

# Navid's Nispatch

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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#### COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Steven Weldon Austin

Compatriots,



We had a rollercoaster February, but we will focus on the ups and move in a positive direction. Word was finally received from the Old Union Board, and we have a meeting scheduled with the Officers Thursday, March 2 at 5:30pm at the Community Center. Hal Roper, the Board President was glad to know that Joe had the paperwork for them to file for 501(c)3 status. This meeting should confirm the relationship between our groups. Whether or not we continue with the exact same understanding we previously had is not clear. Without going into specific detail. Camp 2270 has some requirements that must be affirmed and our intent is to work toward a mutually beneficial relationship. I will send out information as soon as we know the results of the meeting.

Joe had our Zoom meeting set up for the February meeting, but as I posted earlier, Herschel's failed to hold the room. The meeting was scheduled and entered into the restaurants calendar. At some point, Herschel's decided not to hold the room on Saturdays, which is exactly opposite from what I had been told directly. But moving forward, we will not depend on Herschel's. I am now in discussions with the Mt. Pleasant Library and the Mt. Pleasant Rodeo Association for meeting room access. Both of these locations have WiFi. so Zoom should be available in future meetings. Both locations have shown a positive attitude to my request and I would like to try a meeting at both locations before we make decisions of weighing the Community Center to other locations.

I requested to address the Titus County Judge and Commissioners, during the first meeting of the February 13th, under Public month on Comments. I presented the Court with two examples, that I personally observed during my tenure as County Veteran Service Officer and Titus County Historical Commission Chair, of desecration and disrespect by other entities, of the Memorials and Monuments on the Titus Count Courthouse Grounds. The Court seemed to understand my concern and dissatisfaction and supported my comments. A written and formal Agenda Item will be presented to the Court for their consideration and possible action on Restrictions for public use for Titus County Courthouse Grounds. This is the first step to securing and protecting our Monuments and Memorials, for preserving our Heritage. A report of the actions approved by the Court will be published when available.

A special "Thanks" to Joe Reynolds for his participation in the Jefferson Mardi Gras Parade as 5th Brigade 2nd Lt. and Camp #2270 Cmdr's Designee; SCV. 5th Brigade Cmdr. Bill Elliot provided numerous photos of the event and noted that 5 of the 7 Camps in the 5th Brigade were in attendance. Members of the SCV Mechanized Cavalry proudly displayed their colors as well.

One new member application was tendered and a classification as Monument Guardian (internal to Camp #2270) is being considered. More on this action will be addressed later.

We are still moving forward, but membership and participation is crucial. Members need to be active, prior members need to renew and new members need to be recruited... I am still optimistic of our future.

For Heritage and History
Deo Vindice
Steve W. Austin; Cmdr. #2270, SCV

# UPCOMING EVENTS NEXT MEETING

Saturday, March 11<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



#### DAVIDRREYNOLDS.ORG

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

• 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'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: <u>Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org</u> 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 March 1923 Edition of the Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)

#### TWIN PATRIOTS — WASHINGTON AND LEE

by Mrs. William Cabell Flournoy, of Virginia

[This essay won the prize of ten dollars in gold offered by the Virginia Division, U. D. C. for the best essay on the above subject; awarded at the Virginia State Convention, Fredericksburg, Va., October, 1922.]

"Both patriots, both Virginians true; Both rebels, both sublime!"

Seldom has it been given to a State to give birth to two sons with such claims to immortality as Washington and Lee, and their resemblance in graces of character and gifts of genius is a shining illustration of the fact that "true greatness has but one sure foundation and bears but one core in every age."

Men seem to have agreed that in these two leaders was greatness which no one could question and character which no one could fail to respect. Even Englishmen, who are the most unsparing censors of everything American, have paid homage to both.

When, years after death, the world thus agrees to call men great, the verdict must be accepted, and it is interesting to trace the points of resemblance between Virginia's two noble sons. Common to both was the influence of distinguished ancestry, both of Norman stock, knights and gentlemen in the full sense of the word. The Washingtons of Virginia are descended from the owners of the Manor of Sulgrave in Northamptonshire, and thence back through the Norman knight, Sir William de Hertburn, of the little village of Washington, which lies in the north of England, in the region conquered first by Saxons and then by Danes. They were a strong race of prudent, bold men, always important in their several stations, ready to fight and ready to work, and, as a rule, successful in that which they set themselves to do,

coming in time to Westmoreland County, Va., where their most illustrious descendant was born.

To this same county came the Lees from one of the oldest families in England, its members from an early date being distinguished for eminent services to sovereign and country. We see them now only by glimpses through the mists of time as Lancelot Lee, fighting by the side of William the Conqueror at the battle of Hastings, and Lionel Lee, following Richard Coeur de Lion in the third Crusade to Palestine. "displaying great bravery at the siege of Acre." It has been clearly established that the earliest representatives in America claimed descent from the noble family of Morton Regis, in Shropshire, and to their descendants, though many have shed luster upon the name, the greatest of these is he who was born at "Stratford" in the County of Westmoreland, Va.

Seventy-five years intervened between the birth of these two men, and it is worthy of note that each was left early in life to his mother's influence and care. If they were early trained in the way they should go, their mothers trained them. If their principles were sound and their lives a success, to their mothers, more than to any other, should the praise be given. They were taught the great lesson of self-control in those early years, and few have had greater need for self-control in after life than they.

Young George Washington was learning this lesson when he renounced his ambition to go to sea and listened to the calmer reasoning and counsel of his mother, whose discipline was acknowledged by her son to have been the foundation of his fortune and fame. There is indication of thoughtfulness not usual in a boy of fifteen who wrote in his notebook: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience." Nor is it a matter of wonder that a mother who had so trained her son should retain to the last a profound hold upon his reverential devotion.

Young Robert E. Lee learned lessons of self-control which formed the solid foundation of his character in those early years when his invalid mother was left to

his special care, and the conscientious discharge of this responsibility gave him the constant companionship of a strong and beautiful character, which was reflected in his own life and enabled him, when misfortunes gathered thick and fast around him, to drink strength from the cup of calamity itself. It was amid these scenes of ruin that he wrote to his daughter, who had been visiting at Stratford: " How my heart goes back to those early days!"

Thus were these young Virginians marked in boyhood by those traits that produce nobility of character in manhood, and they were found strong and effective beyond the measure of ordinary men when the hour of peril came.

Each was the product of the civilization in which he was reared, a civilization prolific of statesmen and soldiers, of whom these two were the highest exponents. In referring to the social life of Virginia as it then existed, Henry Cabot Lodge says, "We must go back to Athens to find another instance of a society so small in numbers and yet capable of such an out-burst of ability and force;" while Charles Francis Adams expresses doubt as to whether patriotism and devotion to State ever anywhere attained a higher development than in the community which dwelt in the region watered by the Potomac and the James. Such influences were powerful in guiding these men when the crisis came.

As Washington looked to the figures of the past for inspiration, his young kinsman, Robert E. Lee, had ever before him the simple dignity and majesty of Washington himself, for in both of his ancestral homes the boy found an atmosphere permeated with the memory of the preserver of his country.

The very mold in which nature cast them marked these men for greatness. Their poise, dignity, and reserve seemed inborn, and a modesty that has ever been the mark of true greatness. There was something in both which seemed to hold men at a distance. Gamaliel Bradford says: "Lee had one intimate friend — God." The veil of Washington's silence is seldom lifted; in many volumes of letters and messages he is profoundly silent as to himself.

Their graceful bearing was notable. Viscounte de Noailles, in commenting upon the grace with which Washington wore a sword, said it was because "the man was made for the sword, and not the sword for the man;" while one who knew Lee intimately testifies that he never saw him take an ungraceful attitude.

They had many traits in common. Their firm grasp of details in everything undertaken, great or small; their keen sense of appropriateness, which stood them in good stead in grave as well as in trivial matters, and which led them to be always well dressed; their love of good horses, and the peculiar grace and endurance which marked them in the saddle. In his age, Washington mounted a horse with ease, and during the five years General Lee spent at Lexington, his one diversion was to take long rides on Traveller.

Their attitude toward slavery was the same. Washington left directions in his will that his slaves should be set free on the death of his wife; and it is well known that Lee had freed his before the sixties, and all the slaves belonging to his wife's estate were liberated at a certain time designated in Mr. Custis's will.

It is not surprising that such men bore off prizes in matrimony and, by their happy choice, widened and strengthened social connections already powerful, acquired fortunes, and won life companions worthy to walk beside them in the fierce, white light which was destined to beat upon their paths.

The Mexican War and the Seven Years' War preceding the Revolution proved to be training schools of great soldiers, and from these trials Washington and Lee came forth tested and prepared for sterner tasks yet to come. When Braddock's men were failing around him, and confusion reigned, our young major of Virginia militia came to the rescue and asserted, in that crisis, the place that belonged to him, and which he afterwards filled so well. Even the sagacious Indian chief, who saw Washington on that fatal field, said: "The Great Spirit protected him that he might become the chief of nations."

In the campaign from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, Captain Lee discharged every duty assigned him with a fidelity and distinction which were the earnest of larger fame, and we are not surprised at the prescience of his command in chief, who at that time declared that Lee was the greatest living soldier in America. The story is told that during one of the intervals in this campaign, at a brilliant assembly of the officers, some one proposed the health of the young engineer to whose unerring eye much of the success was due. Then for the first time Lee's absence was observed, and an officer dispatched for him. He was found in a remote apartment, deeply absorbed in drawing a map. " Make someone else do this drudgery," said the officer; to whom Lee replied: "No, I am but doing my duty." Thus the banquet proceeded without him.

When the struggle for independence came, every eye turned to Washington as the commander of our forces, and the clever pen of Mrs. John Adams has left a description of him on his first appearance at Cambridge. "Dignity, ease, and complacency, the gentleman and the soldier, look agreeably blended in him. Modesty marks every line of his face." We can but think, as we read these lines, how aptly they describe his noble kinsman who, eighty years later, rode at the head of the Army of Northern Virginia. Throught what pain and renunciation Lee had passed to this command is an oft-told story, for while Washington was of the essence of Virginia, Lee was of the very quintessence of Virginia. In his case the roots and fibers struck down and spread wide in the soil, making him of it a part. Love for his native State flowed through his veins and had been handed on to him from his gallant father, "Light Horse Harry," who exclaimed, in debate with Mr. Madison: "Virginia is my country; her will I obey, however lamentable the fate to which it may subject me." In this decision Lee was but following Washington's example, for he who had served the king under Braddock did not hesitate, when the great principles of Anglo-Saxon liberty were assailed, to take his stand against the king.

Both were given command of untrained men, but order came out of chaos and invincible armies grew under their guidance and the steady pressure of an unbending will. With these armies they waged humane and civilized warfare and, though each was a very thunderbolt in war and self-contained in victory, the supreme test came to Lee in defeat, which brought out in him such lofty nobility as is seldom seen in actual life. Their dedication to impersonal ends and their chivalry render these two Christian soldiers worthy to sit beside Sir Percival at the round table of King Arthur.

Washington was wholly free from the vulgar ambition of the usurper. To have refused supreme rule, and then to have effected in the spirit and under the forms of free government all and more than the most brilliant of military chiefs could have achieved by obsolute power is a glory which belongs to Washington alone.

To have declined the most exalted honors and emoluments from foreign countries, as well as from the South, that he might share the fate of his stricken people, and to build up by precept and a great example the shattered community of which he was the most observed representative is a glory which belongs to Lee alone.

Blessed among nations is that State to which, not once, but twice, such models have been given.



#### BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES © OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

March 13<sup>th</sup> – Charles Richard Hess

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Patricia Guy

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Ellen Sue Tomberlain

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Steve & Martha Austin

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Flag Day for the confederate States of America.

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Confederate States Constitution Day - 1861

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** – This day in 1861 the Arizona Territory secedes from the union. April - Confederate History Month - Texas.



# BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH



## Battle of New Madrid and Island No. 10 - New Madrid and Island No. 10 Missouri

3 March to 8 April 1862 - Generals McCown and MacKall verses General John Pope. Casualties 4077 Confederate, 831 Union!

#### Battle of Pea Ridge - Pea Ridge Arkansas

7-8 March 1862 - General Earl Van Dorn verses General Samuel R. Curtis. Casualties: 800 Confederate, 1384 Union!

## Battle of Brentonville - Brentonville North Carolina

19-21 March 1865 - General Joseph E. Johnston verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 2606 Confederate, 1646 Union!

#### Battle of Kernstown - Kernstown Virginia

22-23 March 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 700 Confederate, 590 Union!

#### Battle of fort Stedman - Fort Stedman Virginia

25 March 1865 - General John B. Gordon verses Generals Hartranft and Meade. Casualties: 4400 Confederate, 2080 Union!

## **Battle of Dinwiddle Courthouse and White Oak Road - Dinwiddle Virginia**

29-31 March 1865 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 2000 Confederate, 2198 Union!



## TITUS COUNTY CEMETERIES

**Binnion Cemetery** 

The Binnion Cemetery is located in rural north Titus County, TX. The cemetery is fenced and well maintained in a rustic setting currently by the Maple Springs Missionary Baptist Church. Joseph Binnion gave the cemetery property and according to Lynch Harper, Binnion helped bury an Indian child there in 1866. Jackie Stinson was told the same story and indicated the unmarked location of the grave is in the southwest corner of the cemetery. The earliest death on any existing monument was that of Sarah Bryan, wife of N. A. Bryan, shown as September 30, 1873. At one time, it is believed a church existed on the opposite side of the road from the cemetery.

From the Titus County courthouse, take Jefferson Street (Business 271) 1.5 miles north to the intersection with Greenhill Road (FM2152). Turn right onto FM 2152 and proceed north 12.9 miles to a sign on the left that says "Bennion Cemetery". The sign is alongside a gate to an oil lease. The cemetery is approximately 200 yards west of FM 2152. Coordinates: 33o20.785'N 095o03.388'W

There is a petrified stone marking one grave, 2 old boards marking 2 other sites and at least 10 unmarked stones marking others. In addition to those listed herein, Taylor Russell in his book "History of Titus County" lists Tollman Smith, William P. & Roxanna Harrison Oliver's 10 children.

Carter, Marion, March 12, 1844 – September 1, 1920 – Pvt.; Co D, 12th Kentucky Cavalry Fishback, William Henry, March 21, 1844 – January 7, 1897 – Co. K, 23rd Texas Calvary Gable, Arthur Barnabas, August 8, 1830 – May 23, 1895 – Pvt.; Co. A, 36th Regt. Alabama Infantry Oliver, William P., August 23, 1837 – February 4, 1911 – Corp. Co. I, 4th Arkansas Infantry Cpl. William P. Oliver Regimental History:

4th (McNair's) Infantry Regiment [also called Southwestern Arkansas Regiment], assembled at Miller's Springs, Lawrence County, Arkansas, recruited its companies in Calhoun, Hempstead, Lafayette, Montgomery, Pike, and Polk counties. After fighting at Elkhorn Tavern, the unit was sent to Kentucky where it was active at Richmond. It then was assigned to General McNair's and D. H. Reynold's Brigade, Army of Tennessee. Soon after the Battle of Murfreesboro, the 4th Arkansas Battalion merged into the regiment and in August, 1863, the 31st Arkansas transferred to the 4th. It was involved at Jackson, participated in the campaigns of the army from Chickamauga to Atlanta, saw action in Tennessee under Hood, and was engaged at Averasboro and Bentonville. This unit was organized with 695 men, and reported 55 casualties at Elkhorn Tavern, 23 at Richmond, and 79 at Murfreesboro. The 4th/31st/4th Battalion lost twenty-four percent of the 385 engaged at Chickamauga. Few surrendered on April 26, 1865. The field officers were Colonels Henry C. Bunn and Evander McNair, Lieutenant Colonels James H. May and Samuel Ogden, and Major Jos. B. McCulloch.



#### Biography:

William P. Oliver (1837-1911) was born in Mississippi. Roxanna Harrison Oliver (1844-1903) was born in Arkansas. The couple married in 1860. William Oliver served in Confederate Army. The Olivers settled at Gouldsboro (near present day Talco) in Titus County around 1878. The couple had six children. Descendants in Titus County are Mercers, Jackson, Lawson, Fry, Moore, and Deaton.

Traylor Russell



#### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

### Pvt. Brown, Parris

March 7, 1846 - February 21, 1920 Co. E, 18th Mississippi Infantry



Company E -- Mississippi College Rifles (raised in Hinds County, MS)

General J. L. Alcorn Brigaded with the Nineteenth Mississippi and Fifth South Carolina under Gen. D.R. Jones, General Griffith took command; This unit had 2655 men who served.

8th Infantry Regiment, organized in June, 1861, at Corinth, Mississippi, recruited its members in Yazoo, Coahoma, Madison, De Soto, and Hinds counties. Ordered to Virginia, the unit fought at First Manassas under D.R. Jones, then was engaged at Leesburg. In April, 1862, it contained 684 effectives

and served in General Griffith's, Barksdale, and Humphrey's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia.

The 18th participated in many campaigns from the Seven Days' Battles to Cold Harbor including the operations at Chickamauga and Knoxville. It went on to fight with Early in the Shenandoah Valley and later around Appomattox. The unit reported 38 casualties at First Manassas, 85 at Leesburg, and 132 at Malvern Hill. Of the 186 engaged at Sharpsburg, forty-three percent were disabled. It had 18 wounded at Fredericksburg, 25 killed and 43 wounded at Chancellorsville, and 18 killed and 82 wounded of the 242 at Gettysburg. Many were captured at Sayler's Creek, and only 4 officers and 44 men surrendered. The field officers were Colonels E.R. Burt and Thomas M. Griffin: Lieutenant Colonel Walter G. Kearney and William H. Luse; and Majors John W. Balfour, James C. Campbell, G.B. Gerald, and E.G. Henry.



#### **MEMBERS AND ANCESTORS**

We introduced you to Talks With White Buffalo last month, here is a brief glimpse of his qualifying Confederate ancestor.

Cpl. William Thomas Boles, Co. L, 4th Regiment, Virginia Infantry; CSA; (July 16, 1861); at muster; Sept., 1861 Apr., 1862: sick in various hospitals; reduced to ranks, Apr. 23,1862; Apr. 30-Oct. 31,1862: detailed as ambulance driver; wounded, May 3,1863, at Chancellorsville; Jan. 1, 1864: assigned to Pioneer Corps; POW-captured, Feb. 6,1865, at Petersburg; later paroled.

The 4th Virginia was assembled at Winchester, Virginia, in July, 1861. James F. Preston was its colonel, joined by Lewis T. Moore as Lt.Col., Major Josiah Kent, Surgeon Joseph Crockett, Asst. Surgeon Lafayette H. Jordan, and Quartermaster Andrew E. Gibson.[1] Its companies were from the counties of Wythe, Montgomery, Pulaski, Smyth, Grayson, and Rockbridge. By the end of the month, after the First

Battle of Manassas its Company K (the "Rockbridge Rifles") transferred to the 5th Virginia Infantry and were replaced by another company raised in Montgomery County but without a distinctive name. On July 15, 1861, it joined the 2nd Virginia, 5th Virginia, 27th Virginia, 33rd Virginia and a four-gun battery known as the Rockbridge Artillery to become the First Brigade of Virginia (nicknamed the "Stonewall Brigade" following the First Battle of Manassas). As discussed below, its commanders were by Generals Stonewall Jackson, and later R.B. Garnett, Winder, Paxton, and finally James A. Walker, and William Terry (both of whom began as company captains in this unit).



A total of 1,487 men served in the regiment, and the only staff officer at the surrender at Appomattox was assistant Surgeon John A. Field. Captain Wade had recovered and was the senior field officer at the time, with five lieutenants and 38 men (of whom only 17 were armed). John P. Moore of the Liberty Hall Volunteers became the unit's last battle fatality, during the final attempt to break out from the encircling Federal forces on Palm Sunday, April 9, 1865 shortly before General Lee decided to surrender. Its field officers were Colonels James F. Preston, Charles A. Ronald, and William Terry; Lieutenant Colonels Robert D. Gardner and Lewis T. Moore; and Majors Matthew D. Bennett, Joseph F. Kent, and Albert G. Pendleton.



Engagements: First Battle of Bull Run, First Battle of Kernstown, Jackson's Valley Campaign, Battle of Malvern Hill, Second Battle of Bull Run, Battle of Antietam, Battle of Fredericksburg, Battle of Chancellorsville, Battle of Gettysburg, Battle of the Wilderness, Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Battle of Cold Harbor, Siege of Petersburg, Battle of Monocacy, Battle of Appomattox Court House.



"It was necessary to put the South at a moral disadvantage by transforming the contest from a war waged against states fighting for their independence into a war waged against states fighting for the maintenance and extension of slavery...and the world, it might be hoped, would see it as a moral war, not a political; and the sympathy of nations would begin to run for the North, not for the South."

Woodrow Wilson, "A History of The American People", page 231



#### MARDI GRAS PARADE

Jefferson, Texas held it annual Mardi Gras Parade on February 18, 2023 and once again the Lone Star Color Guard and Honor Guard from the Northeast Texas 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade led the Parade. Compatriots from the Longview Camp, Gilmer Camp, Sulphur Springs Camp, Mt. Pleasant Camp and the Marshall Camp, therefore, 5 of the 7 Brigade Camps were represented. This was the largest attendance at the Jefferson Parade that we've seen in a number of years, it looks like we're finally recovering from COVID. The size of the parade itself was such as we, leading the parade actually reached the end before they started out. We had a lot of hoorahs, thank you's and applauds as we carried the color through. We made the memory of the boys in gray proud.



The Mechanized Cavalry from the SCV get ready to roll!



Lone Star Honor Guard, (left-right) Rodney Love, Raven Baker, Brian Woods and Michael Pepper



Lone Star Color Guard assisted by members of the Maj. Thomas Rosser Camp #2311, Mt. Enterprise, Texas

# Joined Camp Leadership 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270 Mount Pleasant, Texas

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

Letters and articles may be submitted to:

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(Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)

