

ARKANSAS SUPPLEMENT

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June 14 - Flag Day - 2018

T.J. Henwood



Oh say can you see...
So begins the song, The Star Spangled Banner. Our national anthem. An ode to the symbol of our Democracy. The Stars and Stripes. How unique the emblem of our Country. Many other national flags are composed of two or three block colors. Like France, Mexico, and Spain to name three. Some a single design on a plain background, like Canada or Brazil.

But not our flag. It is complex, with each part representing some aspect of our great nation. And how appropriate that our flag is made up of several elements, just like our nation. We are not simply one, two or three peoples. We are many from various backgrounds, formed into a contiguous whole.

We celebrate Flag Day on June 14th of every year because it was June 14, 1777 when the second Continental Congress adopted the form of the Star Spangled Banner, in its first evolution, as the flag of our nation. But, as our country has evolved, so has our flag. Again, a unique feature among national ensigns.

At the conclusion of the Order of the Temple, we are reminded that our flag is accorded the place of highest honor in our Asylums. We are reminded that it represents all that is great and good about our country. And, finally, these immortal words are applied to our flag, "So long as it flies, government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Sir Knights, let's find a way to honor our flag on June 14 this year. Perhaps your Commandery could raise a flag at your meeting hall. Maybe go to a nearby Veterans Cemetery and give a tribute to the flags flying at half-staff there. Or, maybe it can be as simple as each one of us flying the flag at our homes on June 14. O'r the Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave.

R.: E.: Grand Commander
William Paul Wilson
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Greetings, Sir Knights:



As we move into the warm months and life slows somewhat because of where we live, one begins to have melancholic thoughts of

You can fill in the dots for yourself. I am old enough to be a "YE" Mason. I come from a time where our fathers were members of THE GREAT GENERATION. We had many great men and women in our communities who set the standard for how to walk the daily walk through life with dignity and a sense of civic responsibility.

We look around today and see so much anger and contempt toward all if we read or listen to the media. If we succumb to what the standard apparently is being accepted we should all be an "AGINNER", But have you ever noticed when you spend time thinking negatively about someone whom you perceived to have wronged you then you have not inflicted anything negative on them. But, you have wasted your time and probably caused a good case of indigestion with all of the negativity.

If we would all follow the example, or should I say the standard, that was set by Jesus Christ our lives would be so much more peaceful and in harmony with the world. He came to earth with such an awesome charge of taking away our sins and paying the ultimate price. He gave love to all

that would receive it. He received anger, hate, torture from those that he came to help. He did this impossible task always with that love that each of us should endeavor to exhibit each day.

I challenge myself and all Sir Knights to join me in a crusade. That crusade is to every day do one act of kindness without any hope of fee or reward. This should not be to someone that is close to us but a community member, a stranger, just someone you come into contact with that you may never see again. I wonder if truly the POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING can make a positive impact. I think that it will and I am going to give it a try. How about you?

Yours in His service,

Wm. Paul Wilson
Grand Commander

Statewide YR Festival
Hosted by Hot Springs Bodies
August 4, 2018
Look for Details in July Edition

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