David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds
Headquarters Chapter #1
Society of Confederate Descendants

Vol. 2 No. 11 | Copyright 2026 | November 2026

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Larry "Joe" Reynolds



Greetings Compatriots,

We have entered a season of remembrance, thankfulness, and celebration.

The first event I will mention is the establishment of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 1775. It's first recruiting headquarters was in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, PA.

The second is Veteran's Day, established after WW1, officially named in 1954, and is observed on November 11th every year to honor those who have served in the US military.

The third is the National Guard that was established December 13, 1636 by Congress.

The fourth is Thanksgiving, observed this year on November 26th.

The fifth was our latest, the Space Force that was established 20 December 2019 by Congress.

The sixth is Christmas Day observed on December 25th.

Joe Reynolds
President General

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 9th, 7:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Our Mission

To fulfill the Charged handed down to us and to perpetuate the legacy of our ancestors by proudly preserving our heritage and faithfully promoting goodwill In our community.

Our Vision

We dare to envision a culture that values its history and honors those who helped make it.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 10 .....Keithrie O'Neal Reynolds
Nov 11 .....Benjamin Carter Campbell
Nov 11 ..... Jola Ruth West
Nov 18 .....Raymond Byron Reeves

November 3rd – This day in 1813 General Jubal A. Early was born.

November 9th – This day in 1825 General A. P. Hill was born.

November 15th – A day of fasting, prayer and giving of thanks before God; this is not a feast day, but a day for humbling one's self before the Lord.

November 28th – This day in 1861 Missouri formally admitted to the confederacy.

BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER



Battle of Corinth - Corinth Mississippi

Battle of Belmont - Belmont Missouri

7 November 1861 - General Leonidas Polk verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 642 Confederate, 607 Union!

Battle of Kelly's Ford and Rappahannock Bridge - Kelly's Ford and Rappahannock Bridge Virginia

7 November 1863 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Robert Segwick. Casualties: 2023 Confederate, 419 Union!

Battle of Chattanooga - Chattanooga Tennessee {Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge}

23-25 November 1863 - General Braxton Bragg verses General Grant and Thomas. Casualties: 6667 Confederate, 5824 Union!

Battle of Honey Hill - Honey Hill South Carolina

30 November 1864 - General Gustavus W. Smith verses General John P. Hatch. Casualties: 50 Confederates, 711 Union!

Battle of Franklin - Franklin Tennessee

30 November 1864 - General John Bell Hood verses General John M. Schofield. Casualties: 6252 Confederates, 2326 Union!

Chapter Minutes 12 October 2026

The meeting was called to order by President General Joe Reynolds at 7:05 pm.

Invocation was given by Chaplain General Eve Holder.

Pledges to the United States, Headquarters Chapter and Confederate Flag were led by President General Joe Reynolds.

President General Joe Reynolds presented the SCD's Mission and Vision Statement.

Present for the meeting were:
Members

- Joe Reynolds, President General Pittsburg, TX
- Rex McGee, Secretary Gen. Mount Pleasant, TX
- Bill Wilcoxson, Historian General Pueblo, CO
- Carter Campbell, Genealogist Gen. Canon, GA
- Renee Hamilton, QM Gen. Knoxville, TN
- Sam Bennett Bastrop, TX
- David Kyle Routh Rockwall, TX
- Jola Ruth West Dumfries, VA
- Sara Darlene Sams Columbia, SC
-

The minutes of the September meeting were emailed to all members one week prior to the meeting. There being no additions or corrections, they were approved as received.

The Treasurer Report was read with the following noted: For the month of September 2026, we started the month with a balance of $807.76, we had no income and the only expenses for the month was $8.30 which was for mailing Greeting Cards to Members. This left a balance of $799.46.

There was no Old Business to Discuss.

Under New Business we discussed the following:
• There were no new members last month.
• There were no officers to swear in.
• We discussed the status of our Society, the need to recruit new members and to elect officers for our vacant positions.
• The Texas Society of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars wishes to present Renee Hamilton with a

Certificate of Appreciation for her design of the Society Brochure.

Tonight's Program was "Civil War Biography - General Thomas J. Stonewall Jackson".

The Benediction was given by a taped version of Chaplain General Eve Holder.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

UNIT SPOTLIGHT

1ST TEXAS INFANTRY REGIMENT

(Continued from Last Month)

Benning began striding back and forth yelling "give them hell boys!". Benning's left regiment, the 15th Georgia, now pressed up into the 1st Texas line to relieve them. The Texans refused to back down and so the two regiments mixed together, much to the displeasure of Colonel Work. Work didn't want the Georgians disrupting his line and thought that it would be better if Benning had flanked the enemy from the side instead. The two regiments could not be separated in the middle of the battle and so they fought as one single unit for the remainder of the evening. This support from Benning caused the 124th New York to fall back to their original position and the Confederate soldiers pushed forward into the rocks on Devil's Den. The battery atop Devil's Den continued firing for as long as they could but were soon overrun by the pressing Confederate forces. The two comingled regiments of the 1st Texas and the 15th Georgia were soon joined by the 20th Georgia and 44th Alabama and together they took on the combination of the remainder of the 124th New York, the 4th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and the 99th Pennsylvania Infantry regiments. After a short, close range melee the Confederates pushed off the Union and the capture of Devil's Den was official. The 1st Texas had managed to hold their ground long enough for reinforcements to arrive and it paid off for them greatly. The Confederates had captured the four guns of Smith's battery and took between one hundred forty and two hundred prisoners from their victory but the day wasn't over yet for the 1st Texas Infantry.



First Texas Infantry camp at Dumfries, Virginia

Over to the left, the 3rd Arkansas Infantry Regiment had not made any progress and so General Robertson ordered Colonel Work to leave two companies of his men on Houck's Ridge and to move the rest of his regiment to help support the 3rd Arkansas. The 1st Texas moved to support the 3rd Arkansas and when they arrived they were met with even more support from the 11th Georgia Infantry and 59th Georgia. Together these forces moved toward the enemy line in this area but the Federal troops in this area were too strong to move and every attack failed. The Confederates kept up the attack and eventually the growing pressure on the Federal line became so great that Ward's brigade and the 17th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment had to fall back. The 1st Texas regiment continued to move across the ridge north of Devil's Den, capturing Union soldiers along the way and eventually got to a position that they could fire at Winslow's battery on Little Round Top. Brooke's Union brigade now advanced through the Wheatfield but Colonel Work and the 1st Texas Regiment were ready and waiting. The 1st Texas and the 15th Georgia were sitting atop Houck's Ridge and as Brooke approached, Colonel Work ordered his regiment to put an enfilading fire into Brooke's men.

As the enemy forces grew, the 1st Texas was forced to fall back towards the field. Colonel Work quickly became concerned about his ability to withdraw his troops and so he ordered the color bearer and some of his men to maintain their position while the rest of the regiment moved to the rear. Unfortunately this plan didn't work because the men refused to leave their flag behind and so the men stayed and continued to fight the Federal reinforcements by raking Brooke's left. The 1st Texas continued their fight until the evening then nightfall brought the end to the day's battles.

Around 2:00 A.M. on July 3, the 1st Texas and 3rd Arkansas moved to their right in order to rejoin the rest of Robertson's Brigade. All of the men were exhausted so they tossed down their gear in front of Little Round Top and got whatever sleep they could. Confederate officers feared an attack from the enemy and so they awakened the men to erect breastworks soon after they had fallen asleep. Major John Bane reported that by dawn the breastworks stood two feet high. Robertson's Brigade stayed in this position through the majority of the day and only participated in some skirmishing in their front. Many men were killed or wounded by the sharpshooting that proceeded through the day as well as the cannonade that preceded Pickett's Charge.

Around 3:00 P.M., Colonel Work received an order to move his 1st Texas regiment south to help defend against an anticipated cavalry charge. As the 1st Texas approached the Bushman house they were ordered to knock down part of the wooden fence that obstructed their path. The men proceeded another two hundred yards to take position behind a short stone wall near the edge of the Bushman Woods. Due to many losses from the day before, the 1st Texas didn't have enough men to properly cover the wall and so they deployed in a single thin line along the length of the stone wall. Work sent several units out to his left and right in order to protect against any flanking attacks. On the left flank, the men of the 1st Texas tore down a staked fence and rebuilt it beside the stone wall. Reilly's battery also took position about two hundred fifty yards behind the Texans. The men had just barely completed constructing their breastworks when the 1st West Virginia Volunteer Cavalry Regiment appeared. Private W. T. White of the 1st Texas noted that “they formed line of battle in plain view of us and charged. We held our fire until they were within fifty or sixty yards of us, when, taking deliberate aim, we fired on them, bringing down many men and horses.” The cavalry then retreated to their original position to regroup and then charged once again but were repelled just like the first time. The cavalry continued to charge and at this point the Texans had fired off their guns and so they used the butts of their guns as the cavalry got close. Private James Henderick also stated that many of the cavalry came up within a few feet of the 1st Texas regiment and so the men knocked them off their horses with rocks and whatever else they could find. The 1st Texas continued to kill many of the charging cavalrymen captured over one hundred prisoners. The men of the 1st Texas only got a short reprieve before the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry arrived and charged their position. The Texans once again repelled the enemy and as Private White stated, “having repulsed the second charge, we felt that we could almost whip all the cavalry the enemy had.” The Union cavalry continued to make demonstrations against the 1st Texas for another two hours but Texan line held strong. As the evening rolled around, Robertson's Brigade received orders to move around the right flank to their original jump off position on Seminary Ridge.

Robertson's brigade was not fully utilized during July 2 and their problems arose almost as soon as they stepped off their position on Seminary Ridge. Even with these problems that their brigade faced, the 1st Texas regiment managed to achieve their major objectives. Colonel Work and the 1st Texas managed to take Devil's Den and Houck's Ridge through utilizing their terrain such as the stone walls of the triangular field. Even with their smaller forces, the 1st Texas managed to take these objectives and it is a testament to those men and their commander. The Texans then continued on to repel a massive Federal cavalry charge when they barely had enough men to

cover their position. The use of terrain once again helped the 1st Texas and led them to a victory in their endeavors. This impressive regiment fought hard during their time at the battlefield and finally got a rest when they were ordered to retreat from Gettysburg late the night of July 4.

"The contest is really for empire on the side of the North, and for independence on that of the South, and in this respect we recognize an exact analogy between the North and the Government of George III, and the South and the Thirteen Revolted Provinces. These opinions…are the general opinions of the English nation."

London Times, November 7, 1861

FROM THE FIRST SALUTE TO THE FINAL WELCOME

An Unforgettable Journey Honoring America's Veterans

By Jola Ruth West • October 17, 2026 • Old Dominion Honor Mission #11

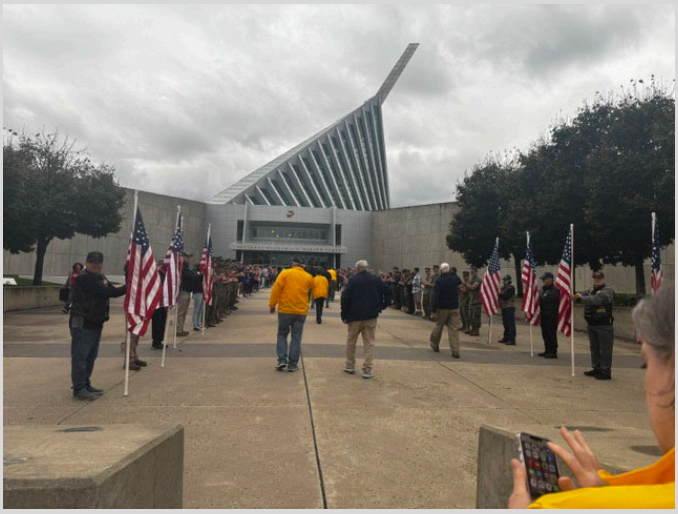
Written with the assistance of Luna (ChatGPT AI)

Some experiences leave an impression that lasts a lifetime. On October 17, 2026, I had the privilege of serving as a Guardian on an Old Dominion Honor Mission #11, accompanying veterans from Newport News, Virginia, to military memorials in the Washington, D.C., area. The day became a moving celebration of service, remembrance, and gratitude.

A Hero's Send-Off

Our journey began at the American Legion in Newport News. Community members and JROTC cadets lined the walkway as Guardians escorted veterans to their buses. State troopers then stopped traffic at intersections, their lights flashing and sirens sounding, to help our buses reach the interstate. Motorcycle escorts accompanied us to the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico.

At the museum, a crowd greeted the veterans with flags, cheers, and applause. We toured the museum before continuing to the United States Air Force Memorial in Arlington.



American flags line the approach to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

A Journey of Remembrance

At Arlington National Cemetery, we witnessed the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Wreaths were laid, and we heard the solemn notes of "Taps." We then visited the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Each stop offered time to remember those who served and those who never returned.

Two Colonels, One Remarkable Story



The two retired military medical Colonels near the Washington Monument during the October 17, 2026, Honor Mission.

I was honored to accompany a married couple, both retired military medical Colonels. They met during military training in 1966 and have been together ever since. At the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, I invited them to present veterans' pins to one another. Watching two people with such a long shared history recognize each other's service was a moment I will always treasure.

The female Colonel was also interviewed during the mission about her role in helping pave the way for women in military service. Her story reminded me that each veteran carries experiences and achievements that deserve to be heard.

A Community United in Gratitude

After our memorial visits, we stopped in Fredericksburg for dinner. Girl Scouts, parents, and motorcycle riders were there to greet the veterans, and a fire truck displayed the American flag. Back on the buses, veterans received challenge coins and took part in Mail Call.

Returning to Newport News, we were met again by state troopers, who escorted our buses through intersections with flashing lights and sirens. At the American Legion, children, military personnel, motorcycle riders, Knights of Pythias members, and many other supporters welcomed the veterans home. Another fire truck displayed the American flag.

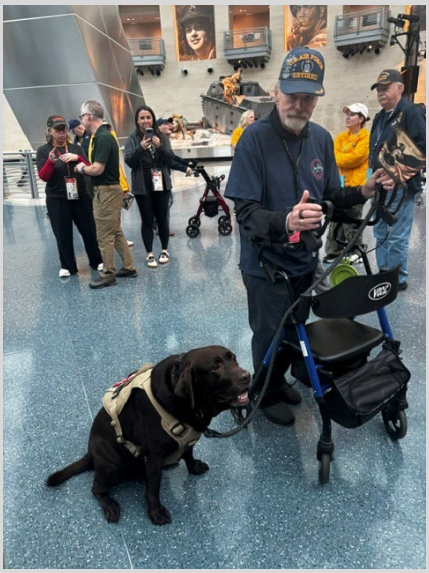


Veterans gathered during the day's visits to the military memorials.

More Than a Journey

The greatest gift of this Honor Mission was the privilege of walking beside those who served. I will remember the JROTC cadets at our departure, the cheers at Quantico, the solemn ceremony at Arlington, the two Colonels honoring each other, and the extraordinary welcome when we returned home.

The day demonstrated how many people—from young students to fellow veterans and community volunteers—want our service members to know they are remembered and appreciated.



A moment during the visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

An Invitation to Participate

If you have never experienced an Honor Flight or Honor Mission, I encourage you to explore the opportunities available through a hub in your area. Eligible veterans can visit the memorials dedicated to their service, while volunteer Guardians provide assistance and companionship throughout the journey.

The escorts, the memorials, the conversations, and the homecoming are difficult to put into words until you experience them yourself. For me, October 17 will always hold a special place in my heart.

"It is a true honor, and I have been blessed beyond words!"

May we never forget the service and sacrifices of the men and women who have worn our nation's uniform.

Society Member Wins Award

This month our own Quartermaster General, Renee Marie Hamilton was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars for designing a Recruiting Brochure for the Society.



Military Order of Stars & Bars

On June 10th, 1889, in New Orleans, Louisiana, a group of proud surviving soldiers of the Confederate States of America organized an association called the United Confederate Veterans. Its goals were to protect and defend the honor and dignity of the memory of the Con-federate soldier. As the ranks of the aged veterans of the UCV began to thin with the passage of time, a group of the surviving Confederate officers met in Columbia, SC on August 30th, 1938 to discuss their concerns that the unique contributions made by the Confederate leadership were not properly chronicled in our nation's history books. They felt a particular duty as members of the Officers Corp.

This first meeting was convened with a great deal of enthusiasm by seventeen former Confederate officers as well as forty-seven male descendants of Confederate officers in attendance. These dedicated men were unanimous in voting to begin a new CSA veteran society named the "Order of the Stars & Bars" that would meet annually. The OSB was unique in that the organization was made up of veterans and their descendants with the understanding that as the original officers of the Confederacy died that it was the sacred responsibility of their male offspring to continue to carry on the purposes of the Order.

The name was changed to "The Military Order of the Stars & Bars" in 1976 at the 39th General Convention held in Memphis, Tennessee. The first National Flag of the Confederate States of America, the Stars and Bars was accepted as the official insignia of the MOS&B.

Today the fraternal Military Order of the Stars & Bars, a non-profit 501(c) 3, non-political educational, historical, patriotic, and heritage group continues its dedication to the preservation of Southern history and remains the only heritage organization actually founded by Confederate veterans. An emphasis is placed on American Patriotism and the honoring of all American veterans of all wars.

The War Between the States produced some of the most outstanding civil and military leaders in the history of mankind. To perpetuate the idealism that animated the Confederate Cause and to honor the courage, devotion and endurance of those who dedicated their lives and services during four years of devastating war, and who, through-out the dreadful decade of reconstruction, labored heroically for the restoration of self-government as the most precious heritage of the American Revolution, male descendants of the officers who honorably served in the Army, Navy and other commands of the Confederate States of America and male descendants of the elected and appointed officials of the Confederate Executive and Legislative branches of the government unite to establish The Military Order of Stars and Bars, a patriotic Society of proud descendants of Confederate Veterans.

If your ancestor was a Confederate Officer or a government official of the Confederate States of

America – We invite you as a proud descendant to join us to honor their courage, dedication, gallantry, sacrifice, service and valor as a new member of the Military Order of Stars & Bars.

Visit Home - MOSB for additional information or contact Past Commander Joe Reynolds at 903-717-1009 or by email at Joe.Reynolds@txmosb.org to learn more about us.

Our Guardian Program

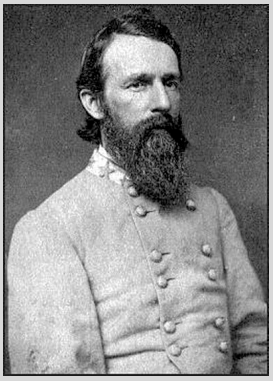
Although our own Guardian Program has been inactive as of late, Compatriot Bill Elliott a friend from the SCV and MOS&B posted the picture below and I love it. I'm going to use it for our Guardian Program.



Sometimes when we place a new flag, a Southern Cross of Honor, or clean a gravesite, it's almost as though a presence whispers "Thank you" Guardians.

Brigadier General James Jay Archer

Brig. Gen. James Jay Archer, whose mixed Alabama–Tennessee brigade opened the Confederate attack west of Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. He was taken prisoner during the fighting along Willoughby Run.



First at Gettysburg & Last at Appomattox:

The 5th Alabama Battalion by Phil Muskett, President, Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides, Gettysburg NMP

The 5th Alabama Infantry Battalion—composed of three companies totaling 135 men—fired the opening shots for the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia out-side Gettysburg in what became the largest battle of the American Civil War. Remarkably, this unit also suffered one of the very last Confederate casualties of the Army of Northern Virginia in April 1865.

At 5 a.m. on July 1, 1863, Confederate Brig. Gen. James Archer's Alabama and Tennessee brigade began marching east along the Chambersburg Pike in a misty rain toward a small Pennsylvania town called Gettysburg. Near 7:30 a.m., a single shot cracked the morning air, and Maj. Albert Sebastian Van de Graaff ordered his 5th Alabama Battalion to prepare for action. The men moved quickly across the stone bridge over Marsh Creek and then to the right of the Chambersburg Pike. The Alabamians—and the rest of the brigade—slowly pushed Union Gen. John Buford's cavalry vedettes back almost a mile and a half. Then Union resistance stiffened. The fight was on.

As the 5th Alabama Battalion advanced early that morning, casualties began to mount. Pri-vate C. L. F. Worley of Company A was among the first hit; his right leg was amputated to the knee, without anesthesia. Another wounded soldier, Elihu H. Griffin of Calhoun County, Alabama, was struck in the pubic region. Griffin survived the ghastly wound

and spent his recovery in DeCamp Hospital in New York Harbor.

In a letter to his wife, Maj. Van de Graaff wrote that the 5th Alabama Battalion only lost sev-en men wounded that morning of July 1. The major himself had a close call with an artillery shell that fortunately did little more than cover him in dirt.

“The third day was full of stress and crowded with thrilling events.” On July 3, the 5th Ala-bama Battalion advanced on the left of Confederate Col. Birkett Fry’s brigade, nearly reach-ing the famed stone wall, losing three color-bearers and eventually their flag to the 1st Dela-ware (U.S.). Ironically, the battalion's flag came into the possession of Union Gen. Joshua Chamberlain; in June 1945, Chamberlain’s heirs returned the flag to Alabama.

Having fought in all the major Eastern battles, the battalion continued to the final days of the war. On April 8, 1865, Pvt. Jesse H. Hutchins of Livingston, Alabama, was killed in action while repulsing the charge of the 15th New York Cavalry at Appomattox Station, Virginia. He was, tragically, one of the very last casualties of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

The 5th Alabama Battalion could rightly be remembered as among the first at Gettysburg and among the last at Appomattox.

THE SOUTHERN DEAD

THE SOUTHERN DEAD ARE SLEEPING
IN A THOUSAND SOUTHERN GLENS. . .
THE MOSS AND WILLOWS BECKON
WITH THE BREATH OF SOUTHERN WINDS

THOUGH THE BLOOD-STAINED CROSS OF ST. ANDREW
IS TATTERED NOW AND FURLED. . .
THEY BORE IT HIGH ON EVERY FIELD
AND O'ER EVERY OCEAN OF THE WORLD.

IT WASN'T THROUGH THEIR FAILING
THAT THE GLEAMING TURNED TO RUST. . .
AND THE DREAMING OF A NATION
IS ENSHRINED WITHIN THEIR DUST.

SOME WOULD HAVE THEIR DEEDS FORGOT,
THEIR MONUMENTS SWEPT AWAY. . .
BUT WHILE SOUTHERN BLOOD FLOWS IN OUR VEINS,
THOSE KNAVES SHALL NEVER SEE THE DAY.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN OF THEIR STORY
OF BATTLES, LOST AND WON. . .
THEY MUST KEEP MEMORY'S LIGHT A-BURNING
TILL SOUTHERN RIVERS CEASE TO RUN.

THE SOUTHERN DEAD ARE SLEEPING.



1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Headquarters Chapter #1 Society of Confederate Descendants

Chapter Leadership

President
Joe Reynolds
(903) 717-1009
Joe.Reynolds@DavidRReynolds.org

Vice President
Vacant

Secretary/Treasurer
Alvin "Rex" McGee
(903) 577-3233
AlvinRexMcGee@hotmail.com

Chaplain
Eve Holder
(615) 347-8230
eveholder1862@gmail.com

Genealogist
Benjamin Carter Campbell
(706) 498-0490
johndeere-reb@hotmail.com

Historian
William Thomas Wilcoxson
(719) 821-9480
bwilcoxson@wilcoxsonauto.com

Communications Officer
Joe Reynolds
(903) 717-1009
Joe.Reynolds@DavidRReynolds.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Larry "Joe" Reynolds
310 Kent Drive
Pittsburg, TX 75686-2131
(903) 717-1009
Joe.Reynolds@DavidRReynolds.org

Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Headquarters Chapter #1.
Letters and articles may be submitted to:
Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org
(Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)

