer. After the parade is complete there will be treats.

Second, I am looking forward to seeing you all at our upcoming meeting on Thursday July 10, 2025 at Soulman's Bar-B-Que in Rockwall at 530 for dinner and fellowship. Our regular meeting will follow at 7pm and I am excited to inform you of our guest speaker. Drake Peddie will be debuting a new program for us.

Finally, we have a funeral on Saturday June 27 at 2pm for one of our own. Bill Watts will be memorized and his remains will be interred at Rest Haven Funeral Home Located at 2500 Tx-66 Rockwall Texas 75087. This will be a State Color Guard Event with members from all over the State in attendance and will culminate in a Musket Salute.

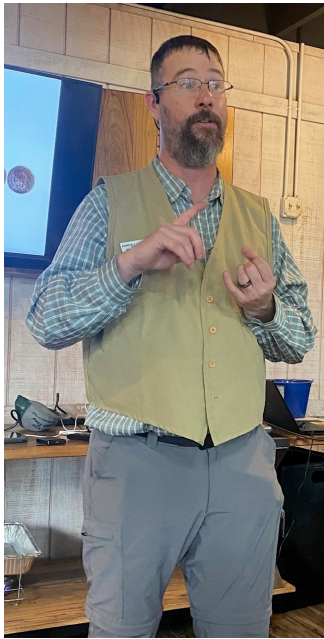
I would like to challenge all of you both in and out of Color Guard to attend the parade in Heath on the 4th and bring your family to Join us!

Randall van Heyst

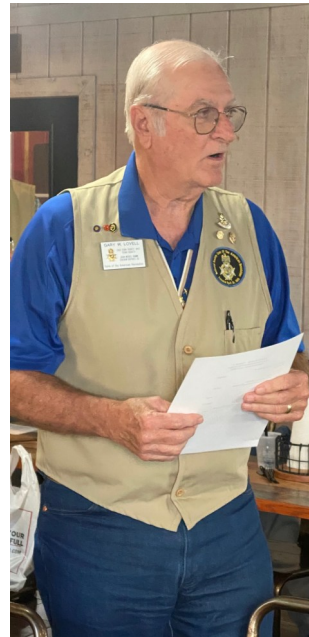
President

East Fork Trinity Chapter no. 47

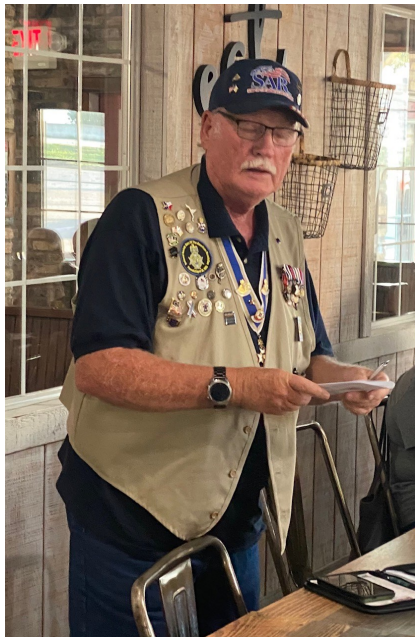
Sons of the American Revolution



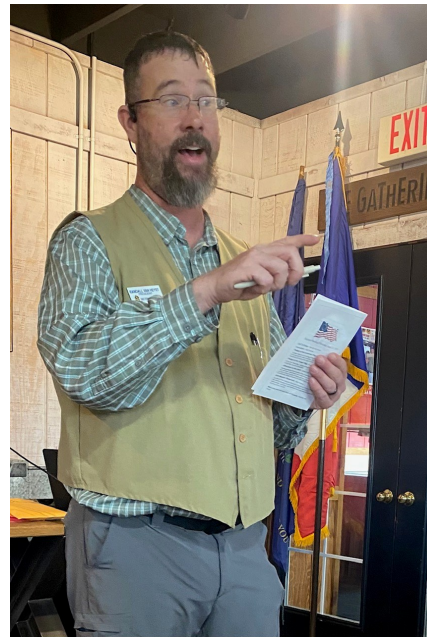
**Randall van Heyst
Opens the June
Meeting**



**Gary Lovell Gives His
Treasurer's Report**



**Michael Goode Gives
His Veterans Report**



**Reagan van Heyst Gives the
Color Guard Report**



1776 Continental Currency



Varieties

- 1776 Currency, Pewter (2 Varieties)
- 1776 Currency, Brass (2 Varieties)
\$299,000, MS-63, *Heritage auction, July 2009*
- 1776 Currency Silver (2 Known)
\$345,000, VF, *Stack's Bowers auction, January 2005*
- 1776 Currency, Pewter
- 1776 Currency, EG FECIT, Pewter
\$546,250, MS-67 *Heritage auction, January 2012*
- 1776 Currency, EG FECIT, Silver (2 Known)
\$425,500, EF, *Stack's Bowers auction, October 2003*

Price Range

- \$10,500 - \$70,000 Uncirculated
- \$25,000 - \$220,000 Uncirculated
- \$275,000 - \$400,000 Uncirculated
- \$8,000 - \$75,000 Uncirculated
- \$8,000 - \$77,000 Uncirculated
- \$850,000 Uncirculated

Greek Coins



Alexander the Great
About 336 - 323 BC



Athenian Owls



Boy on a Dolphin

United States Mint Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1792 - 1833
Demolished in 1909



Paul Ridenour did an excellent job presenting Bob Kubin's Ancient and Revolutionary War Coinage Seminar. Paul covered existing mints, coin populations, grading standards and auction prices.



**Americanism Moment Interview: Mrs. Pickett Played by
Karalynn van Heyst and Benjamin Franklin Played by Bill Watts**

William Byron Watts, Jr. Obituary

In Loving Memory of William Byron "Bill" Watts, Jr.

June 14, 1949 – June 5, 2025

With deeply heavy hearts, we announce the passing of William Byron Watts, Jr., affectionately known to family, friends, and fellow patriots as "Bill." He departed this world peacefully on June 5, 2025, just nine days shy of his 76th birthday, leaving behind a legacy of integrity, service, scholarship, and love. Bill's life was a testament to leadership, tireless dedication, and a genuine heart that deeply impacted everyone privileged to know him.

Bill was born on June 14, 1949, in Columbia, South Carolina, to William and Letha Watts, and was the eldest of five children. His early years were full of adventure, mischief, and learning, especially during cherished summers spent on his grandparents' farm in Pageland, South Carolina. Those childhood days - filled with laughter, livestock, and the closeness of family - were some of his fondest memories. Bill and his siblings shared a special bond that remained strong throughout his life. Alongside brothers Chuck and Donny, sister Cindy, and younger brother Marty, Bill's upbringing

was rich in both love and character-building experiences as the family moved across South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

A lifelong learner, Bill pursued education with determination and depth. He studied across several institutions, including Georgetown College, The University of Texas at El Paso, Amberton University, and Texas Woman's University, ultimately earning his Bachelor of Arts and two Master of Business Administration degrees.

Bill's early professional career was rooted in the roofing and construction industry, where he excelled as a Sales Management Trainer, Territory Manager, and General Manager, traveling extensively across North and South America. Known for his deep industry knowledge and ability to mentor others, he built a reputation as a trusted leader and problem-solver.

Yet Bill's heart was always drawn to making a meaningful impact - and that calling led him to a second career in education. He returned to college to earn his Elementary Teaching Certificate and spent over 15 years in the classroom, igniting curiosity and confidence in countless students. His retirement from teaching in 2014 marked the end of one chapter of service and the beginning of another.

In retirement, Bill devoted himself to a cause that resonated deeply with his sense of history and patriotism: the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). His involvement with the SAR was more than a hobby - it became a deeply meaningful mission, allowing him to honor his ten proven Patriot Ancestors, educate the public, and foster civic pride.

Bill's list of SAR accomplishments is as remarkable as it is extensive. He:

- Served on five National Committees
- Held leadership roles including Texas State Color Guard Commander, Patriot Grave Marking Co-Chair, Council of Chapter Presidents Chairman, Chapter President, Vice President, and Secretary
- Worked diligently as a Compatriot and Patriot History Data Entry Specialist
- Attended six National Congresses, five District Conferences, six State Annual Meetings, and numerous Board of Managers meetings
- Was an active member of six SAR chapters across Texas and South Carolina

Bill received over 26 medals recognizing his commitment and leadership, including all three levels of National and State Color Guard Medals. He was named Texas State Color Guardsman of the Year, became a George Washington Fellow, and in 2025, received the prestigious Patriot Medal, the highest honor awarded by the State Society.

His dedication didn't stop at administrative excellence - Bill was also a passionate historical educator. As a member of the State Speakers Bureau, he captivated audiences across Texas with his engaging portrayals of Benjamin Franklin, bringing Revolutionary

War history to life for students, community groups, and civic organizations. He believed that understanding our past gave us a clearer path towards a better future.

Bill was preceded in death by his beloved parents, his brother Chuck, and the love of his life, Laura. Their love was rare - steadfast, supportive, and enduring. Her loss was deeply felt, and Bill often spoke of her with reverence and affection. It was his wish to be laid to rest beside her, which will be fulfilled on July 26th, 2025.

He is survived by his siblings: brother Donny Watts, sister Cindy Watts, and brother Marty Watts. He also leaves behind a wide circle of extended family members, fellow educators, dear friends, and SAR members across the country who were touched by his friendship, mentorship, and service.

A memorial service honoring Bill's life will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Reflections Chapel at Rest Haven Funeral Home, located at 2500 State Highway 66 East, Rockwall, TX 75087. Following the chapel service, Bill's inurnment will take place in the Memories Urn Garden at Rest Haven Memorial Park, where he will be laid to rest alongside his beloved Laura.

In accordance with Bill's wishes, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to one of two charitable funds established to continue the work Bill held closest to his heart: The Tom and Montye Whitelock Color Guard Fund Inc or The Bill and Laura Watts Youth Awards Fund Inc.

Contributions can be mailed to:

Tim Chapman – Treasurer

Dallas Chapter SAR

4837 Cedar Springs Road, Apt 301

Dallas, Texas 75219-1282

Please make checks payable to the fund of your choice, as indicated above.

For those who wish to send flowers for the service, arrangements may be placed through The Flower Box by Rest Haven at (972) 772-3269. Independent florists are kindly asked to deliver by 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 26, 2025, directly to Rest Haven Funeral Home in Rockwall, to ensure they are properly displayed for the service.

Bill Watts was a man who lived with purpose, spoke with intention, and gave of himself freely. Whether in the boardroom, the classroom, or in colonial costume at a school assembly, he led with humility, humor, and heart. His life was one of service - to country, to students, to history, and to those he loved most. His legacy will continue to inspire generations to come. Bill will be forever missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Rest Haven Funeral Home – Rockwall, TX.



**Me With Benedict
Arnold in Tarrytown
NY**

Editor's Notes

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 10th at **Soulman's Barbeque at 691 East Interstate 30 in Rockwall. Dinner is at 5:30ish and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00.**

David Jackson, Editor



T L Holden Memorial on Saturday, June 21st

**Left to right are: Tom Milson, Carol Milson,
Cynthia Goode and Michael Goode**

Patriot Spotlight for Michael Goode

**Charles Christopher Hutchings (Hutchins)
Born 1752 Death 1825**

Captain Hutchings was a Revolutionary War Soldier in the Continental Army. Captain Charles Hutchings also served with Pittsylvania County Militia, Virginia Militia during the American Revolution.

Son of Christopher Charles and Elizabeth Parks Hutchings, of Dry Fork, Virginia.

Revolutionary war soldier and Indian scout; present at the surrender of the British at York Town, VA.

Married the daughter of his former Commander, Captain Thomas Dillard, Jr, Elizabeth Dillard in 1784 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

They had one child during their marriage.

Captain Charles Christopher Hutchings was born in 1752 in Rixeyville, Virginia.

He was a Revolutionary War soldier and Indian Scout

He died in 1825 in White County, Tennessee, at the age of 71, and was buried there.



Audie Murphy Day Parade on June 21, 2025

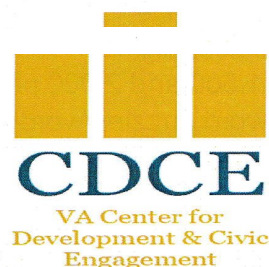
Photos Courtesy of Michael Goode

Bottom Left: Jason Grey

Bottom Right: Dennis Vierling



Bonham Needs Listing Summer 2025



We appreciate your interest in wanting to serve Veterans and an updated needs listing. All items must be new and in original packaging.

below is

Gift Cards:

- Exxon or Shell gas cards (Social Work to assist Veterans to/from appointments)
- Whataburger Gift Cards
- Braum's Gift Cards

Clothing & Comfort Items:

- Diabetic gripper socks – Special request as regular gripper socks are too restrictive on legs of the diabetic or patients with larger legs.
- Athletic Shorts (Men – various sizes)
- Womens summer tops (various sizes)
- Crop pants or long pants summer weight (Women – elastic waist, various sizes)
- T-shirts or short sleeve pullover
- Body Wash (no bar soap or hotel/motel toiletries)
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Electric Razors (for Veterans on blood thinners)
- Razors (disposable double to triple blade)
- Shaving Cream

Refreshments: Individually wrapped snack items to include ingredients are welcome, but no homemade food items. Items such as the following:

- Breakfast pastries/muffins for coffee cart
- Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers
- Chips, Cookies (Variety Pack, Individual Bags)
- Bottled Water
- Small Bottles Gatorade
- Ground Coffee (regular only)
- Juices (small boxed)
- Liquid Creamer (individual packs/cups only)
- Coffee supplies (8oz cups, sugar/Splenda packets)

Miscellaneous:

- Plastic Models (Cars, Airplanes, Ships, Etc.)
- Dominoes (Big)
- Journals, notebooks
- Adult coloring books, with colors or colored pencils

- Markers
- Postage Stamps
- Pens, stationary
- 1,000, 1,500 and 2,000 piece Jigsaw Puzzles
- Cross word puzzles/word search (large print)
- Sudoku books (large print)
- New books, new magazines

Seeking Sponsorship for the following items/activities:

- Monthly Birthday Socials
- Popcorn & Movie
- Bingo & Prizes
- Cooking Group – monthly or quarterly
- Bowling for Domiciliary Residents
- Bonham State Park Pass
- Sporting & Music Events

Monetary and In-Kind Donations by mail, please send to:

Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center
Center for Development and Civic Engagement (135)
Atten: Brenda Magness, CDCE Specialist
1201 E. 9th Street
Bonham, Texas 75418

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make check or money order **payable to Bonham VA Medical Center.**

You can also donate to the Bonham VA Medical Center using E-Donate online:

Donating is just a click away with an online donation option that provides community members the account of their choice. [E-Donate](#) provides a quick, safe way for you to pledge your support to Veterans online. [E-Donate](#) also allows you to make a donation in memory of a loved one. Select VA North Texas Health Care System and choose a designated medical center and program, along with amount that you'd like to donate. There are no extra fees to use the secure website, so every penny of your donation goes to help Veterans.

All donations must be coordinated with Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) for acceptance and delivery drop off. Should you have questions regarding donations please call 903-583-6282 or email brenda.magness@va.gov. Items may be mailed to address block as noted above.



Dave Powell

The Registrar's Corner

JULY 2025

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

1. **Prospective Regular Member** Jeff Richter was referred to EFT by the State Communications Secretary. Jeff has been contacted and we are found a good Patriot and Lineage. Jeff's Patriot is Christopher Myers. Application was completed, signed and mailed to State 9 Sep 2024. Received at National on 15 Oct 2024 (ACN: 114617) and Approved at National on 13 Feb 2025. NN: 232683. **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Approved at National**
2. **Prospective Regular Member** Guy Sargent was referred to EFT by the State Comms Secretary. We found a good Patriot and we completed the Lineage and his application was completed and mailed it to State on 13 Feb 2025. Guy's Patriot is Ephraim Ladd. Application was received at National on 28 Feb 2025 (ACN: 116497) and Approved at National on 30 May 2025. NN: 233763. **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Approved at National.**
3. **Prospective Regular Member** Robert Braley was referred to EFT by the State Comms Secretary. We have worked Robert's family tree and found several Patriots but settled on Patriot Ensign John Loomis. Robert is doing a family membership with him, his dad (Ephrim) and his son (Nathaniel). We have completed their applications and they were signed and mailed to State on 14 Feb 2025. Application was received at National on 28 Feb 2025 (ACN: 116498) and Approved at National on 30 May 2025. NN: 233764. **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Approved at National.**

- 4. Prospective Regular Member** Ephrim Braley joined with his son Robert and his grandson Nathaniel on a family membership. We have worked the family application and their Patriot is John Loomis. We have completed their applications and they were signed and mailed to State on 14 Feb 2025. Application was received at National on 28 Feb 2025 (ACN: 116499) and Approved at National on 30 May 2025. NN: 233765. **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Approved at National.**
- 5. Prospective Junior Member** Nathaniel Braley joined with his father Robert and his grandfather Ephrim on a family membership. We have worked the family applications and their Patriot is Ensign John Loomis. We have completed their applications and they were signed and mailed to State on 14 Feb 2025 and received at National on 28 Feb 2025 (ACN: 116500) and Approved at National on 30 May 2025. NN: 233766. **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Approved at National.**
- 6. Prospective Regular Member** Fred Forman was referred to EFT by the State Comms Secretary. We found a Patriot and workable lineage. Fred's Patriot is Michael Yeasley. Application completed, signed and mailed to State on 7 Mar 2025 received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116936). Approved at National on 27 Jun 2025, NN: 234113. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers. Approved at National.**
- 7. Prospective Regular Member** Elliott Davis was referred to EFT by Barbara and Walt Thomas. His application has been completed, signed and mailed to State on 14 March 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116 938). Approved at National on 27 June 2025. NN: 234115. Elliott's Patriot is William Gilreath Sr. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. *Nita Gilreath DAR Finder referral. Approved at National.**
- 8. Prospective Regular Member** Olen Davis was referred to EFT by Barbara and Walt Thomas. His application has been completed, signed and mailed to State on 14 March 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116939). Approved at National on 27 June 2025. NN: 234117.

Olen's Patriot is John McClelland. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. *Nita Gilreath DAR Finder referral. Approved at National.**

9. Prospective Regular Member Jason Whitbeck is a 2024 State Fair contact who was recontacted and he was interested in the April 2025 New Membership Sale. We found him a provable Patriot and Lineage and his application has been completed and mailed to State on 7 March 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116940). Approved at National on 27 June 2024. NN: 234117. Jason's Patriot is John Dillenback. **First Line Sponsor: Dave Powell. Approved at National.**

10. Prospective Regular Member Aaron Nelson was referred to EFT by Della Vickers. His application has been completed, signed and mailed to State on 11 Mar 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116941). Approved at National on 27 June 2025, NN: 234118. **First Line Sponsor: Dave Powell. *Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. Approved at National.**

11. Prospective Regular Member Michael Nelson is a State Fair contact who has been recontacted. With the help from Barbara Thomas, we found a provable Patriot and Lineage. Application completed, signed and mailed to State on 14 March 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116943). Approved at National on 27 June 2025, NN: 234119. Michael's Patriot is David Tate. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. *Barbara Thomas DAR Finder referral. Approved at National.**

12. Prospective Regular Member Edward Haldeman has been contacted and we have completed, signed and mailed his application on 21 March 2025 and received at National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116944). Approved at National on 27 June 2025, NN: 234121. Edward's Patriot is Daniel Broomall. **First Line Sponsor: Jeff Witt. Approved at National.**

13. Prospective Regular Member Jacob Haldeman has been contacted and we have completed, signed and mailed his application 21 March 2025 and received at

National on 4 Apr 2025 (ACN: 116945). Approved at National on 27 June 2025, NN: 234122. Jacob's Patriot is Daniel Broomall. **First Line Sponsor: Jeff Witt.**
Approved at National.

14. Prospective Junior Member Kase Carter Goode was referred to EFT by Mihael and Cynthia Goode. His application has been completed and is ready for signatures. April Sale does not apply since Kase is a junior (aged 3 years) so normal fees apply. Application completed and mailed to State on 12 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117884). Kase's Patriot is Charles Hutchins. **First Line Sponsor: Michael Goode. *Cynthia Goode DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**

15. Prospective Regular Member Jeff Dowdle was referred to EFT by the State Comms Secretary. His application is being worked by Michael Goode. Application completed and mailed to State on 17 Apr 2025 and received at National on 30 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117886). **First Line Sponsor: Michael Goode. *Cynthia Goode DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**

16. Prospective Regular Member Scott Woodard attended the 13 March 2025 EFT meeting and he is interested in joining the SAR. We have researched his lineage and have found a Patriot and a significant, provable part of his lineage (four generations) with a DAR RC. Application completed and mailed to State on 14 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117887). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers. *Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**

17. Prospective Regular Member David Brooks West was referred to EFT by Walter & Barbara Thomas. A Patriot and lineage were found and the application has been completed, reviewed and mailed to State on 14 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117888). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. *Deborah West DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**

- 18. Prospective Regular Member** Stephen Brooks West was referred to EFT by Walter & Barbara Thomas. A Patriot and lineage were found and the application has been completed, reviewed and mailed to State on 14 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117889). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. * Deborah West DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
- 19. Prospective Regular Member** Paul David West was referred to EFT by Walter & Barbara Thomas. A Patriot and lineage were found and the application has been completed, reviewed and mailed to State on 14 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117890). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. * Deborah West DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
- 20. Prospective Regular Member** Rickey Howell was referred to EFT by Michael Goode. Ricky's Patriot is John Parker. Application completed and mailed to State on 12 Apr 2025 (ACN: 117893). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Michael Goode. *Cynthia Goode DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
- 21. Prospective Regular Member** Clayton Dresher was referred to EFT and his application is being worked by Michael Goode. Clayton's Patriot is Ebenezer McIntosh. Application completed and mailed to State on 18 Apr 2025 and received at National on 5 May 2025 (ACN: 118139) April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Michael Goode. *Cynthia Goode DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
- 22. Prospective Regular Member** Bruce Leithead was referred to EFT by the Texas Comms Secretary, Ray Cox, on 13 May 2025. Bruce lives in Royce City. Application was completed, signed and mailed to State on 21 May 2025. **First Line Sponsor: Dave Powell. Awaiting State Review.**
- 23. Prospective Regular Member** Micah Vickers was referred to EFT by Bob & Della Vickers. Micah's Patriot is Richard Caswell. Application was completed, reviewed,

signed and mailed to State on 23 May 2025. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers.**

***Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. Awaiting State Review.**

24. Prospective Junior Member Archer Jacob Phillips was referred to EFT by Bob & Della Vickers. A Patriot and lineage were found and the application has been completed and awaiting birth certificate. Birth Certificate arrived, Application Completed, signed and mailed to State on 15 June 2025. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers.**

***Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. Awaiting State Review.**

25. Prospective Member Arvis Dean Gray was referred to EFT by his son Jason Gray and Jason's wife, DAR Member Mary Ann. Arvis Gray's Patriot is Charles Polk. Application package is near completion. **First Line Sponsor: Jason Gray. * Mary Ann Gray DAR Finder referral. In Work.**

26. Prospective Member Mark Mason was referred to EFT by Jeff Witt. Application in Work. **First Line Sponsor: Jeff Witt. In Work.**

27. Prospective Member Connor May was referred to EFT by the State Comms Secretary, Ray Cox. We have Emailed Mr. May and we are awaiting a response.

SUMMARY

Regular Members Approved at National: 12. Junior Members Approved at National: 1. Regular Members Awaiting Review at National: 7. Junior Members Awaiting Review at National: 2. Regular Members Awaiting Review at State: 2. Junior Members Awaiting Review at State: 1. Regular Members In-Work: 2. Junior Members In-Work: 0; Prospects: 1