



Sons of the American Revolution

# East-Fork Trinity Chapter 47

## 2025 Officers

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Randall van Heyst

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Paul Ridenour

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Michael Goode

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Gary Lovell

Community Service  
Coordinator:  
David Routh

Newsletter Editor:  
David Jackson



## President's Message:

Good afternoon fellow Compatriots,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. We have officially survived the winter and are well on our way to the warmer months.

We also have completed our 130th State Conference in Richardson where we installed our new State Officers and received awards from 2024. Among those awards our chapter was awarded 2 different CAR (Children of the American Revolution) related awards. We were well represented in all the Youth Contests with 1st place in the Essay Contest, 3rd Place in the Video Contest, 3rd place in the Brochure Contest and 5th place in the Oration Contest.

Our new state President Mel Oller revealed that his focus for the upcoming year would be on member reinstatement. During the last year the Texas SAR has lost 500 dues paying Members. The President told us that in a typical year we will reinstate approximately 300 of those members. In the last year our chapter specifically had 12 members not pay their dues for this year. We as an organization are going to be actively pursuing these lost members and attempting to get as many as possible reinstated.

Big news was also officially revealed. In July of 2029 the SAR National Congress will be held in San Antonio. This will be a fabulous opportunity for our State and for our members. Usually these National Meetings are held in other states and getting to them takes a lot of effort. But that will not be a problem in 2029.

Finally, we have some BIG dates coming up in the month of April!!! First of all we have the 250th Anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord and "the Shot Heard round the world" on April 19, 2025. The preceding night of April 18, 2025 will be celebrated with what has been referred to "the 2 Lights Initiative" <https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/honor/2025/february/two-lights-for-tomorrow>. I would like to encourage all of our members to participate in this initiative on the night of Friday April 18, 2025. April 12, 2025 at 8AM we will be participating in the 2025 Gainesville Medal of Honor Parade where you can earn your Bronze Galvez Medal. Muster for this event will be in the area of 517 E. Broadway St Gainesville Texas. Following that event we will muster at Sunnyvale First Baptist Church on Beltline at 1PM to assist the Mesquite DAR chapter Celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting at Soulman's Bar-B-Que on the second Thursday of the month at 5:30PM to eat and at 7PM for our meeting.

Randall van Heyst

President

East Fork Trinity Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution



**Randall van Heyst  
Opens the May  
Meeting**



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



**Special Guest Dallas  
SAR President Brent  
Harshman**

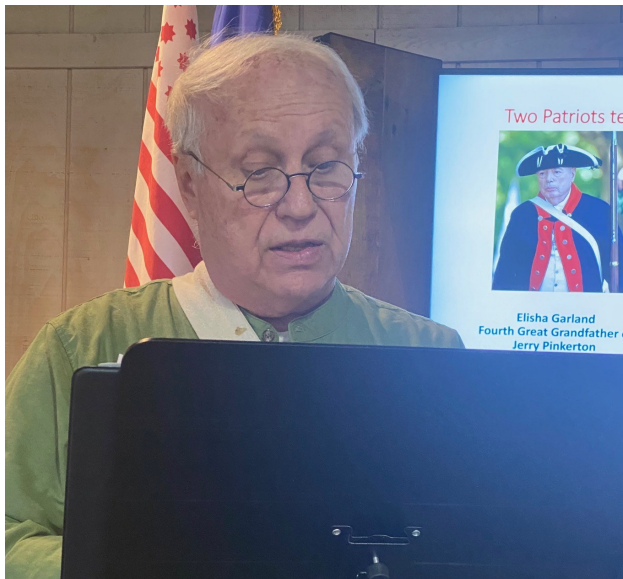


**Reagan van Heyst Receives  
Texas SAR Video and  
Brochure Awards**





**Americanism Moment, The Don't Tread On Me Flag**



**Program – Presentation by Jacob Van Fossen, Born September 8, 1756, died 1845 (Played by Tom Van Fossen) and Elisha Garland, Born June 1763, died 1836 (Played by Jerry Pinkerton). Very interesting presentation on the paths of two Patriots who fought in the American Revolution and how close they came to each other fighting in many of the same battles without ever meeting....until tonight through their 4<sup>th</sup> generation great grandsons.**



## The Colonies 1775

Population 2.5 million  
90% lived in small towns or the country

Largest Cities – all along Atlantic coast

Philadelphia	43,000
New York City	25,000
Boston	16,000
Charleston	12,000
Newport	11,000

Five Largest 1775 combined 107,000

Transportation:

Walk Horse Horse drawn wagon Boats

Communication:

Letter Messengers Newspapers

## USA Now

342 million  
20% rural

New York City, NY	8,258,000
Los Angeles, CA	3,900,000
Chicago, IL	2,746,000
Dallas, TX	1,304,000
Rockwall	53,000

Automobile Train Airplane

Cellphone

Letters

Email

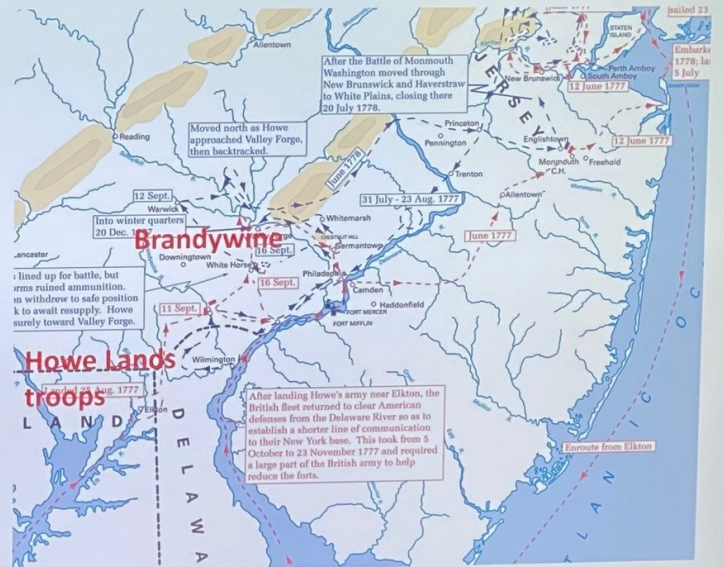
Radio

Social media

Television

## Prelude to Battle of Brandywine

- June 1777 Washington learns that British General Howe was boarding ships in Sandy Hook, New Jersey
- By late July he knew they were heading down the Atlantic coast
- In late August Howe landed 15,000 troops at north end of the Chesapeake Bay
- Washington and Howe knew a big battle was going to happen as they marched around Delaware and Maryland and into Pennsylvania scouting each other
- They would meet near Brandywine.
- On September 9 Washington moved his troops to the east side of Brandywine creek
- The British army camped at Chadd's Ford to the west across the creek
- The Pennsylvania Militia was across the road south



## Valley Forge layout and Brigade encampments



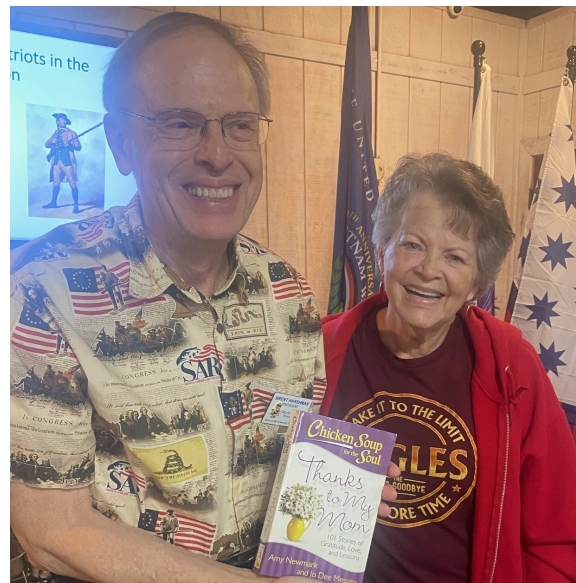




**Tom Van Fossen and Jerry Pinkerton Receive Certificates of Appreciation from Randall van Heyst for a Job Well Done!!**



**Dennis Vierling and Reagan van Heyst Receive Certificates of Appreciation for working the State Fair Recruitment Table**



**Brent Harshman Wins the Door Prize!!**

## Editor's Notes

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 12th 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*



**Me at the Revolutionary War Heros Monument in the Sleepy Hollow Graveyard in Tarrytown, New York**



**Michael Goode Presents  
Sean Lee of Terrell ISD  
The Good Citizenship  
Award and Pin**



## 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. 9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:brenda.magness@va.gov). Items may be mailed to address block as noted above.





Dave Powell

# The Registrar's Corner

JUNE 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). **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Awaiting National Review.**
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). **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Awaiting National Review.**
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). **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Awaiting National Review.**

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). **First Line Sponsor: David Powell. Awaiting National Review.**
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). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers. Awaiting National Review.**
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). Elliott's Patriot is William Gilreath Sr. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. \*Nita Gilreath DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
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). Olen's Patriot is John McClelland. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. \*Nita Gilreath DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**



- 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). Jason's Patriot is John Dillenback. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Dave Powell. Awaiting National Review.**
- 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). April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Dave Powell. \*Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. State Review Complete, Awaiting National Review.**
- 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). Michael's Patriot is David Tate. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Walt Thomas. \*Barbara Thomas DAR Finder referral. Awaiting National Review.**
- 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). Edward's Patriot is Daniel Broomall. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Jeff Witt. Awaiting National Review.**
- 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). Jacob's Patriot is Daniel Broomall. April Sale Price will apply. **First Line Sponsor: Jeff Witt. Awaiting National Review.**

- 14. Prospective Junior Member** Kase Carter Goode was referred to EFT by Michael 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. \*Barbara Thomas 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. \*Barbara Thomas 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. \*Barbara Thomas 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. **First Line Sponsor: Bob Vickers. \*Della Vickers DAR Finder referral. Awaiting Birth Record. In Work.**
- 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.**

### **SUMMARY**

**Regular Members Approved at National: 1**

**Regular Members Awaiting Review at National: 18**

**Junior Members Awaiting Review at National: 2**

**Regular Members Awaiting Review at State: 2**

**Junior Members Awaiting Review at State: 0**

**Regular Members In-Work: 2**

**Junior Members In-Work: 1**