



# David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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**WINNER OF THE TEXAS DIVISION BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2017, 2018, 2020 & 2021**

**WINNER OF THE SCV NATIONAL BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2016, 2017 & 2018**

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January 19, 2023; Texas State Holiday For  
Confederate Remembrance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NEXT MEETING

Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m.  
Herschel's Restaurant  
1612 S Jefferson Ave.  
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455

#### 2023 Texas Division Reunion

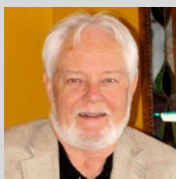
June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
MCM Elegante Hotel  
801 Avenue Q  
Lubbock, TX 79401

#### 2023 SCV National Reunion

July 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
Arlington Hotel  
239 Central Avenue  
Hot Springs, Arkansas

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

*by Steven Weldon Austin*



Compatriots,

There continues to be a flurry of activity in and around Camp #2270... replacing and reassigning Camp Officer's, determining our immediate future, working with Old Union Board, planning our long term actions. Some of these are in work, others are pending scheduling with other entities. I have reached out to the neighboring Counties (Franklin and Morris) and to a UDC contact ... Cemetery Committees and Boards are also on the radar. I am still seeking some members who are willing to lend a hand with officer positions... More as we go forward.

Next meeting is 2pm , January 14, 2023 at Herschel's... Safe Travels,

## DAVIDRREYNOLDS.ORG

This month the following changes have been made to our web site: <http://www.davidrreynolds.org>

- I've updated our Calendar of Events.
- I've updated our Events page to include all known events by the Camp and its members. Please let me know when you do anything for the SCV, this includes attending other camp

meeting, public speaking, or even putting flags on graves.

- I've updated our Membership page as well as our Guardian Page.

I'm still looking for biographies of your Confederate Ancestor. Please try to come up with a short bio that we can put on-line.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or comments you can send me an email to: [Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org) and I promise to give it my full consideration.



### OUR CHARGE...

**"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!**

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,  
United Confederate Veterans,  
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*



### A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*(Taken from the January 1923 Edition of the  
Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)*

**THE BRAVEST ARE THE GENTLEST**  
*BY MRS. C. N. M'MAHON, LIVINGSTON, ALA.*

The article on "A Mississippi Soldier of the Confederacy," by Capt. R. N. Rea, in the Veteran for August was very much enjoyed by me, especially as he referred to my father, Captain Winston. But I would like to correct a mistake made by Captain Rea (a very natural mistake through the similarity of names) in speaking of Captain Winston as the son of Gov. John Anthony Winston, of Alabama. My father, Capt. James M. Winston was the son of Anthony Winston, who was an officer in the Mexican War, and grandson of Capt. Anthony Winston of Revolutionary fame. Governor John Anthony Winston was also a grandson of Anthony Winston, Revolutionary soldier, and was first cousin to my father. Governor Winston left no sons. He had an only child, a daughter, Mrs. Agnes Winston Goldsby, of Mobile, Ala., and Judge Joel Goldsby, also of Mobile, is his only living grandson.

I have in my possession a letter from Captain Rea to my father, thanking him for sending a horse to take him off the battlefield, where he had been left wounded, and having him carried to the Confederate lines, thus saving him from death or a Federal prison. In Captain Rea's letter to the Confederate Veteran, he alluded to this circumstance. My father's body servant, Lewis (not Jim), who went for Captain Rea, helped him on the horse, and went with him to a place of safety, encouraging him as they rode for their lives, lived and died, when an old man, on my father's plantation, a loyal, faithful servant to the last. This incident of my father sending help to a wounded man was one of many instances showing his kind, sympathetic heart. At one time he captured a squad of Federal soldiers, and noticing that one of them was limping badly, evidently from a sprained ankle, he told one of his men to walk and put the crippled man on his horse, and the soldier said: "Why, Captain, he is a Yankee; make him walk." My father's reply was: "Dismount, sir, and put that crippled man on your horse. Never strike a man when he is down, even if he is a foe." At another time he captured some Union soldiers, and the captain of the company came up to him and handed him his watch and a large roll of greenbacks. My father said: "Put your watch and

money back in your pocket. I am a soldier, not a robber." But though kind and tender hearted, just, and upright, he was a strict disciplinarian. One morning he received an order to build a bridge across, a river. Going to his colonel, he told him that he was not an engineer and had never built a bridge in his life. The colonel replied: "We have a splendid civil engineer, but the men will not obey him. Take charge and ask the engineer to give you his orders, and you give them to the men, and see that they are carried out." When my father asked the engineer for directions, he said: "The men will have to go in the water, and they all refuse to do it." My father gave the order for every third man to swim to the middle of the stream, and the man standing nearest to him said sullenly: "The water is cold; we won't go in." Whereupon my father seized the rebellious soldier and pitched him headforemost into the river. Instantly every man ordered jumped into the water without assistance. That was the last act of disobedience, and the bridge was built on schedule time. My father's men would recall with enthusiasm how, when going into battle or making a charge, he would call in a clear, ringing voice, "Boys, follow me!" and would never send his men where he was not willing to go. But he told us that once he ran from the Yankees, thus verifying the old adage that discretion is the better part of valor," and acted on Falstaff's policy "that he who fights and runs away, lives to fight another day."

He received orders from his colonel to ascertain the position of the enemy, and with a body of picked men he went skirmishing. Riding up to a supposedly vacant house, they were about to dismount when suddenly the doors were thrown open and, with yells and curses, the bluecoats swarmed out, greatly outnumbering his men. My father gave the order to fire, then to make for the Confederate lines, every man for himself. The Federals returned the fire and mounted their horses, which were concealed in the bushes nearby, and gave hot pursuit. They got so close that my father heard them say: "Catch the fellow on the big black horse." Father was riding a very handsome large black horse. Lying flat on the

horse's body, he put spurs to him and whispered, "Go it, Bill," and Bill rose to the occasion and went as if on wings, so far outstripping the pursuers that the chase was abandoned long before they reached the Confederate lines.

I must add to this an incident of the bravery of Gov. John Anthony Winston, who was colonel of the 8th Alabama Regiment. During an important engagement in which the Federals apparently had the advantage, the Confederates seemed disheartened, their courage begun to flag, when Colonel Winston, quick to recognize the situation, taking his bridle in his teeth, his sword in one hand and his gun in the other, dashed into the enemy's lines, ordering his men to follow. Consternation at such reckless daring caused the enemy to retreat, the tide was turned, and victory perched upon the Stars and Bars. My father's devotion to his men was beautiful, and he was ever ready to extend aid to an old Confederate veteran. They were equally devoted to him, and loved to recall his acts of kindness, as well as his bravery, and often said: "Never a braver man wore the gray and never a more tender heartbeat under a jacket of gray." After my father passed "over the river to rest under the shade of the trees," his old comrades delighted to show every courtesy to their "old captain's daughter."



## LAST CAMP MEETING

Our first meeting at Herschel's Family Restaurant was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. Although we miss our "Old Union Headquarters", it appears that this will be a nice meeting place.

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Steve Weldon Austin stepped up and assumed the duties as Camp Commander, after receiving the resignation of Dennis Beckham. Kidd Tillery was elected 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander by those in attendance.

We discussed the appointment of the other Camp leaders and also talked about the possibility of

meeting with the Old Union Community Board to see about the possibility of getting the center repaired, what we can do to help, and about resuming our meetings there.

I would like to hear from our members that live out of town and are unable to attend our regular Camp Meetings, if our meeting were also held by "Zoom", do you have a computer, iPad, or smart phone that you could use to attend the meeting from your home, if so, would you be interested? If any of you have questions about Zoom Meetings, please feel free to contact me.

It was great to see Compatriot Terry Landrum at out meeting.

Joe Reynolds

## BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY



### Battle of Arkansas Post or Fort Hindman - Fort Hindman Arkansas

11 January 1863 - General Thomas J. Churchill verses General John A. McClernand. Casualties: 4564 Confederate, 1061 Union!

### Battle of Fort Fisher - Fort Fisher North Carolina

13-15 January 1865 - General William H.C. Whiting verses General Alfred H. Terry. Casualties: 1400 Confederates, 5962 Union!

### Battle of Mill Springs - Mill Springs Kentucky

19 January 1862 - George B. Crittenden verses General George H. Thomas. Casualties: 314 Confederate, 246 Union!

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

**January 7<sup>th</sup>** – Harry King

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** – Jeanette Merka

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** – Rex & Carole McGee

**January 21<sup>st</sup>** – Joe & Keesie Reynolds

**January 8<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1821 General James Longstreet was born.

**January 9<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1861 Mississippi secedes from the union.

**January 10<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1861 Florida secedes from the union.

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1861 Alabama secedes from the union.

**January 19<sup>th</sup>** – This day 1807 General Robert E. Lee was born in Stratford, Virginia.

**January (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)** – This day is confederate Heroes Day.

**January 21<sup>st</sup>** – This day in 1824 General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was born in West Virginia.

**January 26<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1861 Louisiana secedes from the union.

**January 28<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1825 General George Pickett was born.

## INTERESTING BIT OF HISTORY

### Who was Hayim Solomon?

On the rear of the One Dollar bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.



If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid

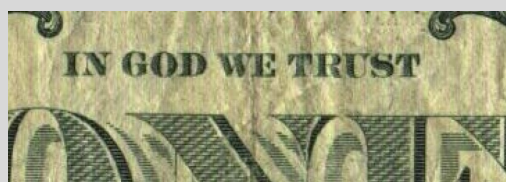


Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything.



The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking.' The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)

'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency.



If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National

Cemetery in the United States It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery , and is the centerpiece of most hero's monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.



The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' meaning, 'one from many.'

Above the Eagle, you have the thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.

Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this:

- 13 original colonies,
- 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence,
- 13 stripes on our flag,

13 steps on the Pyramid,  
13 letters in, 'Annuet Coeptis,'  
13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum,'  
13 stars above the Eagle,  
13 bars on that shield,  
13 leaves on the olive branch,  
13 fruits, and if you look closely,  
13 arrows.

And finally, if you notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle you will see that they are arranged as a Star of David. This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Hayim Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army, Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself but that he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result. Few people know that it was Solomon who saved the Army through his financial contributions but died a pauper.

I always ask people, 'Why don't you know this?' Your children don't know this, and their history teachers don't know this. Too many veterans have given up too much to ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all.

I for one, plan to share this presentation with everyone, so they can learn what is on the back of the United States one dollar bill - and what it stands for!



The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the SCV is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes so that future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861 - 1865 period is preserved.

Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.

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## CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY

January 16, 2023

More than 286,000 Confederate American soldiers perished in the War Between the States. History reduces the carnage to impersonal numbers, yet each was a son, a father, a brother, a husband, or a friend, each with hopes and worries, plans and priorities, desires and fears. War struck them down prematurely and reduced their lives to an impersonal statistic on a printed page.



## OLD GUY AND A BUCKET OF SHRIMP.

This is a wonderful story and it is true.

You will be pleased that you read it, and I believe you will pass it on. It is an important piece of American, history.

It happened every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembled a giant orange and was starting to dip into the blue ocean.

Old Ed came strolling along the beach to his favorite pier. Clutched in his bony hand was a bucket of shrimp. Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now.

Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts...and his bucket of shrimp.

Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier.

Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds. As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, 'Thank you. Thank you.'

In a few short minutes the bucket is empty. But Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought, as though transported to another time and place.

When he finally turns around and begins to walk back toward the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the end of the beach and on home.

If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like 'a funny old duck,' as my dad used to say. Or, to onlookers, he's

just another old codger, lost in his own weird world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp. To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant ... maybe even a lot of nonsense. Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters.

Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida. That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better. His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero in World War I, and then he was in WWII. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his seven-member crew went down.

Miraculously, all of the men survived, crawled out of their plane, and climbed into a life raft.

Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger and thirst. By the eighth day their rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were or even if they were alive.

Every day across America millions wondered and prayed that Eddie Rickenbacker might somehow be found alive. The men adrift needed a miracle. That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle.

They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose. Time dragged on. All he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft...suddenly, Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull!

Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal of it. A very slight meal for eight men. Then they used the intestines for bait.



With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and more bait....and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigors of the sea until they were found and rescued after 24 days at sea.

Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal, but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first life-saving seagull...and he never stopped saying, 'Thank you.' That's why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude.

Eddie Rickenbacker was the founder of Eastern Airlines. Before WWI he was race car driver. In WWI he was a pilot and became America's first ace. In WWII he was an instructor and military adviser, and he flew missions with the combat pilots. Eddie Rickenbacker is a true American hero. And now you know another story about the trials and sacrifices that brave men have endured for your freedom.



## WHAT IS GASLIGHTING?

The term originates in the systematic psychological manipulation of a victim by her husband in Patrick Hamilton's 1938 stage play *Gas Light*, and the film adaptations released in 1940 and 1944. In the story, the husband attempts to convince his wife and others that she is insane by manipulating small elements of their environment and insisting that she is mistaken, remembering things incorrectly, or delusional when she points out these changes. The play's title alludes to how the abusive husband slowly dims the gas lights in their home, while pretending nothing has changed, in an effort to make his wife doubt her own perceptions. The wife repeatedly asks her husband to confirm her perceptions about the dimming lights, but in defiance of reality, he keeps insisting that the lights are the same and instead it is she who is going insane.

We are living in a perpetual state of gaslighting. The reality that we are being told by the media is at

complete odds with what we are seeing with our own two eyes. And when we question the false reality that we are being presented, or we claim that what we see is that actual reality, we are vilified as racist or bigots or just plain crazy. You're not racist. You're not crazy. You're being gaslighted.

New York State has twice as many deaths from Covid-19 than any other state, and New York has accounted for one fifth of all Covid-19 deaths, but we are told that New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has handled the pandemic better than any other governor. But if we support policies of Governors whose states had only a fraction of the infections and deaths as New York, we're called anti-science and want people to die. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

We see mobs of people looting stores, smashing windows, setting cars on fire and burning down buildings, but we are told that these demonstrations are peaceful protests. And when we call this destruction of our cities, riots, we are called racists. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

We see the major problem destroying many inner-cities is crime; murder, gang violence, drug dealing, drive-by shootings, armed robbery, but we are told that it is not crime, but the police that are the problem in the inner-cities. We are told we must defund the police and remove law enforcement from crime-riddled cities to make them safer. But if we advocate for more policing in cities overrun by crime, we are accused of being white supremacists and racists. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

The United States of America accepts more immigrants than any other country in the world. The vast majority of the immigrants are "people of color", and these immigrants are enjoying freedom and economic opportunity not available to them in their country of origin, but we are told that the United



States is the most racist and oppressive country on the planet, and if we disagree, we are called racist and xenophobic. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

Capitalist countries are the most prosperous countries in the world. The standard of living is the highest in capitalist countries. We see more poor people move up the economic ladder to the middle and even the wealthy class through their effort and ability in capitalist countries than any other economic system in the world, but we are told capitalism is an oppressive system designed to keep people down. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

Communist countries killed over 100 million people in the 20th century. Communist countries strip their citizens of basic human rights, dictate every aspect of their lives, treat their citizens like slaves, and drive their economies into the ground, but we are told that Communism is the fairest, most equitable, freest and most prosperous economic system in the world. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

The most egregious example of gaslighting is the concept of "white fragility". You spend your life trying to be a good person, trying to treat people fairly and with respect. You disavow racism and bigotry in all its forms. You judge people solely on the content of their character and not by the color of their skin. You don't discriminate based on race or ethnicity. But you are told you are a racist, not because of something you did or said, but solely because of the color of your skin. You know instinctively that charging someone with racism because of their skin color is itself racist. You know that you are not racist, so you defend yourself and your character, but you are told that your defense of yourself is proof of your racism. So, we ask ourselves, am I crazy? No, you're being gaslighted.

Gaslighting has become one of the most pervasive and destructive tactics in American politics. It is the exact opposite of what our political system was meant to be. It deals in lies and psychological

coercion, and not the truth and intellectual discourse. If you ever ask yourself if you're crazy, you are not. Crazy people aren't sane enough to ask themselves if they're crazy. So, trust yourself, believe what's in your heart. Trust your eyes over what you are told. Never listen to the people who tell you that you are crazy, because you are not, you're being gaslighted.

Sophocles said: "What people believe prevails over the truth."

And that's what the media are trying to exploit.

Don't allow yourself to be gaslighted.



### Matthew 5: 43 - 44

*"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"*

One of our beloved heroes, Robert E. Lee was noted for never referring to Union troops as "Yankees," or even, "the enemy." Instead, he called them "those people." General Lee's attitude toward his military opponents gave him a reputation for being a humble, gracious gentleman, even among the Union Army. He, and countless others among our Southern ancestors proved themselves as courageous and determined warriors on the battlefield, yet courteous and kind when the guns were silent.

Compatriots, the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270 is looking for someone to step up and assume the duties as Champ Chaplain, please let Commander Austin know if you are interested.

**Camp Leadership**

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Vacant

**Quartermaster**

Vacant

**Surgeon**

Vacant

**Chaplain**

Vacant

**Color Sergeant**

Vacant

**Historian**

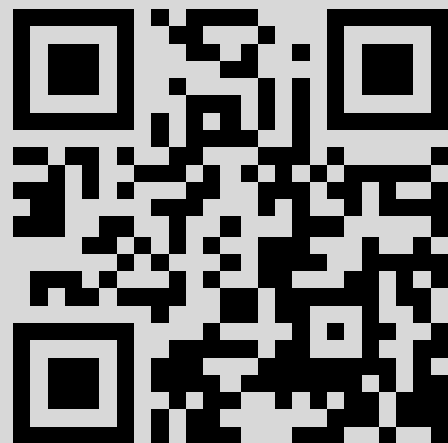
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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270.

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(Cutoff for articles is 20<sup>th</sup> of the month)