



HONORING OUR COMMITMENT

Dear Companions,

As a nation, we have been on a long and circuitous road since March 2020. We continue to face the health and safety effects of COVID-19, the divisiveness of political rhetoric as we approach a national election, issues of racism, the challenge our law enforcement agencies are facing, destruction of icons we grew up with, and the effects that such things have on our individual and national morale. And through it all, we struggle to maintain some level of normalcy.

The mission of the Military Order of World Wars is prescribed in the Preamble to our Constitution. With this as our guide, how do we as an Order continue to serve our youth, communities, and nation in light of the impediments placed in our path? How do we continue to express our appreciation for the honor, service, and commitment of past and present veterans and our active-duty members?

The answer is twofold. First, it is vitally important that each chapter, department, region, committee, and council take a long and hard look at how we have served our nation and its peoples this past year. Second, based on our self-examination, we must plan a course of action that will make us even more effective. President John F. Kennedy addressed this when he said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."

Our challenge today is to honor the commitment of our forebears with no less passion, determination, and selflessness than they displayed in their faith in each other, in their service to our Order, and their duty to the nation and their God. To do less would be to dishonor them. To do less would prevent us from achieving the potential of the Order by serving nation, community, and youth in ways responsive to the times and needs of Americans everywhere.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, BGen, USMCR (Retired)
Commander-in-Chief, MOWW & CEO, MOWW, Inc

MOWW OFFICERS

Commander-in-Chief & CEO, MOWW, Inc.

BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret) flopez23@cox.net

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

LTC (DR) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret) maokin 1953@gmail.com

Vice Commanders-in-Chief

BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret) Perezy56@amail.com

Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret) rbrtwill I @verizon.net

CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed.D., USAR (Ret) paularmitchell I @earthlink.net

LT John S. McConnel, USN (Fmr) jsmco776@myexcel.com

Immediate Past CINC

LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, USA (Ret) a_cchamberlin@grandecom.net

Chief of Staff, & COO, MOWW, Inc.

Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret) chiefofstaff@moww.org

Treasurer General & CFO, MOWW, Inc.

LCDR Paul B. Webb, USN (Ret) treasurergeneral@moww.org

Judge Advocate General

MAJ Andrew J. Rodnite, USA (Fmr) ajrodnite@earthlink.net

Surgeon General

CPT (DR) Robert E. Mallin, USA (Fmr) bobmallinmd@gmail.com

Chaplain General

COL Cheryl D. Brady, USA (Ret) cdbrady42@hotmail.com

Historian General

LTC Arthur B. Fowler, USA (Ret) af3@verizon.net





OFFICER REVIEW

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LEADERSHIP AND MISSION

BGEN FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, USMCR (RET)
COMMANDER IN CHIEF, THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

Companions, it is with great honor and gratitude that I accept the elected position of 90th Commander-in-Chief (CINC) of the Order. I have a tough act to follow, 89th CINC LTC Charles Chamberlin, USA (Ret) has been every bit of what you would expect of a National Commander. His leadership, extensive experience, tireless dedication to duty and "Airborne" spirit inspired us all and made us better stewards of the Order. I look forward to a continued relationship with him as he becomes Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief and offers continued sage advice and council as part of the Executive Committee (EXCOM).

I would also like to acknowledge the excellent work of the Chief of Staff, BG Art Morrill, his staff, and the Executive Committee (EXCOM) in their dedication to meeting the challenges we have faced this past year and I look forward to working with them in this coming year.

To the Order's Commanders at every level and chapter Companions, thank you for your continued

participation and dedication to the Order and I look forward to working with you as we move the Order forward.

To the spouses and families, some of whom are Companions, thank you for your continued support of our Order. You follow in the extraordinary tradition of support as exemplified by the active duty and reserve military families.

I started this journey with MOWW in February 1998 when I attended my first meeting of the then Santa Barbara Chapter, Military Order of the World Wars. I had never heard of MOWW and was invited to the meeting by a fellow Raytheon Electronic Warfare Engineer, Col Alex Falzon, USAF (Ret). Alex was just one of those guys with an infectious personality you loved being around and could not say no to. He put me to work right away on one of the committees so that I could accelerate my knowledge of MOWW and be a better and more effective participant. This is a great model to follow.



As I moved up the ranks and took on greater positions of responsibility, I came to grow in respect and admiration for those who drafted the Preamble to the Constitution of the Order and for the stewards of our Order before I joined this amazing organization. I have also had the opportunity to meet and make a good many new friends, extraordinary patriots who served our country in war and peace, and who continue to serve unselfishly in the Order. If it were not for MOWW

in all probability, we would not have crossed paths.

The largest command and billet in my 31 years on active duty and in the Marine Corps Reserve was as Commanding General, 4th Marine Division. I was responsible for over 18,000 Marines and sailors in 24 states. The smallest command was as a rifle platoon

commander in Vietnam, always understrength but blessed to have 30 hard-chargers who looked after one another, me, and the reputation of our Corps. The leadership principles and traits I used from the platoon to a division have remained the same. Only the depth of application of these principles has changed as I learned and grew in my knowledge through experience and watching other leaders. In my execution as CINC I will continue to use these principles and traits that have served me well, both in my military and civilian careers. Each are important and make up the sum of an effective leader.

Here are my top seven leadership traits that I will stress and expect from every organizational level commander, committee, and council chair: Loyalty, Moral Courage, Accountability, Competence, Initiative, Integrity and Judgement. Look at these with respect to how you go about doing the business of the Order. I will not expound on them here but will in future correspondence.

We are all volunteers in the service of the organization; we have chosen to give freely of our time and talents to further the objectives of MOWW. Being a member means we must enjoin with the chapter to do what we can to be successful in meeting the chapter objectives. Being a volunteer should not alleviate our responsibility toward the organization we are involved in. For instance, again this past year we lost ground in our efforts to recruit and replace losses due to deaths and lapse in regular memberships. We only made 88% of our recruiting goal, including 21 of our current 81 chapters who failed to recruit anyone. Sure, it was a tough last four months of our operating year, however, chapters had eight months to recruit and strive to fill our ranks. We need to do better.

> We learned early on in our military careers that the "mission" is paramount. We learned and trained to complete the mission. To do anything less potentially jeopardized the unit and organization, in wartime with devastating effects. The mission of the Military Order of the World Wars is in our Preamble to the Constitution

of our Order. It is centered around service to our veterans – past, former, retired, and active duty. We have a special relationship with law enforcement and first responders as we have bathed in the same ocean of duty, honor, commitment, courage, blood, and tears. We have a responsibility to educate our youth so that they understand and apply the concepts of duty, honor, country and can see living examples through each one of us.

We have a responsibility to our nation "to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our national government and the Constitution of the United States." To do anything less jeopardizes our standing as a nation, as a people, as a beacon of freedom for all the world to see.

This coming year the daunting turmoil of COVID-19 and civil unrest in our country offers us challenges, in my opinion, unparalleled in modern times. How we respond will tell us about the character of our nation. How we respond in ++carrying on the mission of the Military Order of World Wars during this time of uncertainty will tell us about our commitment to generations of Companions past and present and to the veterans of our great country. I call upon each of you to help me make sure we do not fail them.

May God bless America and stay safe out there. ★



GREAT CHALLENGES AND GREAT COMPANIONS

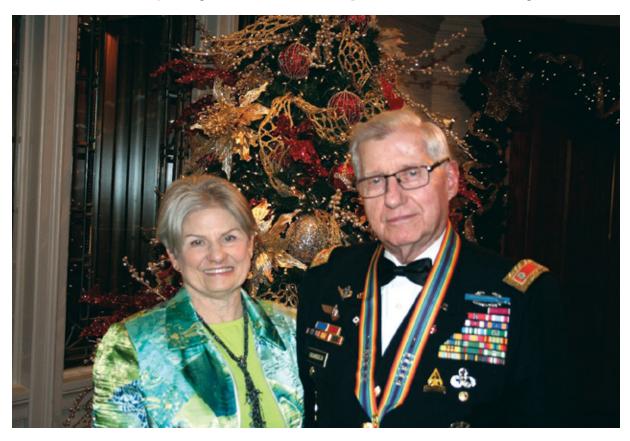
LTC CHARLES S. CHAMBERLIN, JR., USA (RET)
IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

In that this will be my last speech to you as your CINC, it provides a strange feeling, given this operating year's dynamics. First, let me point out that by decades of past precedence, I would be standing on a Dias behind a podium, before a large, distinguished group of Companions and their spouses at our formal induction banquet. Regrettably, that cannot happen. On 29 May 2020, the EXCOM made a difficult decision to cancel the 2020 National Convention, primarily due to the potential health impact of the COVID-19 on our Companions during such an activity. Canceling the convention also caused dynamics with how to properly deal with several convention requirements. That resulted in the EXCOM having to make alternative decisions.

So, here I am, not speaking to you at a National Convention formal banquet but providing you a written document with my closing 2019-2020

OY remarks in the Officer Review. Clearly, this is a disappointment for me, but at least I get a chance to tell you what an honor it has been to serve as your 89th CINC. Additionally, it was an awesome experience for my wife Adele and me to travel and meet so many exceptional Companions, as well as see firsthand some of the impressive accomplishments/achievements of our chapters in action.

That was the upside to our visits, but it is noteworthy to mention there was a downside that grabbed the Order as well as our entire country in the form of a Pandemic caused by the COVID-19. In mid-March, it became clear that the Order would regrettably need to suspend all in-person activities as the deadly virus spread like wildfire. I suspended activities from April through May, after which I lifted the activity suspension as of 1 June, allowing chapters to decide whether to meet given their local



and state directives.

It is to the Order's credit that even though we could not have in-person meetings, the regions took their canceled conferences and scheduled teleconferences to conduct the Order's business. My thanks to all of you for your innovative technology decisions that facilitated alternative meetings in lieu of a convention. Although I was able to participate in all but one region teleconferences, I was not able to personally meet the chapter Companions and their spouses.

There were a couple of areas of interest that, without question, deserve mention. The CINC Solicitation Fund donations were truly outstanding, surpassing \$130,000, which is an Order record. I cannot say thank you enough to all those who so generously contributed, from the small to the large donors, my sincere thanks to each for your participation.

Also, at the 2019 National Convention, I initiated a Tiger Team program designed to directly assist those chapters who were struggling with recruiting new Companions. Regrettably, the program was suspended in March due to the Pandemic but showed the Tiger Team effort was a success for the limited implementation time. We will be continuing the program again this next year. The direct management responsibility for the teams will be with the region commanders. Travel funds for the team were budgeted for OY 2020. There were several other projects and tasks completed by the senior management team, which will add value to the Order. However, activity suspensions prevented the team from completing other desired objectives.

In addition, special thanks go to the Headquarters MOWW staff for their exceptional service, total dedication to the Order and its chapters, and every Companion:

- Mrs. Sunny K. Alley
- HPM Justin H. L. Hiller
- Mrs. Martha Ferrara

Before closing, I must thank the Top-8 senior leaders who stood together as a team, making the collective, tough decisions as the OY progressed.

- SVCINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret)
- VCINC BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret)
- VCINC LTC (Dr) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret)

- VCINC Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)
- VCINC CPT Paula R. Mitchell, USA (Fmr)
- IPCINC LTC John H. Hollywood, USA (Ret)
- CS Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret)

These are all exceptional, dedicated Companions and individuals who steadfastly served the Order and me well. Thanks again for all you did through our trying times. I would go to war with you any time, but candidly, have no desire for a war at this time.



Last, I also thank Adele, my bride of 60 years, who made every visit with me and is a great spokesperson in her own right for the Order. She was a real trooper. Her abiding support of me made everything possible.

In closing, although I could address other issues and actions, it is my time to step aside and let the new CINC stand tall, as he will, and direct the Order through the continued dynamic difficulties of this COVID-19 Pandemic and the current challenges facing the Order. As the IPCINC, I will commit to serve CINC BGen Fred Lopez as he deems appropriate. To all Companions, it is important for commanders to reenergize yourselves, your staffs and provide your new CINC with your total support, truly for the good of the Order. *



CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret)

SVCINC BGen Lopez served 31 years on active duty and in the Reserves. His assignments included: Vietnam (1968-1969), including duty there as a Rifle Platoon Commander and a Sniper Platoon Commander; Company Commander; S-3 Operations Officer; Infantry Battalion Commander; Assistant Division Commander; Commanding General, 4th Marine Division, and; Deputy Commanding General, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. His awards and decorations include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal (Combat "V"), the Navy Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the Navy & Marine Corps Parachutist Wings. He holds a BS (Mathematics, California Polytechnic) and an MS (Computer Science, West Coast University). In 2007 he retired from the Raytheon Company as a Director of Engineering, Electronic Warfare Systems. As a 19-year Companion, he has held command positions at chapter, department, and region levels, and has served as a GSO, VCINC and SVCINC. ★



SVCINC LTC Michael A. Okin, MD, USA (Ret)

VCINC LTC Okin graduated from Washington & Lee University in 1976 (BS, Biology) and earned his MD from the University of Virginia. He completed a Family Medicine residency in 1983 (Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon). Reassigned to Womack Army Community Hospital (Fort Bragg), he deployed to Grenada. He completed a Family Medicine Fellowship at the University of North Carolina in 1985. In 1987, he transferred to the Army Reserve and moved to Lynchburg, VA, as the Associate Director, Lynchburg Family Medicine Residency Program. In 1991, he returned to active duty and deployed with the 475th MASH, 332nd Medical Brigade, during the Gulf War. In 1995, he re-entered private practice with Central Virginia Family Physicians. In 1997, he retired from the Army Reserve and in 2015, he retired from medical practice. He has served as Commander, Virginia Piedmont Chapter; Vice Chair, Education & Training Committee; Member, Strategic Planning Committee; and as a VCINC. ★



VCINC BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret)

VCINC BG Perez graduate from the University of Puerto Rico (BS, Business Administration, magna cum laude) as a Distinguished ROTC Cadet. He also holds a MS (Administration Science) from Central Michigan University. He graduated from the Airborne School, the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course, Inter-American Defense College (Fort McNair), and the Joint Task Force Commander Course (Northern Command). His last duty assignment was Director, Joint Staff (Joint Force HQ, PRARNG) and Contingency Commander (PRARNG). He previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, PRARNG. His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (3-BOL), Army Commendation Medal (1-BOL), Army Achievement Medal (1-BOL), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal and the Puerto Rico National Guard Commendation Medal. He wears the Parachutist Badge and the Adjutant General Staff Identification Badge. Prior MOWW positions held include Commander, Puerto Rico Chapter, and VCINC ★



VCINC Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)

VCINC Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret), was commissioned by the United States Air Force in 1969. He wears the Master Aircraft Maintenance Badge and has served as an aircraft maintenance officer at Ellsworth AFB, U-Tapao Airfield, Offutt AFB, Chanute AFB; RAF Mildenhall and Minot AFB. Retiring in 1988, he next spent 24 years with FlightSafety International as an Instructional Developer and Project Specialist, retiring again in 2014. As a Companion, he was the Fort Worth Chapter Junior Vice, Senior Vice and Chapter Commander. He was also the Chair, Scouting Committee, a General Staff Officer, an appointed EXCOM member, the Adjutant/ Treasurer and Commander, Region VIII, and a VCINC. He is a recipient of MOWW's Gold and Silver Patrick Henry Medals, Outstanding Service Medal, Outreach Service Medal, Membership Medal with bronze hourglass, James E. Baird National Scouting Award, MOWW-BSA Community Service Award, and several National Citations. *



CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed.D., USAR (Ret)

VCINC CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed. D. USAR (Fmr), holds a BSN (Graceland University), an MSN (University of Texas-Austin) and an Ed.D. in Educational Administration (New Mexico State University). She served in the Army Student Nurse Program and the Army Nurse Corps from 1971–1978, and she had tours at Fort Leonard Wood, Fort Bragg, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and the 121st Evacuation Hospital, Army Support Command (ASCOM), Korea. She was the Volunteer Coordinator, West Texas Medical Reserve Corps (2006-2014), and Chair, El Paso Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), from 2013-2015. Inducted into the El Paso. Commission for Women's Hall of Fame, she received the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions (TSAHP) Distinguished Service Award and the National Institute of Staff & Organization Development (NISOD) Excellence Award. She was the Commander, MOWW's El Paso Chapter from 2012–2016 and the Commander, Department of the Rio Grande (2012–15). She was Junior Vice Commander, Region XIII (2015–2016), and a VCINC. She is a recipient of MOWW's Silver Patrick Henry, Outstanding Service Award, and National Citation. *



VCINC LT John S. McConnel, USNR (Fmr)

VCINC LT John McConnel, USNR (Fmr), holds a BS in Business Management (Davis and Elkins College). He is a Vietnam era veteran, serving on two US Navy aircraft carriers in the Pacific with Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 11 (VAW-11), stationed at Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island, San Diego, CA. He also served as a Naval Aviation Observer, Naval Flight Officer-Radar Air Controller, and Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer aboard the USS Yorktown (CVS 10) and USS Bennington (CVS 20) from 1961-1964, with Detachments Tango and Quebec, respectively. During his business career, he was an executive for two major oil companies (Gulf Oil Corporation and Union Oil Company of California), and Gulf Research & Development Company. While with Union Oil Company of California, he was a Mass Marketing Manager, among other positions. His community service includes being a SCORE Mentor for 15 years, fostering vibrant small business communities through mentoring and education. He also served in several chapter roles, including as the Commander, Puget Sound Chapter, from 2016-2018. ★



CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET) CHIEF OF STAFF & COO, MOWW, INC.®

August 11-13, 2020, were momentous days for the Order and all Companions.

Tuesday, 11 August, began with the last OY 2019 Top-8 Conference (CINC, SVCINC, VCINCs, IPCINC and Chief of Staff) chaired by then-CINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, Jr., USA (Ret). He led the Top-8's discussions on Tiger Teams, region conferences and

chapter meetings, command and leadership issues, and the new *Ad Hoc* Strategic Growth Committee. This discussion had all conferees sharply focused on MOWW continuity of operations and providing the succeeding CINC administration a strong starting position from which to advance the Order.

The day featured the MOWW Honors Ceremony and the Order's Change of Command, held in the brick courtyard adjacent to HQ MOWW in historic Alexandria, VA. PCINC CAPT Russell C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret), officiated. The Honors Ceremony began with the Distinguished Service Award (DSA) recipient, the Honorable Allen B. West inducting Mrs. Adele Chamberlin as Hereditary Perpetual Member. Then, CS Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret), presented HPM Justin L. Hiller with the MOWW Outstanding Service Medal and Mrs. Sunny K. Alley the MOWW Plaque of Merit. Next, CINC Chamberlin presented then-IPCINC LTC John H. Hollywood, USA (Ret), the "Exceptional Companion Award" for his over 10 years of excellence as a member of the Executive Committee of the General Staff (EXCOM).

Next, IPCINC Hollywood presented the Gold Patrick Henry Medal to then-VCINC LTC (Dr) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret), and CINC Chamberlin presented the Gold Patrick Henry Medal to Brig Gen Morrill, and the National Commander's Medal to then-SVCINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret).

Next, on behalf of the Top-8, Brig Gen Morrill presented CINC Chamberlin a cut-glass table



plaque in appreciation of the CINC's forward-thinking leadership. This was followed by IPCINC Hollywood presenting CINC Chamberlin with the traditional "Young Eagle" statue honoring CINC Chamberlin's service as the Commander-in-Chief. Last, CINC Chamberlin presented the Honorable Allen B. West, LTC, USA (Ret), with the

Order's Distinguished Service Award (DSA), after which Mr. West offered inspiring comments to all attending.

After the MOWW Honors Ceremony, the Order's Change of Command ceremony was held. Though with fewer attendees than a normal MOWW Convention, this dignified and solemn ceremony was identical in content to the ceremony held during traditional conventions. CINC Chamberlin relinquished the saber to the newly-elected CINC Lopez, and their remarks (in this issue) were well-received by all present—including by guests from other organizations.

Wednesday and Thursday featured OY 2020's first Top-8 Conference chaired by CINC Lopez. This well-researched and rigorous two-day session addressed a range of topics starting with his "CINC's Intent" (in this issue). Also covered were Top-8, commander, General Staff Officer, national committee, and Council of Area Commander responsibilities, with applicable CINC letters of assignment since distributed as directed by the CINC. Other vital topics included further discussions on Tiger Teams and the *Ad Hoc* Strategic Growth Committee, and deliberations on chapter activities and "Hybrid Operations" (in-person and virtual activities).

Finally, CINC Lopez reinforced the imperatives to preserve, protect, and grow the Order (MOWW Policy Manual), to achieve a net growth of new members (MOWW Strategic Plan), and to have all chapters functioning at a successful operating level (CINC's Intent). *



(L-R): VCINC Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret), IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, Jr., USA (Ret), CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret), SVCINC LTC (Dr) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret), VCINC BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret), and Chief of Staff Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret). VCINC CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed.D., USAR (Ret), and VCINC LT John S. McConnel, USNR (Fmr), participated via teleconference.





(Left, L-R): PCINC LTC John H. Hollywood, USA (Ret), IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, Jr., USA (Ret). (Right, L-R): CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret), DSA Recipient The Honorable Allen West, IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, Jr., USA (Ret)





(Left, L-R): IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, Jr., USA (Ret), CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret). (Right): PCINC CAPT Russell C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret) officiates.



THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS, INC. 435 NORTH LEE STREET | ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2301

Office of

12 August 2020

SUBJECT: Commander-in Chief's Intent (OY 2020)

TO: All MOWW Commanders, Committees, Staff and Companions

1. I intend to preserve, protect, and grow the Order in terms of membership, volunteerism, and outreach. Especially as we operate under the restrictions of the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is imperative that we maintain chapter operations with a high degree of normalcy and urgency, so we do not degrade Companion interest and chapter outreach capability.

2. Key tasks include:

- a. Strengthen commander relationships at all levels through regular contact via phone and telecommunications, secondarily through email and written communication.
- b. Identify and promulgate ideas and best practices for chapter operations while operating in a virtual environment.
- c. Establish a robust Zoom and telecommunications capability that commanders at all levels can use for conducting EXCOM, Staff, Region, Chapter and Committee business.
- d. Identify chapters immediately that are no longer operational and take action to close the chapters.
- e. Identify chapters immediately that do not meet minimum standards for communication, membership, and outreach, and provide assistance in reaching a satisfactory operational standard
- f. Identify, mentor, and grow future MOWW leaders who are willing and able to take on upward responsibility.
- g. Develop and implement a robust capability to advertise MOWW nationally and locally as a premier Volunteer Service Organization.
- h. Recognize and reward Chapters and Companions for superior work and dedication in preserving and improving MOWW locally and nationally.
- i. Identify areas and implement a plan to grow MOWW chapters.
- National committees provide pro-active support to chapter operations through regular communications and implementation of innovative ideas for improvement of chapter capabilities.

End State:

- a. Meeting a net growth of Companions in the Order from the 30 June 2020 baseline.
- All chapters operating at a satisfactory operational level in Companion communication, Chapter meetings and outreach activities.
- c. MOWW name and mission recognized throughout the nation.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, BGen, USMCR (Ret) Commander-in Chief & CEO, MOWW, Inc.®

"Serving Youth, Community and Nation"

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EXECUTIVE NATIONAL OFFICERS

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF & CEO, MOWW, INC.

• BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret)

EMAIL: flopez23@cox.net

RESPONSIBILITIES:

• Chair, EXCOM & Chairman, MOWW, Inc.

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO COL Arthur N. Tulak, USA (Ret)
- Fthics Committee
- Ad Hoc Strategic Growth Committee
- Ad Hoc GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee
- Council of Area Commanders (CAC)

SENIOR VICE CMDR-IN-CHIEF

LTC Michael A. Okin, MD, USA (Ret)

EMAIL: maokin1953@gmail.com

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Chair, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee
- · Member, Finance Committee

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO CW3 Kirk Conover, USA, (Ret)
- · Regions I, III, and IV
- Information & Publicity Committee
- Tiger Team Initiative

VICE COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF

• BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret)

EMAIL: perez56@gmail.com

RESPONSIBILITIES:

 Member, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO LTC Jorge L. Mas, USA (Ret)
- Regions II, V, and VI
- Scouting Committee
- MOWW-PRG Committee
- Legislative & Resolutions Committee

Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)

EMAIL: rbrtwill1@verizon.net

RESPONSIBILITIES:

 Member, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)
- Regions VII and VIII
- ROTC Committee
- Law & Order Committee

CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed.D., USAR (Ret)

EMAIL: paularmitchell1@earthlink.net

RESPONSIBILITIES:

 Member, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO COL Christine F. Mahon, USAR (Ret)
- Region: XIII
- Patriotic Education Committee
- · Homeland Security Committee
- Education & Training Committee

LT John S. McConnel, USNR (Fmr)

EMAIL: jsmco776@myexcel.com

RESPONSIBILITIES:

 Member, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee

SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT:

- GSO CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)
- Region XIV
- National Security Committee
- Veterans Affairs Committee

IMMEDIATE PAST CINC

LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, USA (Ret)

EMAIL: a_cchamberlin@grandecom.net

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- · Chair, Strategic Planning Committee
- Vice Chair, Nominating Committee
- Vice Chair, (Ad Hoc) GAS Pershing Chapter of the Year Committee

CS & COO, MOWW, INC.

· CS Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret)

EMAIL: chiefofstaff@moww.org

RESPONSIBILITIES:

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• TG LCDR Paul B. Webb, USN (Ret) EMAIL: treasurergeneral@moww.org

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

- JAG MAJ Andrew J. Rodnite, JD, USA (Fmr) EMAIL: ajrodnite@earthlink.net
- AJAG CPT Harold Greenberg, JD, USA (Fmr) EMAIL: harold@lawfirmhg.com

SURGEON GENERAL

- SG CPT Robert E. Mallin, MD, USA (Fmr) EMAIL: bobmallinmd@gmail.com
- ASG COL S. John Whidden, Ph.D, MD, USA (Ret) EMAIL: swhidden@aol.com

CHAPLAIN GENERAL

 CG LTC Cheryl D. Brady, USA (Ret) EMAIL: cdbrady42@hotmail.com

HISTORIAN GENERAL

HG LTC Arthur B. Fowler, USA (Ret)

EMAIL: af3@verizon.net

EXCOM MOWW, INC.

· CHAIR:

CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret) EMAIL: flopez23@cox.net

· VICE CHAIR:

SVCINC LTC Michael A. Okin, MD, USA (Ret)

EMAIL: maokin1953@gmail.com

 VCINC BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret) EMAIL: perez56@gmail.com

VCINC Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)
 EMAIL: rbrtwill!@verizon.net

VCINC CPT Paula R. Mitchell, Ed.D., USAR (Ret)
EMAIL: paularmitchell l@earthlink.net

VCINC LT John S. McConnel, USNR (Fmr))
 EMAIL: jsmco776@myexcel.com

• IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, USA (Ret) EMAIL: a_cchamberlin@grandecom.net

 TG LCDR Paul B. Webb, USN (Ret) EMAIL: treasurergeneral@moww.org

 JAG MAJ Andrew J. Rodnite, JD, USA (Fmr) EMAIL: airodnite@earthlink.net

CINC APPOINTED:
 PCINC Col David B. Gibson, USAF (Ret)
 EMAIL: dave_digib@comcast.net

CINC APPOINTED:
 CDR Robert F. Hartman III, USN (Ret)
 EMAIL: rfh3rd@qmail.com

• STATUTORY:

PCINC LTG Robert L. Wetzel, USA (Ret)

ADVISORY CHAIR, COUNCIL OF PAST CINCS EMAIL: wiint322@aol.com

· STATUTORY:

LTC Michael C. Wilgen, USA (Ret)

ADVISORY CHAIR, COUNCIL OF AREA COMMANDERS EMAIL: mwilgen@comcast.net

· STATUTORY:

CS Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret)

Ex Officio & Non-Voting
EMAIL: chiefofstaff@moww.org

GENERAL STAFF OFFICERS

GSO ASSIGNMENTS

GSO COL Arthur N. Tulak, USA (Ret)
 EMAIL: arthur.tulak@earthlink.net

GSO CW3 Kirk Conover, USA (Ret)
EMAIL: kirk.conover@gmail.com

• GSO LTC Jorge L. Mas, USA (Ret) EMAIL: jorgeLmas@hotmail.com

• GSO CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret) EMAIL: ralph71@gmail.com

• GSO COL Christine F. Mahon, USAR (Ret) EMAIL: retcol27@cox.net

• **GSO CDR George T. Parsons, USN, Ret)** EMAIL: gt.parsons@sbcglobal.net



OUTREACH PROGRAMS

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

• Lt Col David L. Dunlap, USAF (Ret) EMAIL: dunlapdl@aol.com

RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS

 CDR Alan M. Mandigo, USN (Ret) EMAIL: cdramm@outlook.com

SCOUTING

 COL Robert F. Schlegel, USA (Ret) EMAIL: rfschlegel45@cox.net

VETERANS AFFAIRS

• LTC Reginald Brown, USA (Ret) EMAIL: reginaldbrown575@gmail.com

LAW & ORDER

• Maj James H. Haney, USMC (Ret) EMAIL: jhhaney1@gmail.com

NATIONAL SECURITY

 COL Adalberto Rivera, Jr., USAF (Ret) EMAIL: adal_rivera@yahoo.com

HOMELAND SECURITY

• HPM John S. Hollywood, Ph.D. EMAIL: jshollywood@gmail.com

INTERNAL PROGRAMS

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

 PCINC Col David B. Gibson, USAF (Ret) EMAIL: dave_digib@comcast.net

EDUCATION & TRAINING

 PCINC LTC John H. Hollywood, USA (Ret) EMAIL: jhhollywood@verizon.net

ETHICS

• PCINC COL Clay C. Le Grande, Jr., USA (Ret) EMAIL: cliffway32@comcast.net

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL STAFF (EXCOM)

 CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret) EMAIL: flopez23@cox.net

FINANCE COMMITTEE (CO-CHAIRS)

- CS Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret) EMAIL: chiefofstaff@moww.org
- TG LCDR Paul B. Webb, USN (Ret) EMAIL: treasurergeneral@moww.org

INFORMATION & PUBLICITY

VACANT

LEGISLATIVE & RESOLUTIONS

• LTC King Moss II, USAR (Ret) EMAIL: kingmoss2@gmail.com

MAGAZINE

• PCINC LTC Ruth L. Hamilton, USA (Ret) EMAIL: ruth12345@aol.com

MOWW-PERSHING RIFLES GROUP

 COL Brad M. Beasley, USA (Ret) EMAIL: beasleybrad61@gmail.com

NOMINATING

• PCINC LTC John H. Hollywood, USA (Ret) EMAIL: jhhollywood@verizon.net

STRATEGIC PLANNING

 IPCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, USA (Ret) EMAIL: a_cchamberlin@grandecom.net

AD HOC

STRATEGIC GROWTH AD HOC COMMITTEE

 PCINC Col David B. Gibson, USAF (Ret) EMAIL: dave_digib@comcast.net

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 EMAIL: davidrtitus@aol.com
- CPT Jeffrey D. Butcher, CFP, USA (Ret) EMAIL: mightymathmama@gmail.com

ADVISORY COUNCILS (EXCOM SUPPORT)

COUNCIL OF PAST CINCS

ADVISORY

 PCINC LTG Robert L. Wetzel, USA (Ret) EMAIL: wiint322@aol.com

COUNCIL OF AREA COMMANDERS

STUDIES AND ANALYSIS

• LTC Michael C. Wilgen, USA (Ret) EMAIL: mwilgn@comcast.net





GOLD PATRICK HENRY MEDAL RECIPIENTS

The Commander-in-Chief (CINC), Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief (SVCINC), the four Vice Commanders-in-Chief (VCINC) and the Immediate Past Commander-in Chief (IPCINC) award Gold Patrick Henry Medals to Companions for extraordinary service. Those honored this Operating Year follow.

Presenter: CINC LTC Chamberlin

- BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret) COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- · SGM Michael W. Culbertson, USA (Ret) Augusta Chapter, GA
- · Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret) Northern Virginia Chapter, VA
- COL Robert E. Barton, USA (Ret) MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME

Presenter: SVCINC BGen Lopez COL Earl E. Seppala, USA (Ret)

Wilmington Chapter, DE

Presenter: VCINC BG Perez Maj James H. Haney, USMC (Ret) Sun City Center Chapter, FL

Presenter: VCINC LTC Okin COL Lawrence A. Willwerth, USA (Ret) Greater Boston Chapter, MA

Presenter: VCINC Maj Williams LTC (Dr.) Peter B. Riesz, USA (Ret) Victoria Crossroads Chapter, TX

Presenter: VCINC CPT Mitchel LCDR Coy D. Ritchie, USA (Ret) Denver Chapter, CO

Presenter: IPCINC LTC Hollywood LTC Michael A. Okin, MD, USA (Ret)) Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

NATIONAL CITATION RECIPIENTS

Every Companion named has made major contributions to the advancement of the patriotic ideals of MOWW. Region, Department and Chapter Commanders nominated each individual listed below, who were honored by the Commander-in-Chief for their contribution to achieving goals of the Order as set forth in the MOWW Strategic Plan.

REGION COMMANDER RECOGNITION

- Region I Col Leo H. Fox, USAF (Ret) Narragansett Bay Chapter, RI
- Region V Capt Owen S. Haddock, USAF (Fmr) Knoxville Chapter, TN
- Region VIII CW3 Ray A. Sanchez, USA (Ret) CAPT Dilworth Chapter, TX
- Region XIII HPM Laura S. Beltran Greater El Paso Chapter, TX
- Region XIV CPT Gordon A. Fell, USAR (Fmr) COL Hanson Chapter, CA

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER RECOGNITION

- · Department of Florida (Region VI) Maj Nicholas J. Lamis, Jr., USAF (Ret) Sun City Center Chapter, FL
- Department of Oklahoma (Region VIII) LTC Oren L. Peters, USA (Ret) COL Woods-OKC Chapter, Ok
- Department of Arizona (Region XIII) LTC Charles A. Erickson, USA (Ret) COL Stephens-Apache Trail Chapter, /

CHAPTER COMMANDER RECOGNITION

- Greater Boston Chapter, MA BG Joseph A. Milano, Jr., USA (Ret) Region I
- Fort Knox Chapter, KY COL Walter Meinshausen, USA (Ret) Region II
- Wilmington Chapter, DE LTC William M. Conley III, USA (Ret) Region III
- Northern Virginia Chapter, VA LTC Edmund F. Feige, USA (Ret)
- Augusta Chapter, GA LT Richard E. Herdegen, USN (Fmr) Region V
- Knoxville Chapter, TN HPM Linda L. Campbell Region V
- Clearwater Chapter, FL LTC George K. Smith, USA (Ret) Region VI

- · Puerto Rico Chapter, PR COL Fernando Sulsona, USA (Ret) Region VI
- Sun City Center Chapter, FL LTC Robert T. Russell, Jr., USA (Ret)
- LTG Middleton Chapter, LA COL Ulysses S. Hargrove, Jr., USAR (Ret)
- COL Woods-OKC Chapter, OK COL COL Harold A. Yocum, MD, USA (Ret)
- Dallas Chapter, TX HPM Philip A. Teipel Region VIII
- Dallas Chapter, TX LTC Russell L. Hooper, USA (Ret) Region VIII
- Fort Hood Chapter, TX COL William K. Brock, USA (Ret)
- · Hill Country Chapter, TX Col William H. Cathey, USAF (Ret) Region VIII
- North Texas Chapter, TX Brig Gen James T. Boddie, USAF (Ret)
- Catalina Mountains Chapter, AZ CWO Theodore L. Cogut, USA (Ret)
- Colorado Springs Chapter, CO Col Richard H. Rima, USAF (Ret)
- MG Miles Chapter NM HPM Nancy L. Calhoun Region XIII
- Phoenix Chapter, AZ COL Jeanne J. Blaes, USA (Ret) Region XIII
- Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ Lt Col Ann S. Hollis, USAF (Ret)
- West Valley Chapter, AZ CPT John F. Hannan, USA (Fmr) Region XII
- BG Holland Chapter, CA **HRM Delores K. Lettington**
- G/A Bradley-COL Hanson Chapter, CA HPM Georgett E. Studnicka
- Gaylord-Dillingham Mem. Chapter, HI LTC Robert K. Takao, USA (Ret)
- LTG Wright Chapter, CA **HPM Jeane C. Fentress**
- MajGen Pendleton Chapter, CA 1LT Michael P. Walsh, USAR (Fmr)
- · Puget Sound Chapter, WA COL William A. Leneweaver, USA (Ret) Region XIV
- · San Diego Chapter, CA HPM Kathleen A. Winchester Region XIV



RECRUITING EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Recruiting Excellence Award is presented to the top three chapters that achieved the most significant net new member increases in living veteran and hereditary Perpetual and Regular member categories.

- 1ST PLACE: Presented to the chapter that recruits at least six (6) new members AND achieves a ten percent or greater (≥10%) net increase in membership. The recipient is awarded a streamer, is listed on the MOWW Recruiting Honor Role on the MOWW website, and is presented a check for \$2,000 to be applied to support chapter programs.

 RECIPIENT: Hill Country Chapter, TX
- 2ND PLACE: Presented to the chapter that recruits at least four (4) new members AND achieves an 8.0- 9.9 percent net increase in membership. The recipient is awarded a streamer, is listed on the MOWW Recruiting Honor Role on the MOWW website, and is presented a check for \$1,200 to be applied to support chapter programs.

RECIPIENT: Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

• **3**RD **PLACE**: Presented to the chapter that recruits at least two (2) new members AND achieves a 7.0 - 7.9 percent net increase in membership. The recipient is awarded a streamer, is listed on the MOWW Recruiting Honor Role on the MOWW website, and is presented a check for \$750 to be applied to support chapter programs.

RECIPIENT: COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY

RECRUITING MERIT

Certificates of Recruiting Merit honor those chapters with strong recruiting programs during the operating year.

- **CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING MERIT**Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING MERIT Victoria Crossroads Chapter, TX

TOP RECRUITER AWARD

The MOWW Top Recruiting Citation is presented to the Companions who personally recruited the greatest number of new members of all membership categories.

RECIPIENTS (TIE):

Mrs. Diane S. Gibson, HPM Puget Sound Chapter, WA Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret) Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

RECRUITING CITATION

The MOWW Individual Recruiting Citation honor those Companions who personally recruit five new members of all membership categories.

- INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING CITATION:
 COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)
 Philadelphia Chapter, PA
- INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING CITATION: Lt Col Richard W. Muri, USAF (Ret) Puget Sound, Chapter, WA
- INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING CITATION:
 CPT Lawrence V. Rivera, NYARNG (Fmr)
 Sun City Center Chapter, FL
- INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING CITATION: COL Stephen A. Shambach, USA (Ret) Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING CITATION: Col Norman E. Wells, USAF (Ret) Hill Country Chapter, TX

RECRUITING HONORABLE MENTION

The MOWW Membership Recruiting Citation is presented to Companions who personally recruited the greatest number of new members of all membership categories.

- HONORABLE MENTION: Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)
 - Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret) Fort Worth Chapter, TX
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 COL Brad M. Beasley, USA (Ret)
 Atlanta Chapter, GA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 CPT James A. Brady III, USA (Fmr)
 Augusta Chapter, GA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 LTC Dennis V. Christo, USA (Ret)
 Worcester Chapter, MA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 COL Thomas W. Current, USA (Ret)
 Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)
- COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY

 HONORABLE MENTION:
- PCINC Col David B. Gibson, USA (Ret)
 Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- HONORABLE MENTION: LCDR Nicholas S. Herbka, USN (Ret) BG Holland Chapter, CA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 CW4 Richard E. Johnson, USA (Ret)
 Chicago Chapter, IL

HONORABLE MENTION:
 CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)

CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret) Hill Country Chapter, TX

- HONORABLE MENTION:
 CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret)
 COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 COL Vicente C. Ogilvie, USA (Ret)
 Northern Virginia Chapter, VA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 LTC (Dr.) Peter B. Riesz, USA (Ret)
 Victoria Crossroads Chapter,TX
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 PCINC LTC David R. Titus, USA (Ret)
 Augusta Chapter, GA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 LTC Patrick L. Widner, USAR (Ret)
 LTG Middleton Chapter, LA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 COL Lawrence A. Willwerth, USA (Ret)
 Greater Boston Chapter, MA
- HONORABLE MENTION:
 LtCol David C. Yorck, USMC (Ret)
 BG Holland Chapter, CA

VADM DYER WRITING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Vice Admiral George C. Dyer Awards for Writing Excellence in MOWW's magazine, *The Officer Review®*, are made possible by the VADM Dyer Memorial Magazine Trust Fund.

WRITING PRIZES

- 1ST PRIZE (\$2,000):

 BG Raymond E., Bell, Jr, USA (Ret)

 "General Pershing's Allied Challenges;"

 (OR, Jan-Feb 19)

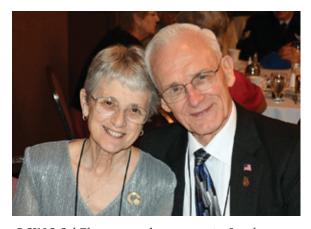
 BG Bultman Chapter (At-Large), MOWW
- 2ND PRIZE (\$1,000): CAPT Thomas J. Marshall, Jr., MC, USN (Ret) "A Historical Pivot," (OR, Nov-Dec 19) San Diego Chapter, CA
- HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):
 CPT Kevin L. Rice, USA (Fmr)
 "A Visit To Vietnam,"
 (OR, May-Jun 19)
 General George G. Meade Chapter, MD
- HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):
 Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret)
 "The Last Charge,"
 (OR, Mar-Apr 19)
 G/A Bradley COL Hanson Chapter, CA
- HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):
 COL James T. Roberts, Jr., USA (Ret)
 "Venezuela's Dire Straits,"
 (OR, Jan-Feb 19)
 BG Bultman Chapter (At-Large), MOWW

COL JAMES D. ELMER, USAF (RET) 77TH COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, 2007-2008

30 June 1934-14 July 2020

Past CINC Col James D. Elmer, USAF (Ret), 86, passed away on 14 July 2020.

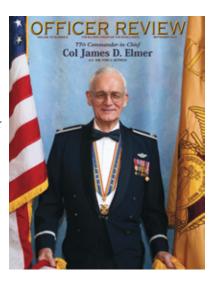
James DeElton Elmer was born in Richland Center, WI, to Drayton Lee Elmer and Violet Evelyn (Stibbe) Elmer. Jim earned a vocational agriculture bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Illinois, graduating with honors. Through ROTC, he received his commission as a second lieutenant. Graduating second in his class from navigator training, he began an assignment in RC-121s based in California. Later he became a Master Navigator.



PCINC Col Elmer served two tours in Southeast Asia as a navigator, accumulating 9,000 flying hours with 800 combat hours. His awards include the Legion of Merit (two Oak Leaf Clusters), the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal (ten Oak Leaf Clusters).

Following duty as an ROTC instructor and an assignment at Air Force ROTC Headquarters, he was Base Commander at Little Rock AFB and then Commander of the Air Force Aerospace Audiovisual Service (AAVS). In 1986, he was awarded the US Air Force's Order of the Sword, a special program where noncommissioned officers of a command honor individuals they hold in high esteem.

At McClellan AFB, he earned the distinction of the 963rd "volunteer for everything." He was commander of a thirteenman Physical Training Unit, Squadron Athletic Officer, Squadron Mail Officer, and built a picket fence around



wing headquarters, which may still be standing. He always felt "if you always do your best and respect those who help you, everything will turn out okay."

As a Companion and under his leadership, the number of students receiving flag education has increased each year. In 2016 approximately 6,000 Arkansas fifth-graders received flag education training. He served as an active member of many patriotic organizations. He was instrumental in helping to organize the Central Arkansas Chapter.

Col Elmer is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ruth B. Elmer, a Hereditary Perpetual Member of MOWW, who has been involved in numerous MOWW activities over the years. The Elmers have four children, many grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren.

In 2017, PCINC Col Elmer, and Mrs. Ruth B. Elmer, HPM, donated \$100,000 to the Military Order. This gift generously supports the Phoenician Award Essay Prizes.

A private burial was held in the Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later date when Covid-19 restrictions allow. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a favorite charity.





PHOENICIAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET) CHIEF OF STAFF, MOWW & COO, MOWW, INC.

Essayist Recognition

MOWW's Phoenician Awards provide national recognition to three Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) students who are judged as the "The Military Order of the World Wars Outstanding Student of the Year." Candidates are chosen from among students who were selected by their multi-day Youth Leadership Conference. The national recipients are determined by the outcome of the essay contest, including a review of comments by the Conference Director.

All award recipients receive their awards during local MOWW ceremonies attended by family, fellow students, friends and local media. In addition, MOWW features them in *The Officer Review®* magazine, and in its annual MOWW Convention Book.

Essayist Awards

MOWW presents the Phoenician Award Winner, and First Runner-Up and Second Runner-Up award recipients, with scholarships of \$2,000, \$1,000 and \$500, respectively, for the best essay on a specific national issue. Upon selection of the award recipients, they receive several awards:

- The winner receives a \$2,000 scholarship, a Phoenician Award Certificate, and a MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Award.
- The First Runner-Up receives a \$1,000 scholarship, a Phoenician Award Certificate, and a MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Award.
- The Second Runner-Up receives a \$500 scholarship, a Phoenician Award Certificate, and a MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Award.

2019 MOWW Phoenician Essay Question

Essay Question:

Should term limits be applied to members of the US Congress? State your position on the question and defend that position.



TERM LIMITS IN CONGRESS

ABIGAIL V. DEYOE I WINNER. 2019 MOWW PHOENICIAN AWARD ROCKY MOUNTAIN YLC | COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY; COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

6:00 AM-every day for forty years, John drives to work. Despite how late he stayed up completing today's presentation, John brings his all, pouring his heart and soul into his projects. John's dependability, expertise, and passion make him the perfect role model for both old and incoming employees. So how can it be that tomorrow, John will be fired? An employer with any sense would give everything to keep John. Yet today, Americans discuss the implementation of term limits in congress, which would remove such workers from their seats. Term limits must not be applied to congress for these reasons: they contradict democracy, force away skilled members, and create the loss of those experienced in policy-making and negotiations.

Supporters of term limits claim this is the only way to "clean up congress," but they forget the power a democracy places in the hands of the people. Concerns of corruption or lack of new blood are melted away with every citizen's vote. If a congressman/woman is corrupt, is past his/her prime, or is failing to effectively serve our country, the people will vote the weak candidate out. This way, strong members remain while the new step into positions of power. Applying term limits takes this power away from citizens. Let us not steal the peoples' right to vote for the candidate best suited to the job.

Stealing away this right forces members like John away from serving their country, wasting talents and valuable relationships. Positions in congress are complex, requiring years of practice, and even more of building trust between members. Shoving the experienced out the door every few years does not allow the time necessary to build effective partnerships or sufficient knowledge. Does the US really want a room full of unconnected novices making critical decisions with lasting impacts? Another concern, as journalist Casey Burgat warns, is those with term limits will be less motivated to "develop expertise on specific issues simply because, in most cases, the knowledge accrued won't be

nearly as valuable in a few short years." Burgat's point suggests that not only will America wind up with a room full of inexperienced strangers but inexperienced strangers without the time or desire to gain a full understanding of important, relevant issues. This yields absolutely no benefit to the country.

In the words of Roger Sherman, "nothing renders government more unstable than a frequent change of the persons that administer it." Rarely has a statement held so much truth. Term limits must never touch congress, for they tear at the very fabric of democracy, erasing decades of experience, shredding vital relationships based in trust, and striking the expertise imperative to making decisions of vast importance. Please, America, keep the Johns of the nation in office. *



BIOGRAPHY

Abigail V. Deyoe

Abigail Deyoe is a 17-year-old student at Castle View High School in Castle Rock, Colorado. As a military dependent, Abigail has been granted the opportunity to live across the United States, including Alaska. Some of Abigail's achievements include maintaining a 4.3 GPA throughout her high school career, being an officer

in the National Honor Society, and serving her school as a Student Ambassador. One of the achievements Abigail is most proud of is being honored as the 2018 Madden Outstanding Student at the RMYLC. Abigail is also a gifted volleyball player, earning a varsity letter and being a starter player on her club team, Hot Shotz. Upon graduating from high school in 2019, Abigail's plans include attending the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

SHOULD CONGRESSMEN FOLLOW GEORGE WASHINGTON'S PRECEDENT?

BLAKE RYAN TALLEY | FIRST RUNNER-UP, 2019 MOWW PHOENICIAN AWARD USS LEXINGTON YLC | ABOARD USS LEXINGTON; CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

When George Washington became the first president of the United States of America, he stepped down after two terms in office, despite protests from the people. Why did one of the greatest leaders in America's history step down? We must look to the Revolution for that answer. The Americans revolted because of kings who did not answer to their people, and who held too much power for too long. Washington stepped down early to set the precedent for every president afterwards: to only stay in office for two terms, to emphasize that power should not stay in one place for too long.

Should Congressmen follow the same example? As Thomas Paine said, "It is necessary at all times to watch against the attempted encroachment of power, and to prevent its running to excess." When representatives and senators run for term after term, the voter must beware of voting for the 'easy' choice, and reelecting the same politician into office over and over again. When Senators like Dianne Feinstein, who was born during the Great Depression is still serving, voters would be justified in wondering if our Congress is outdated.

Most congressmen have been serving for decades, and continue to serve to this day. A very simple solution to a congress whose average age is seventy-two, with more than half of the members up for reelection aged over sixty-five, is imposing term limits. This limit may be longer than the strict two term presidential limit, but still, a limit must exist. This would modernize our Congress, bring in modernized minds who could create modernized laws, that would equate to our modernized world. An outdated Congress cannot make decisions about new sciences that they cannot understand. A modern congress would be able to aptly create laws about new technologies and procedures, create a constant flow of new ideas, and stop corporations from easily buying out one politician for over fifty years.

Now there are some disadvantages to term limits. The limits would force experienced and good politicians out of Congress while they could have been putting effective laws into motion. But these politicians could still run for other elected offices, and continue their work elsewhere. Some also argue that a congressional term limit would also take power away from the voters, taking names off the ballot that the people could no longer choose, but it's the same thing we do with our president. Term limits would actually free the people of voting endlessly for the same politicians.

Imposing term limits on Congress would allow a modern generation to take office, and allow a fresh set of eyes to vote on laws and policies in order to improve our legislation. The greatest opponents of term limits are the politicians themselves, afraid of losing their power. If we want term limits, we must exercise our freedom of petition, and tell Congress what we want. \bigstar



BIOGRAPHY

Blake Ryan Talley

Blake Talley started learning about leadership as a freshman in high school. He joined the JROTC unit at his school and quickly became infatuated with leadership. At the end of his freshman year, he was elected as a team commander and the deputy commander of squadron section. All

told, he was in charge of about 12 people. He started roughsome people didn't like his leadership style- and he quickly adapted. Very soon his team was ready, and proceeded to win three trophies at various competitions. The next year, he was promoted to Squadron section commander and continued as a team commander. After that, he was promoted to Operations commander, in charge of holding practices for the teams, holding about 60 people. Under his leadership, the teams won seven trophies at a competition - and received 2nd place overall, out of every other school there. Now, Blake is the Corps Commander of the JROTC he joined his freshman year, over 120 people, 30 cadet staff members, and the day to day operations of the corps. He has overcome many obstacles and challenges, and has another year of challenges, waiting to be conquered, ahead of him.

THE NECESSITY FOR CONGRESSIONAL TERM LIMITS

MAX T. STEINER | SECOND RUNNER-UP, 2019 MOWW PHOENICIAN AWARD HUNTSVILLE YLC | US SPACE & ROCKET CENTER; HUNTSVILLE, AL

Benjamin Franklin said, "In free governments, the rulers are the servants, and the people their superiors...for the former to return among the latter does not degrade, but promote them." Due to the absence of term limits, Congressmen have been promoted above the people, as Benjamin Franklin warned. The addition of term limits on Congressmen is a change necessary for Congress to run more efficiently. Implementing term limits on Congressmen limits the potential for corruption, levels the political playing field, and encourages the exchange of new ideas.

Corruption is a plague that infects every government and can lead to disastrous consequences for the country. Lobbyists from corporations always want to buy favor with a politician to obtain more money and power. Members of Congress eventually fall prey to the lobbyists and, as such, are bought out by the corporations, creating a conflict of interest between the politician serving the corporations and Congress. However, to entice a politician when they will not be in power very long due to term limits would be significantly less profitable for the corporations due to the rotation of Congressmen. It also ensures that the legislative branch does not evolve into a "Corporate Congress" seen in many dystopian TV shows such as Continuum. When US politicians make their decisions based on who has given them the most money, there is no longer a political system; it is an auction.

By keeping the political playing field fair and equal, members of Congress can pass laws more efficiently. The current system promotes a system of seniority that has taken over both the House and the Senate, enabling lifetime politicians to dominate the political field in committees and power structures. Term limits decimate these power structures and enable newer politicians to voice their ideas and not be ignored by career politicians that are "doing what has always been done." Having term limits is more conducive to the "Citizen Congress" that was initially intended by the Founding Fathers.

Finally, having term limits encourages new ideas in Congress. Members of Congress who have been in office for years often work together to keep out newer politicians to not disrupt the status quo. Stagnation occurs when new ideas are not adequately considered; the current system limits innovation rather than encourages it. Allowing newer politicians into Congress promotes the exchange of new ideas that are necessary to keep the country evolving in an ever-changing world.

Congressional term limits was a concept initially found in the Articles of Confederation. However, they were rejected in the Constitution under the belief that elected officials would remain accountable to the people. Unfortunately, there have been extremely high reelection rates and overindulgence of power and privilege, allowing Congressmen to look toward their own personal gain versus the plights of the people. Therefore, it is time to shake up the status quo in Congress, so the people are adequately represented. As John F. Kennedy said, "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer." ★



BIOGRAPHY

Max T. Steiner

Originally from Madison, AL, Max is a military dependent of a Gulf War veteran. Being a dependent, he moved around the world, to include three years in Australia. There, he became culturally enriched and

attended an Australian public school. He also took up martial arts starting at the age of seven and held several state champion titles. He is still training today. Max joined JROTC at James Clemens High School and ascended through the ranks from a private all the way to the top rank of lieutenant colonel and held the position of Battalion Commander. JROTC helped him attain a strong academic standing and learn valuable leadership lessons necessary to succeed in life. Currently, Max is a member of numerous honor societies and he is an officer in the German Club. Max participates in Paws for a Cause where he volunteers at the Madison Animal Rescue Foundation. After high school, Max plans to attend the University of North Alabama with a dual major in environmental science and GIS, and plans on joining the UNA ROTC. Following graduation, he will begin his career in the military as an officer.

IMPOSSIBLE ONLY TAKES A LITTLE LONGER

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET)
CHIEF OF STAFF & COO, MOWW, INC.®

What does an innovation subject matter expert, professors *Emeritus* from Harvard and Duke Universities, a Green Beret, and Virginia public library director have in common? They all know about helping organizations innovate despite being in a tough environment requiring new capabilities and processes to achieve measurable mission success.

For our purposes, innovation is the application of better solutions to satisfy new requirements, unarticulated needs, or existing needs. This is the opposite of "exnovation," which is rarely addressed. Chuck Frey, an author and consultant on business innovation, creativity, and brainstorming, wrote in *Innovation Management* (Jul 09):

Exnovation is at the end of the innovation lifecycle where it "discards" or even purges existing practices to allow the organization to adopt different and fresh thinking....

He said exnovation involves examining the status quo and jettisoning that which is no longer relevant to provide the space needed to create something more relevant to current or emerging needs. For any organization, this involves timely decision making.

John S. Hammond, Ralph L. Keeney, and Howard Raiffa wrote about decision making in the *Harvard Business Review* (Sep-Oct 98), saying, "Decision makers can display a strong bias toward alternatives that perpetuate the status quo," even when evidence shows the need to adapt or evolve.

Simply put, doing some things the way they were always done in the face of altered circumstances may not cut it. On the other hand, not everything needs to evolve. Regardless, organizations old and new are finding they must pivot and become increasingly flexible as they react to and even anticipate new and often quickly changing circumstances.

That brings us to the Green Beret. After a long, difficult movement, his unit stopped to rest, only to be told they would have to resume their movement to an objective even

further away over more difficult terrain. When some complained that the men were completely exhausted and continuing the march would just be impossible, the colonel thought for a moment and replied, "We'll march...because doing the impossible only takes a little longer."

In fact, organizations across the United States are doing the impossible and successfully responding to the COVID challenge with a comparable "can do" spirit. Operating Year 2020 was not a lost year. To illustrate, a public library director in Virginia wrote to a trustee of the county library board:

I am so proud of the Potomac Library staff. Like all the libraries, Potomac faced unprecedented challenges. The Potomac team rose to the occasion in continuing with excellent customer service. We also had gifts with COVID-19, and that was the opportunity to be innovative.

The library director pointed out that while the library system had clear attributes, it had also become stuck in certain ways, and those ways sometimes fell short of the library's evolving needs. Allowing the library to quickly innovate enabled it to satisfactorily respond to environmental pressures while expanding operations to achieve greater mission success. Implementing hybrid operations were key.

Hybrid operations involve using a mix of traditional practices (e.g., in-person meetings and written communications) complemented by new ones (e.g., virtual meetings and communications). Whatever works best is the guide when traditional means are neither possible nor sufficiently effective, such as during a pandemic or its aftermath.

Realizing that not everything must change, we have

an opportunity nonetheless to integrate more responsive, hybrid capabilities into our internal and external programs, e.g., by adopting virtual capabilities now in use by libraries, schools, and public and private sector businesses, to increase our situational agility, mission success, and customer satisfaction. *

IMMUNIZATIONS & COVID-19

LTC MICHAEL A. OKIN, MD, USA (RET) SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MOWW

Today, discussions on using vaccinations to rid ourselves of the coronavirus are common. Medical scientists and researchers are hotly pursuing vaccines to be available as early as December 2020. To help understand how vaccines help control pandemics, we should first review the history of vaccinations.

The earliest recorded "vaccination" occurred in 17th century China. The Chinese transferred material from active smallpox lesions on an infected individual to a non-infected individual, hoping the healthy recipient would develop an attenuated, nonlife-threatening illness, thus conferring life-long immunity. The process is called "inoculation."

In 1798, Edward Jenner published scientific studies demonstrating that the inoculation of cowpox protected an individual from smallpox. Although cowpox inoculation was used before, Jenner's publication proved the efficacy of this procedure. This inoculation process was the first vaccine.

Inoculation, immunization, and vaccination have become synonymous in common usage. Inoculation refers to the transfer of an infectious medium to a healthy individual for the purposes of producing immunity and can more broadly include current vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, and polio. The term "vaccination" is more closely synonymous with inoculation. However, "immunization" is a broader term that includes not only potentially infectious substances, but also non-infectious substances such as tetanus, which confers immunity against the toxin produced by a bacterium. Immunizations, like inoculations and vaccinations, confer immunity against illnesses to which the vaccines are directed.

Government and private enterprise efforts involve creating a vaccine that will effectively immunize the population against the current strains of the coronavirus. Presently, there are at least 23 initiatives around the world focused on developing

COVID-19 vaccine candidates. The US government has initiated Operation Warp Speed to produce viable vaccines while reducing regulatory obstructions and ensuring compliance with FDA guidelines on safety and efficacy.

Steps taken on the way to obtaining a vaccine include basic, bench research on the virus to understand its structure and to develop ways to attack the virus through vaccination. Vaccine candidates then undergo a clinical development stage to ensure vaccine safety and efficacy. This has three phases. In Phase I, testing is done on dozens of healthy volunteers. Phase II looks at vaccine safety and adverse effects on "people who have characteristics like those for whom the new vaccine is intended. In Phase III, the vaccine is given to thousands of people and tested for efficacy and safety [CDC website]." Regulatory approvals and production follow.

Currently, there are several viable vaccines in Phase III trials. Operation Warp Speed is providing a mechanism to produce millions of doses of potential vaccine candidates prior to the completion of Phase III trials, thus guaranteeing the availability of effective vaccine doses for immediate distribution and administration upon study completion and FDA approval.

However, as important as a vaccine is in controlling the pandemic, it is useless unless enough people receive the vaccine to induce herd immunity. Additionally, it is unclear how long immunity induced by the vaccine will last. Consequently, it is anticipated that the coronavirus will be with us into the future, but at a much-reduced incidence in the

> community. As time progresses, we will learn more about the virus so more precise predictions can be formulated. Stay tuned and stay informed. *

Editor's Note: Dr. Okin, our visiting columnist, also wrote the pivotal COVID-19 Medical Assessment used by MOWW's EXCOM in OY 2019.



FAITH-FUELED CONFIDENCE IN GOD

LTC CHERYL D. BRADY, USA (RET) CHAPLAIN GENERAL, MOWW

God is present in all the experiences of life with help, hope, peace, joy, and guidance. However, God's presence in our experiences is different from being in His presence as we journey through life. Because God is Creator of everything, He is present in His creation. Yet the joys and benefits of a life lived to its fullest, including staying upbeat while adapting to and overcoming changing circumstances, can only be found in God's presence.

The psalmist says of God in Psalm 16:11, "You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy." Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, a by-product of an intimate relationship with God. When we are in God's presence, doing life with God, we find that the joy of the Lord is our strength. It is a strength beyond human reasoning and understanding. When we depend on people or our circumstances for happiness, staying upbeat, it ebbs and flows as our experiences change from good to bad, to sometimes chaotic.

The benefits of what God offers us—the Bible calls it joy unspeakable—can only be experienced by living in companionship with Him. This close relationship comes by grace through faith. Faith

comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17).

It is with a faith-fueled confidence in God that we successfully weather the storms of life. The joy God gives never diminishes, no matter the gravity of the storms we face. It is with a faith-fueled confidence in God that we are able to come out on the other side of the storms of pandemics, storms of loss and suffering, storms of uncertainty, all with our joy intact. Doing so with a perspective that transcends all that is earthly and temporary.

A faith-fueled confidence in God leads to a regular pattern of fellowship with Him. Through this personal and intimate fellowship God shows us the path of life. It is a path with twists and turns. Yet traveling on this path in God's presence helps us to remain assured we will eventually reach the straight path that never winds.

There is nothing in all of creation that falls outside of God's dominion. He controls and is in control of our lives. Believing this helps us to see a better and brighter tomorrow as we serve our youth, communities, and nation. ★



Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

Jump into the 75th Anniversary of D-Day

BY COL STEPHEN A. SHAMBACH, USA (RET)

Imagine what it must have been like to be a paratrooper jumping into Normandy on D-Day as the spearhead for the invasion of occupied Europe. The Colorado Springs Chapter heard a gripping account at their September meeting from a Companion who participated in the commemoration jump on the 75th anniversary. LTC William D. Linn II, USA (Ret), was an Infantryman, Ranger, and a "Green Beret" who served on active duty from June 1989 to January 2017. His assignments took him to virtually every corner of the globe where he participated in many combat operations and commanded a variety of units. After retiring from the Army, he founded and now serves as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Heritage Arsenal in Colorado Springs, a company

of consultants. They work with both military museums and veteran-focused non-profits to promote and preserve the legacy of military service. At their secure facility, they also have an exhibit of historic military memorabilia. Bill and his wife, Courtney, provided a display of World War II airborne artifacts to enhance the presentation—in this case, a group of items attributed to a veteran of the 101st Airborne Division who was wounded in Normandy.

Bill's presentation profiled the seven members of his Heritage Jump Team and the preparation they required to jump from a WWII aircraft in Normandy in WWII gear (but with modern parachutes) and best of all, an account of his interactions with WWII veterans who attended the events surrounding the 75th anniversary. The team, all former paratroopers and combat veterans, were certified as current jumpers through the World War II Airborne Demonstration Team based in Frederick, OK. To participate, the Heritage Jump Team had to wear period jump uniforms and gear and spent the better part of a week participating in ground refresher and jump operations.

The commemoration jump was conducted into Drop Zone Carentan, the same fields designated for the parachute drops made the night of D-Day and within yards of the famous "Cole's Bayonet Charge," actions, which resulted in LTC Robert Cole receiving the Medal of Honor. LTC Linn provided some

statistics surrounding the jump in June: 38 Restored Douglas C47 "Skytrain" aircraft (the largest assemblage since WWII), 250 jumpers and a 1,500-foot jump altitude. He provided sketches of a few WWII veterans he met. The oldest jumper was 97-year old Tom Rice. All in all, it was a memorable experience for all Companions and guests attending this moving luncheon.

(Photo Top, L-R): LTC William D. Linn II, USA (Ret), and Chapter Commander COL Stephen a. Shambach, USA (Ret). (Center): Heritage Jump Team. (Photo Below): Tom Rice, the oldest jumper.









GEN Meade Chapter, MD

Law & Order Youth Leadership Seminar

BY LT COL SHELDON A. GOLDBERG, USAF (RET)



On 2 March 2020, Lt Col Sheldon A. Goldberg, USAF (Ret), Commander, Department of the National Capital Area, led a single day Youth Leadership Seminar (YLS) focused on Law and Order. The high school students came from Howard and Anne Arundel Counties in Maryland. The names of the Howard County MD officials are Mr. Rich Gibson (State's Attorney) and Mr. Louis Willimen (Chief Public Defender).

(Photo Top, L-R): Instructors with the students in the courtroom were Lt Col Sheldon A. Goldberg, USAF (Ret); Mr. Jim Hopper, Meade Senior High School Homeland Security instructor (center), Judge Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief of the Maryland Court of Appeals (in robe), and CW3 Kirk Conover, USA (Ret) member of the GEN Meade Chapter, MD. (Inset, L-R): Richard H. Gibson, Jr., State's Attorney for Howard County, MD; Lt Col Sheldon A. Goldberg, USAF (Ret), and Mr. Louis P. Willemin, Chief Public Defender, Howard County, MD, Public Defender's Office.



West Valley Chapter, AZ

Inspiring Massing of the Colors Conducted by West Valley Chapter

BY SVCINC BGEN FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, USMCR (RET)

SVCINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret) attended a great Massing of Colors (MOC) hosted by the West Valley Chapter Companions and Chapter Commander MAJ Kenneth E. Coffman, USA (Ret). The MOC featured 40 organization flags, including the local American Rosie the Riveter Association. In the photo are three original Rosie the Riveters and 2 descendants. Wonderful ladies, they told all about where they worked and what they did.

Photo taken with Rosie the Riveters and (L-R): Ms. Kathleen Galletley, BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret), and Mrs. Anne Lopez.



Fort Knox Chapter, KY

Eagle Scouts Recognized

BY LTC LAWRENCE HERZOG, USA (RET)

The Fort Knox Chapter participated in honoring twelve Eagle Scouts at the annual Lincoln Trail District Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner on 17 January 2020 in Elizabethtown, KY. The chapter was represented by the scouting District Chairman, who is a Chapter Companion and an Eagle Scout, MG William E. Barron, USA (Ret), far right in the photo. He presented each of the twelve Eagle Scouts packets composed of a Fort Knox Chapter MOWW Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate and a congratulatory letter, both signed by the chapter commander, BG David Estes, USA (Ret).









Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)

Region I, Semi-Annual Conference

BY LTC DENNIS V CHRISTO, USA (RET)

A successful, semi-annual conference was hosted by Region I on 7 December 2019. COL Hayes, Region I Assistant Chaplain, gave the invocation followed by a brief moment of silence commemorating the 7 Dec 41 military personnel who lost their lives in the attack Pearl Harbor and the US Navy personnel who recently lost their lives. LTC Dennis V. Christo, the then-Region I Commander, presided over the conference and LTC David A. Anderson, the Region Adjutant and Treasurer, recorded the minutes. MOWW Chief of Staff Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret), was the guest speaker.

[Top Left]: Conferees gather for a group shot. (Top Right): CAPT Harry H. Weinberg, USN (Ret), displayed a 100th Anniversary Proclamation from Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker, Jr., to be placed in the Region 1 display case. (Bottom Row, Left, L-R): MOWW Chief of Staff Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret), presented the MOWW Gold Patrick Henry (GPH) to COL Lawrence A. Willwerth III, USA (Ret). The MOWW Chief of Staff presented this award on behalf of VCINC LTC (Dr) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret). (Right, L-R): Then-Region I Commander LTC Dennis Christo awarded LTC David A. Anderson, USA (Ret), an MOWW Outstanding Service Medal for his seven years' service to Region I as its Adjutant and Treasurer.



Support to Veteran Caregivers during COVID-19



Family caregivers of wounded, ill or injured warriors face many challenges while routinely supporting and caring for their

veteran loved ones. Their jobs have become even harder during the COVID-19 pandemic. That's why VA and the Elizabeth Dole Foundation (EDF) offer Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers. The program provides 40,000 hours of free home health care to more than 1,600 veteran families.

With many injured or ill Veterans at higher risk for COVID-19 infection, caregivers are taking on extra duties because of travel restrictions and lack of child care. Those and a variety of other factors mean they have more to do with even less time to care for their loved ones.

Through the new partnership with EDF, \$1 million in no-cost, short-term respite care will be donated through CareLinx, a nationwide online home-care platform. The donation was organized through the VHA Innovation Ecosystem (VHA IE) and VA Caregiver Support Providers.

Caregivers in Florida, Texas and California can applyto receive approximately 24 hours of relief from a qualified in-home care professional from CareLinx's caregiver network for their veteran. These care professionals will be able to perform daily living tasks such as cooking, mobility assistance, transportation and bathing.

Caregivers interested in applying to the Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers program can find more information at https://hiddenheroes. org/respite/.

United Through Reading.



Veterans never have to miss story time with children, grandchildren, or another special child thanks to United Through Reading

(UTR). For over 30 years, UTR has helped service members video record themselves reading a book to send to a child in their life. UTR's new, free and secure app is available on Android and iOS. Veterans can verify military service with ID.me, the same partner and login option available for signing into VA.gov, and record!

By making recordings with UTR, veterans will always be able to participate in story time with the children in their lives. Children can watch the recordings on demand, and the Veteran can easily be part of daily routines even when they can't be with the child, whether due to distance, work hours, medical care, or other reasons.

"I was very excited to be reading to my twin grandkids for their first UTR recorded stories," said Air Force veteran Denise M. Jelinski-Hall. "In my heart, I knew they would love the time with grandma reading some of what would become their favorite stories. I also felt like I was making a difference for them during the times of our separation."

While video chatting is a great way to stay in touch, a UTR recording is always available, accessible, and repeatable when video calls may not be able to happen. Need a free book? No problem, order one from their app book order form.

Apps and book order forms are available through their website: https://unitedthroughreading.org/

COVID-19 ALERT



All Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) national cemeteries remain open and continue to provide interment for Veterans and eligible individuals during

this health crisis. Committal services, which had been discontinued on March 23, resumed at all NCA cemeteries in June. VA national cemeteries have been contacting families who were unable to hold a committal service due to the COVID-19 pandemic to arrange memorial services for their loved ones.

The National Cemetery Administration has implemented a robust set of measures that allows us to conduct committal and memorial services while protecting the health and safety of Veterans, their families and our team members who serve them. VA national cemeteries continue to adhere to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Read more important COVID-19 cemetery requirements see https://www.cem.va.gov/alerts.asp



















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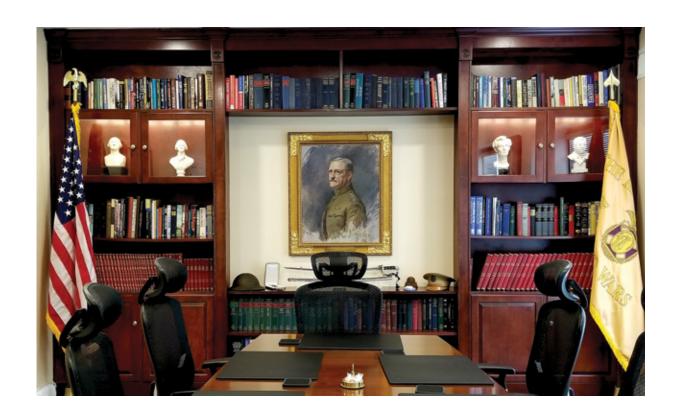
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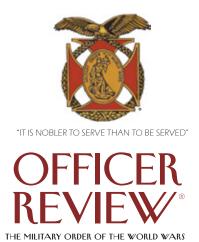
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PUBLISHER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret) chiefofstaff@moww.org

Assistant Editor

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