SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER

SQUADRON # 237

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER

SQUADRON NO. 237

ATTACHED TO

CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 237

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the association of our members and our forefathers in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Sons of The American Legion, Clayton E. Moneymaker Squadron 237 of the American Legion Post Number 237, Department of Alabama.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVES/PURPOSES

The objectives and purposes of this Squadron shall be to promote the principles and policies as set forth in the foregoing Preamble to this Constitution as well as those specified within the National and Departmental Constitutions of the Sons of The American Legion.

ARTICLE III

NATURE

Section 1. The Sons of The American Legion Squadron No. 237, attached to Post No. 237, Department of Alabama, is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. This Squadron shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. This Squadron shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

Section 4. This Squadron is not organized for financial gain.

Section 5. Each member of this Squadron shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding, in accordance with the law.

ARTICLE IV

ORGANIZATION

Section 1. This Squadron is organized as a subordinate body of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Alabama, and under sponsorship and jurisdiction of Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post No. 237, Department of Alabama.

Section 2. This Squadron shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the American Legion, by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Detachment Headquarters, approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, and by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by its sponsoring Post of The American Legion, not inconsistent with those prescribed by the National Headquarters.

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time from December 7, 1941, to date, who served honorably, as set forth in Article IV of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in this Squadron of The Sons of The American Legion.

Section 2. Application for membership in this Squadron shall be made in writing on blank applications prescribed by the National Headquarters.

Section 3. There shall be no form or class of membership, except an active membership.

Section 4. There shall be no age barrier for membership in this Squadron.

Section 5. No person may be a member of this Squadron and another Squadron.

Section 6. No person expelled from membership by any Sons of The American Legion Squadron shall be admitted to membership in this Squadron without the consent of the expelling Squadron, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such Squadron, he may then appeal to the Executive Committee of the Detachment of the expelling Squadron for permission to be admitted to membership in another Squadron, and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

ARTICLE VI

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

All members who joined Sons of The American Legion Squadron No. 237, Detachment of Alabama on or before **September 14, 2014** shall be known as Charter Members.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS

Section 1. Elected officers of this Squadron shall consist of the following:

Commander

First Vice Commander

Second Vice Commander

Finance Officer

Chaplain

Historian

Sergeant-At-Arms

Section 2. The Squadron Adjutant shall be appointed by the incoming Commander, subject to the approval of the Elected Officers.

Section 3. Election of officers will be held in May and their installation will occur in June each year.

Section 4. Every member of this Squadron, in good standing, shall be eligible to hold office in this Squadron, unless otherwise provided for in the National, Detachment, or Squadron Constitution or By-Laws.

Section 5. Any officer may be removed from office for inefficiency or malfeasance upon the approval of a majority vote of the members present at any regularly scheduled Squadron membership meeting.

Section 6. The duties of the officers shall be those as provided in the Squadron By-Laws.

Section 7. No member of this Squadron is permitted to be elected to more than one office.

Section 8. The term of office for Squadron officers will be one (1) year. Vacancies in these offices occurring between Conventions shall be filled by appointment by the Squadron Commander, with the approval of the Squadron Officers

ARTICLE VIII

FINANCE

Section 1. The revenue of this Squadron shall be derived from membership dues and from such other sources as may be recommended by the Squadron membership at any regularly scheduled Squadron membership meeting.

Section 2. The amount of annual membership dues shall be fixed, determined and approved by a majority of the members of the Squadron present at any Squadron membership meeting.

Section 3. This Squadron shall pay to National and Detachment Headquarters annual membership dues for every member of this Squadron.

Section 4. Any proposed expenditure of Squadron funds not included in the budget for the current year's operations, except as might otherwise be provided in the By-Laws, must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present at any regularly scheduled Squadron membership meeting.

Section 5. The outgoing Finance Officer shall prepare a budget for the next fiscal year and present it to the newly elected Commander at the regularly scheduled membership meeting in May. The newly elected Commander and designated representatives will make any needed changes to the budget and present the budget for approval at the regularly scheduled membership meeting in June. Approval of the budget will authorize the Finance Officer to disburse funds, in accordance with said budget, without further action by the membership.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment Constitution of which the Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Constitutions which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution, to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. This Constitution may be amended at any regularly scheduled Squadron membership meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members in attendance; provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediate preceding Squadron membership meeting, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least five days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.

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SQUADRON NO. 237

ATTACHED TO

CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 237

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

BY-LAWS

By-Laws of Clayton E. Moneymaker Sons of The American Legion Squadron No. 237, attached to Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post No. 237, Department of Alabama.

ARTICLE I

NAME

This Squadron existing under these By-Laws is to be known as Clayton E. Moneymaker Sons of The American Legion Squadron Number 237 of American Legion Post Number 237, Department of Alabama.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVES/PURPOSES

The objectives/purposes of this Squadron are as set forth in the Squadron Constitution.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Applications for membership shall be made in writing on blank application forms prescribed by the National Headquarters.

Section 2. All applications for membership shall be acted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Squadron following the receipt of such application. The Squadron Adjutant shall present such application with his recommendation for acceptance or rejection. If a majority vote of members present at the regularly scheduled meeting cast their vote against the acceptance of such applicant, then such applicant shall be recorded as rejected.

ARTICLE IV

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. At the regularly scheduled membership meeting in March the Commander shall appoint a nominating committee of a minimum of two members who will present at the April meeting a report of one or more candidates for each of the following offices required to be elected under the Constitution of this Squadron:

Commander

First Vice Commander

Second Vice Commander

Finance Officer

Chaplain

Historian

Sergeant-At-Arms

Note: The Squadron Adjutant will be appointed by the incoming Commander, subject to the approval of the elected officers.

Section 2. At the regularly scheduled meeting in April the chairman of the nominating committee will read to the membership the names of each Squadron member who has expressed a desire to be nominated for the aforementioned offices.

Section 3. Following the reading the names of all nominated Squadron members, the Commander will ask each nominated member if they accept the nomination.

Section 4. After each nominee accepts their nomination and their nomination is seconded, the chairman of the nominating committee will annotate each name on an election board under the name of each respective office.

Section 5. After all nominated officer prospects have been announced, the Commander will ask the membership if there are any nominations from the floor for each respective office. If so, the Commander will ask these nominees if they accept the nomination and if accepted, their names will be annotated on the election board under the name of each office.

Section 6. Following the conclusion of the nomination meeting, the chairman of the nominating committee will place the election board in the social quarters for all Squadron members to see.

Section 7. On the day of the regularly scheduled meeting in May from the hours of noon to 6:00 pm the Adjutant is responsible for coordinating all the required actions to conduct the election of officers in the ballroom.

Section 8. Required actions to be performed by the Adjutant:

A. Advertise by all means possible to the membership when and where the election will occur.

B. Prepare the election ballot.

C. Identify volunteers to man the election table.

NOTE: Election volunteers cannot be officer candidates.

D. Prepare a member sign in list.

E. Prepare an officer election results document.

F. Identify 2-3 volunteers to assist in counting ballots.

G. Obtain an election ballot box.

H. Conduct the election during the prescribed time.

I. Prior to the May membership meeting provide the Commander with the results of the election to be announced at the meeting.

J. Following the meeting, place all completed ballots in a sealed envelope and mark the envelope to be opened in fifteen (15) days from date of the election, then destroy all of the ballots.

Section 9. At the regularly scheduled membership meeting those officers, who by secret ballot, received a majority of the votes of Squadron members in good standing, shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE V

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. COMMANDER:

A. Shall be the executive head of the Squadron.

B. Is entrusted with teaching and protecting the cardinal principles of the Sons of The American Legion.

C. Shall enforce the provisions of the Squadron Constitution and By-Laws and the policies and mandates of the National and Detachment Sons of The American Legion.

D. Supervises the duties of the other Squadron officers.

Section 2. FIRST VICE COMMANDER:

A. Acts as a representative of the Commander on all matters assigned to him.

B. Responsible for membership enrollment activities.

Section 3. SECOND VICE COMMANDER:

A. Acts as a representative of the Commander on all matters assigned to him.

B. Responsible for patriotic observances, development of Squadron activities and planning entertainment and social activities.

Section 4. ADJUTANT:

A. Responsible for the administrative duties of the Squadron (ie. processes correspondence, keeps Squadron records, publishes orders, announcements and instructions.)

B. Responsible for the preparation for and conduct of the annual officer's election.

Section 5. FINANCE OFFICER:

A. Shall be the custodian of the funds of the Squadron.

B. Responsible for receiving and disbursing Squadron funds.

C. Shall make reports on the status of Squadron funds.

Section 6. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

A. Is responsible for preserving order at all Squadron meetings.

B. Is custodian of the Squadron's colors.

C. Performs other duties assigned to him by the Commander.

Section 7. CHAPLAIN:

A. Responsible for the spiritual leadership of the Squadron.

B. Shall deliver prayers at all membership meetings and scheduled Squadron events.

Section 8. HISTORIAN:

A. Shall be charged with the individual records and incidents of the Squadron and its members.

B. Shall compile and annual record of the complete history of Squadron events and activities.

ARTICLE VI

DUES

Section 1. Annual dues will be as set forth in the Squadron Constitution, Article VIII, Section 2.

Section 2. A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January 1 shall be deemed delinquent. If his dues are paid on or before February 1, he shall be automatically reinstated. If he is still delinquent after February 1, he shall be suspended from all privileges. If he is still under such suspension on March 1 of such year, his membership in the Sons of The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the Squadron and payment of current dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs. The Squadron's Detachment and the National Headquarters may waive these provisions pertaining to members who have been prevented from paying dues by reason of active military service.

ARTICLE VII

FINANCES

Section 1. The Finance Officer shall provide the following information to the Squadron membership:

A. Collection of revenue and deposits.

B. Financial and investment health of the Squadron.

C. Disbursement of funds for daily operations of the Squadron.

D. Disbursement of funds for grants and donations to individuals approved by the Squadron leadership and membership.

Section 2. All funds of this Squadron will be deposited in a designated bank by the Finance Officer. Authorized withdrawals shall only be made upon draft or check signed by the Finance Officer and one other officer.

Section 3. All business licenses, insurances, bonds and contracts will be paid for and retained by the Finance Officer.

Section 4. The Finance Officer will maintain Squadron financial records in accordance with good record keeping practices adopted by the Squadron leadership. Both electronic and hard copy of all receipts/invoices/orders will be maintained.

Section 5. All fund-raising projects or promotions shall be approved by the Squadron leadership and reports of same made to and monitored by the Finance Officer.

ARTICLE VIII

MEETINGS

Section 1. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

The regularly scheduled membership meeting will be conducted beginning at 3:00 PM on the third Sunday of the month, except for the December meeting which may be changed by the membership in the November meeting.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS:

A. The Commander may call a special meeting if he determines it is necessary for the good of the Squadron.

B. Special meetings may also be called upon the written request of five (5) or more Squadron members.

C. Notice of all special meetings of the Squadron shall be mailed or electronically mailed to each Squadron member forty-eight (48) hours prior to holding such meeting. This notice shall state the purpose of the meeting. No business other than what is stated in the notice shall be conducted.

Section 3. QUORUM:

Five (5) members, including the Commander or other authorized presiding officer, at any regularly scheduled membership meeting shall constitute a quorum. A quorum must be present to conduct the formal business of the Squadron.

Section 4. REQUIRED RECORDS AND REPORTS:

Approved minutes of all membership and special meetings will be maintained in Squadron files

Section 5. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:

The latest version or revision of Robert's Rules of Order will be used as the basis for the conduct of all official Squadron meetings.

ARTICLE IX

CORRESPONDENCE TO MEMBERS

Every Squadron member shall furnish to the Adjutant his contact information, to which all notices and documents may be sent, and the same shall be held to have been duly sent to or served upon a member if mailed to such address so furnished. In default of contact information having been furnished by a Squadron member, any notice or documents will be held to have been duly served upon such member five days after the same shall have been electronically transmitted to the member or deposited in the local post office addressed to such member at such post office address.

ARTICLE X

CONVENTION

Section 1. Squadron delegates to the Detachment Convention shall be elected by the membership at the membership meeting in May. The Squadron Commander and Adjutant shall be automatic delegates to the convention, and the Commander will be the Chairman of the Squadron delegation, unless unable to attend. The First or Second Vice Commander, Adjutant or a Past Commander would then take his place as Chairman.

Section 2. The number of delegates will be determined by Squadron membership strength, and members sent will be determined by the membership.

Section 3. To be a delegate to the Detachment Convention a member must in good standing and have attended at least 50% of Squadron membership meetings for the last year.

Section 4. Delegates must attend all detachment convention meetings or must reimburse all moneys allocated.

Section 5. Lodging for authorized delegates shall be provided by the Squadron. The Squadron will determine the type and location of such lodging; lodging will be based on double occupancy. Delegates who choose not to accept lodging provided by the Squadron shall be reimbursed up to an amount not to exceed 50% of the double occupancy rate paid for Squadron approved lodging, as funds may allow and by a vote of the floor.

Section 6. Expenses for transportation and meals will only be reimbursed if approved in advance of such convention by the membership. The amount of per diem for meals will not exceed the amount allowed by TAL National and/or Department Mileage reimbursement will be at the rate as set from time to time by the Detachment.

Section 7. All provisions set forth in Sections 5 and 6 of this Article will be based on funds available for that year.

ARTICLE XI

USE OF THE SQUADRON NAME

The use of this Squadron's name and/or insignia for the purpose of selling any tickets, chances, etc., or in any way sponsoring any program or event without the approval of the Squadron leadership and membership in an open meeting is prohibited. Approval of a line item in the annual Squadron budget is also approval for the responsible member to use the name and/or insignia of the Squadron in fund raising efforts.

ARTICLE XII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws are adopted, subject to the provision of the National By-Laws and the Detachment By-Laws of which the Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment By-Laws which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these By-Laws, to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. These By-Laws may be amended at any regularly scheduled Squadron membership meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members in attendance; provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediately preceding Squadron membership meeting, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least five days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend the By-Laws is to be voted upon.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE APPROVED BY THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ON September 21, 2025.

STEVE BOWLING DATE	THAD PAONE DATE
COMMANDER	ADJUTANT

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE _____

TOM PAONE

Post 237 Commander