



Investing in Success

Dear Companions-

The primary way we "invest" in chapter success is by ensuring chapters locally create the "resources" required to successfully implement their Chapter Action Plans and achieve its stated objectives. Achieving Strategic Goal 1—increasing recruiting, expanding involvement and boosting retention—is critical to having enough Companions to successfully plan and execute chapter outreach programs and sustain the chapter's leadership pool. Using the MOWW Strategic Plan's strategies associated with achieving SG-1 enables this while also directly contributing to achieving the desired outcomes associated other Strategic Goals.

There are no magic bullets. It takes involved Companions, deliberate planning, proven techniques, and more to have vibrant chapter programs. It also takes implementing innovative techniques, such as MOWW chapter recruiting tables at veteran events. One chapter that comes to mind is the Hill Country Chapter (Region VIII), which holds meetings and open houses during which they showcase YLC students who "make the recruiting sale" with potential Companions. Whatever techniques we adopt, we must measurably increase our membership and our involvement in chapters, regions and national activities.

Another way we "invest" in chapter success is by locally raising enough funds to underwrite the Chapter Action Plan. We simply cannot rely on Perpetual Member dividends as our sole or primary source of chapter funds if we are to continue to be a vibrant Order, serve students and veterans in our local communities, and hold patriotic events and host YLCs. We must take advantage of the website's financial development (fund-raising) tools and techniques, and achieve real goals.

One of the most important chapter strengthening activities is ensuring that every chapter Companion has a role and is literally involved in the chapter's programs in some way. If this doesn't happen, no bonding in selfless service or achieving any sense of personal fulfillment from doing so will result. I believe Companions join the Order to serve their community and nation, and we must ensure that every Companion is given a real opportunity to do so.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

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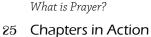
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F4U Corsair maintenance during WWII (Pacific Theater).



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THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING

BG RAYMOND E. BELL, JR., PH.D., USA (RET) BG BULTMAN CHAPTER, VA (AT LARGE)

It was a cold, wet, late November afternoon as I drove to Thionville in the province of Lorraine, France, that the Executive Committee of the Moselle River 44 Association learned "the Russians are coming." Yes, they were coming to a French Army military ceremony at which two US Army World War II veterans were to receive the French Legion

of Honor. The news came on the damp Wednesday afternoon just four days before the ceremony was to be conducted on Sunday, 16 November 2014, at nine o'clock in the morning.

Why were they coming? If the Russians were coming to represent the Russian Federation, were they an official delegation from the Russian Embassy? The immediate answers were unknown, but there was immediate concern about a Russian presence to the American veterans and their relatives who were going to attend the special ceremony. Did the US Consul General in Strasbourg and the US Embassy

in Paris know of their alleged presence or was the whole matter a hoax? There would be no answers to these questions at six o'clock in the evening when all government offices closed.

Conjecture that the presence of the Russians would be an embarrassment to the United States compelled the Association to do some quick thinking. There appeared to be some substance to the announcement because a specific Russian was named, a Mr. Leonid Kadyshew. His wife was to accompany him. The first thought was to ask the Consulate in Strasbourg and the Paris Embassy if they knew anything about Mr. Kadyshew coming to Thionville on the day of the ceremony. More



important, though, why would he want to attend an essentially French-American event?

The Association had to wait until the next morning to query the Consulate and Embassy even as a complication that previously seemed containable now was grossly magnified. Although a large group of World War II veterans

from various US Army divisions which had fought in the region in November 1944 were going to attend the ceremony, there was to be no official US Government representation at the event. It was not due to any lack of trying that no US official would be present.

Months before the Consul General in Strasbourg was invited to attend. Unfortunately, the invitation was lost and which prevented an RSVP. Just a month before the celebration of the liberation of that part of France in 1944, the Consul General was again invited, this time to spend the weekend

at the hotel of the Association's Vice-President and be present at the ceremony. The small staff in Strasbourg Consulate, because of conflicting obligations, was not able to provide an official representative. Until it was heard the Russians were coming, the lack of presence seemed to be unfortunate but now things had changed. As for the US Embassy in Paris, there had been no indication that they were aware of what could be an embarrassing situation in a relatively remote part of France.

In the news, the friction between Russia and the United States was being exacerbated by the G-20 environmental meeting in Australia. It was conceivable that the Russian



National Order of the Legion of Honour (French: Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur), is the highest French order for military and civil merit, established 1802 by Napoléon Bonaparte.

THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING

presence was a bit of one-upmanship to embarrass the United States, but hopefully that was just conjecture. In any case, the next morning the Association sent an e-mail and a FAX to both the US Embassy and the Consulate advising them of an impending difficult diplomatic situation. Appropriate action was requested by either or both of the offices.

The US Defense Attaché's office in Paris was quick to reply, but the

reply was off-key. The communiqué asserted that, indeed, there would be official US representation at the event because a previously arranged appearance by the US Air Force Europe's band would be in attendance to represent the United States. The embassy did not recognize that the ceremony was in the morning and the band was not scheduled to present a concert until that evening. In any event, a military band would hardly seem appropriate when only an official's presence was appropriate. So much for official representation. Moreover, what if the band had received mixed signals and so turned up—not in the evening for a concert but for day's French military ceremony?

The second paragraph in the communiqué questioned why the Russians would be interested in a French military ceremony honoring American veterans. At the time the communiqué was sent, there was no definitive answer but it should have seemed obvious to the attaché's office that something untoward was possible. Why wasn't the Embassy at least a little concerned that in light of the present tensions the Russians were making, a diplomatic ploy that might embarrass the United States at an inopportune time could be in the offing. Apparently, it wasn't; the Russian presence was of no official concern.



Crest of Thionville, France. Created by Henry Salomé for the Blazon Project of the French Wikipedia

In the meantime, some clarification was forthcoming. When it was revealed to the US Consulate in Strasbourg that retired US Army Colonel James Minor was among the veterans' delegation, it was suggested that he be unofficially designated as the US representative. He was wearing his dress blue uniform to the various ceremonies and was willing to play the part if asked to do so. The Consulate agreed, telling the Association that

there was no one in the Consulate who outranked Colonel Minor in any case and so there was no objection to his participation in such a role. A reasonable solution was at hand.

However, the reason for the Russian representative's presence was still unexplained, at least until well after nine o'clock the morning of 13 November when the Association received a dispatch from an unusual source. The French Directorate of Culture and Tourism in Metz, the metropolis south of Thionville and not involved in the series of veterans' celebrations, had, unbeknownst to the Association, sent invitations to the military ceremony to a number of embassies—including the Russian

Embassy. Apparently, this was just a diplomatic courtesy. However, of those invited, only the Russians had accepted the invitation. So much for a Russian diplomatic ploy—it was merely a RSVP to an invitation.

Interestingly, the reason for the Directorate's invitation without advising the Association in the first place remained obscure. Of course, government bureaucracies have been known to occasionally get entangled in potentially sensitive and important matters for which they have no responsibility. In this case, what added to the mystery was why a government office dealing with culture and tourism would be interested in inviting any one, regardless their



The monument honoring American Soldiers in WWII (Moselle River)



Children of Thionville (France) celebrate liberation September 1944.

nationality, to an event with a military theme—especially the invitees had little if anything to be gained by being present at such a ceremony.

So what happened at the French military ceremony at nine o'clock on Sunday, 16 November, and that evening for a gala concert by US Air Force musicians? The day started off gloomy as it was prone to be that time of year. Rain threatened, but fortunately it didn't occur off.

Various significant people turned up, but no one—including the Russians—distracted from the special aura of the ceremony.

The French Army unit present was the 40th Signal Regiment commanded by a female officer who decorated three members of her unit. The two US Army veterans being awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal were accorded due respect and attention as they stood alongside the three French award recipients.

Although there was no requirement for Colonel Minor to assert himself as an official representative of the United States Government.

he was a member of the reviewing party nonetheless—with French military and civilian authorities. He was asked to address the assemblage, and had come well prepared with a text which had been carefully translated into French by two capable American guests visiting for the week's celebrations. All in all, a possible unseemly diplomatic confrontation never even seemed to be on the horizon.

What about the US Air Force band from Ramstein Air Base, Germany? Luckily it did not show up for the daytime military ceremony to officially represent the US Government as it was feared it might. Instead, the band arrived that evening dressed in their World War II US Army Air Forces uniforms and belted out many well-known 1940s-era musical hits. It was even

assumed that the Russians, if they came, would join an enthusiastic crowd and enjoy a most delightful evening of popular period music. As the final event in a week of celebrations of the 1944 crossing of the Moselle River and liberation of that part of France, the US Air Force concert was, as the Moselle River 44 Association Vice-President put it, "The icing on the cake." *



French reenactors marching through the streets of downtown Thionville

HOW NOT TO JUMP OUT OF A B-17

2ND LT WILLIAM D. WHITTAKER, USAAF (FMR) SUBMITTED BY MAJ ROBERT M. KOMLO, USAF (RET) BRIG GEN SCOTT CHAPTER, GA

2nd Lt William D. Whittaker, a bombardiernavigator (398th Bomb Group, USAAF's Eighth Air Force, USAAF), recalls the moment he jumped out of his B-17 "Bebe." It was his 20th and last mission.

When I looked ahead and saw the flak, which is the black explosion of 88 millimeter shells going off, I thought, 'My God, we're going to be lucky to get through this,' but we got through it fine. We were hit a few times and you can always tell when you're hit because we could smell the burning, hot Flak metal

going through the ship. However, we got out of that fine and as soon as we were out of that the Luftwaffe attacked us.

The first attack was from 6-o'clock (tail) because their 20-millimeter cannon would go further than our .50 caliber machine gun. The tail gunner was pretty busy on his first mission and I think he shot down one of the planes. One of the fellows said, "You got one," over the intercom. On the second attack, we were hit really bad and the tail gunner was shot bad. The waist gunner went back to check on

him but said "He's dead." About that time, we were hit again real bad and the plane was out of control.

The pilot gave the word to "Bail out," and me, being the navigator right by the nose escape hatch, I was the first one out. But before I could go out I had to release my flak suit, armor helmet and a vest. Well, there's an escape pull-tag on that you pull to be released. Well, it didn't release, and I was fighting to get it off. I said [to myself], "Man, I gotta get out of here." You know, I had this voice—kind of like my father's who had passed away about eight months

before I went into service, and I thought I heard his voice say, 'You get out of there now!' So I did and when I jumped out I said, "I can't wait any longer," and [I] jumped out of the escape hatch in the nose. As soon as I hit the slip stream, it tore the flak suit off but my parachute was only fastened on one side because I couldn't fasten the other side when the flak suit was on.

So here I was, fighting all the way down, trying to fasten the other side. At 28,000 feet, you have no

strength; you're just about ready to pass out. I started entering some clouds at three thousand feet and I thought, "Well, I better pull this now whether its fastened or not." I pulled it and I was floating down. I could hear shots coming at me.

Was this fire from their aircraft or from the ground? I looked down and [saw] it was from the ground. Civilians on the ground were shooting! They all had guns and the odd thing about this was before I hit the ground, I could hear cheering. I thought, "Who the heck is cheering in the middle of

thought, "Who the heck is cheering in the middle of Germany?" I just about landed in a German Prisoner of War camp that held English prisoners. Luckily, a guard from this camp came running out of the camp and made the civilians stop shooting [at] me. They had their rifles all ready to aim at me. They stopped shooting and the guard gathered me up and took me into the camp. The English Prisoners of War gave us

[Source: Argunners Magazine, 1 Dec 15]



Newman's Crew, 603rd Squadron on 15 August 1944 in front of B-17 43-37982 "Bebe."

Back Row (L-R): S/Sgt. Norman Bergsma, Radio; S/Sgt. Leroy Kucharski, Gunner; T/Sgt. Cornelius Harrington, Engineer; S/Sgt. Arnold Money, Gunner; S/Sgt. Steve Kurcharski, Gunner.

Front Row (L-R): **2nd Lt. William D. Whitaker, Bombardier**; 1st Lt. Herbert H. Newman, Pilot; 2nd Lt. William Frankhouser, Navigator; 2nd Lt. Paul Deininger, Co-Pilot..



tea and crumpets. It was really something! *

OKINAWA: ONE MARINE'S PERSPECTIVE

CAPT JOHN HUNTER HURST, USMC (FMR), AND CPT T. RALEIGH MANN, USA (RET) BRIG GEN SCOTT CHAPTER. GA

The Battle for Okinawa was the bloodiest battle of WWII. B. H. Liddell Hart, in his remarkable book, *The History of the Second World War* (Konecky and Konecky, 1970), tells us that US forces in Okinawa lost 12,500 dead and 35,000 wounded. The Japanese lost over 120,000 troops, of which 40,000 were Okinawan conscripts.

The Operation was called Iceberg and involved US Army, Navy and Marine units. The mission was to destroy the remainder of Japan's merchant fleet



F4U-4 Corsair No. 13 flown by Capt Kenneth A. Walsh of VMF-222, Awase, June 1945

and use airstrips in the region to launch bombing raids on Japan (from The History Learning web site). B. H. Liddell Hart describes the destruction of Japan's merchant fleet: "In 1943, the US sank 296 merchant ships totaling 1,335,000 gross tons, primarily by submarine. In October alone, 321,000

tons of shipping (largely Japanese tankers) were destroyed.

The main Japanese fleet was kept at Singapore to be near oil-producing areas. Training of Japanese pilots in Japan was restricted due to fuel shortages." Japan was a sea empire and totally dependent on oil imports, iron ore, bauxite, coking coal, lead, phosphate, graphite and potash, cotton, salt, and rubber. She required most of her sugar and soya beans, 20% of her wheat, and 17% of her rice to be imported (p. 682, Hart).

The island (according to Hart) is 60 miles long and 8 miles wide. Its geography provided enough space for army and naval bases which could serve as jumping off points for the invasion of Japan. The civilian population numbered 450,000, of which one-fourth died during the invasion (p. 683).

I interviewed former USMC Captain and fighter pilot John Hunter Hurst during the Brig Gen Scott Chapter's February 2015 luncheon meeting. The battle for Okinawa for Captain Hurst began on 1 Apr 45 (Easter Sunday). His personal story follows:

Interviewer: Tell us about the aircraft on which you were trained to fly and the aircraft you piloted during the Battle. Was it a good fit for the mission?

Capt Hurst: The F4U-4 fighter was carrier-equipped with folding wings and a rear hook. The radial engine produced 2000 hp. It was a single seater and armed with six .50 caliber machine guns or four 20 mm cannons, eight rockets and a 500 lb. incendiary or napalm bomb. Internal fuel tanks were 55 gallons, plus up to three external tanks. Unlike Japanese aircraft, the F4U had double lined fuel tanks which offered double protection from enemy fire. The aircraft was ideal for our land or carrier missions.

Interviewer: You were assigned to what unit and where were you based?

Capt Hurst: I was assigned to Marine Fighter Squadron VMF 222, which was part of the First Marine Division. Our squadron was land-based. Seabees built our airstrip on the east side of the island to get us away from the Japanese airfields at Yontan and Kadena on the west side that were used for our medium and heavy bombers.

Interviewer: How were you briefed on the mission and how often?

Capt Hurst: Usually, four planes were on a mission, and we were briefed prior to each mission. The briefing covered the mission purpose, targets and alternate targets, and weather. Time-in-flight was long—from a pre-dawn takeoff to a night return. Our debriefing included the flight surgeon who offered each of us a glass of wine to calm us down.

Interviewer: Tell us about the type missions, where they originated, and types of targets.

Capt Hurst: Our targets were airfields which we dive bombed and strafed. One such target was

OKINAWA: ONE MARINE'S PERSPECTIVE

on southern Kyusha, Japan. It was about 400 miles away and was a four-plus hour flight, round-trip. We also escorted medium and heavy bombers, provided close air support to front line troop—sometimes as close as 125 yards in front of our forces. We engaged targets of opportunity. The usual attack sequence was bombing

first, then rockets, then strafing with machine guns. Once, I had a 5-1/2-hour mission off the coast of China near of Shanghai. The Navy ordered us to provide air cover for a division of Navy cruisers which were to assault a Japanese airfield. This airfield had been captured from the Chinese. I was the flight commander of eight fighters.

Interviewer: How many missions did you fly?

Capt Hurst: I flew 51 missions in Okinawa and 26 missions as part of the post-war occupation of Japan's Honshu Island.

Interviewer: What was the average time over a target?

Capt Hurst: That is hard to say but probably 20 minutes. We had short-time strafes with rockets and then dive bombed from 8000 to 1000 feet. Antiaircraft fire was normal. We didn't hang around long when we encountered anti-aircraft.

Interviewer: What problems did you encounter on these missions?

Capt Hurst: Anti-aircraft fire, poor visibility because of the weather, monitoring our fuel and oxygen supplies. Jettisoning of our external fuel tanks was always a concern.

Interviewer: Talk about the weather, communications, enemy fire and ammunition availability.

Capt Hurst: The weather was usually 70-80 degrees with high humidity. Fog and rain were particularly dangerous on takeoff and landing. When wet, the steel girders placed on the Yellow Sea soil were like the red clay of Georgia—very slick. At night on landing, we had a lane man (a member of our ground crew) with flash lights who would jump onto the wing as we landed and direct the pilot to a parking spot. He was very much like a parking lot attendant and he helped immensely. Radio communication were minimal at best. Communication between aircraft was often



VMF-222 patch (Australian-made)

by hand signals. Ammunition was plentiful. Our logistics guys did a great job in supplying us with food, water and ammunition.

Interviewer: Describe the results of missions you flew.

Capt Hurst: We destroyed on-ground Japanese planes at airfields, fuel

storage areas, troop housing, open cave entrances (which were many) and enemy artillery sites. When we flew CAP missions or missions capping the US Navy vessels, we experienced little to no contact, with the exception of suicide planes or Kamikazes.

Interviewer: Were you ever involved in aerial combat?

Capt Hurst: [I was not but] prior to my involvement in the battle there were furious aerial combat engagements conducted during the first 20 days of the battle. As the Operation went on, there was little to no air to air combat because of the shortage of trained Japanese pilots and fuel. Instead, they resorted to suicide missions.

Interviewer: Tell us about any family members who were in the battle and did you ever link up with them?

Capt Hurst: My cousin, Sergeant George T. "Buddy" Lee from Parrott, GA, served in Okinawa. I saw him once. My brother, USMC LtCol Hunter Hurst, was Commander, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. He was shot by a Japanese sniper. The bullet entered the left side of his neck and came through at the high point of his right cheek. When I learned he was wounded, my commander let me visit him in a field hospital. He recuperated and served a career in the Marines, attaining the rank of BGen. The Battle for Okinawa was one of the final steps to the Japanese surrender on 2 Sep 45. Our service members served proudly and bravely—a wonderful testimony to the American fighter. The unsung heroes in all of this were the Navy Corpsmen, to whom we all owe a great debt of gratitude. Each Marine Company had Navy Corpsmen; 760 unarmed medics were killed as they treated wounded and saved many Marines. Semper Fil ★

Author's Note: B. H. Liddell Hart's book, plus information from "World War II, Day by Day," by Donald Sommerville (Dorsett Press, 1989), Wikipedia and The History Learning web site were the primary sources for writing the introduction to this article.



JUNGLE CLASSROOM

BY LTC JOSEPH E. HARRIS, USA (RET) GREAT SALT LAKE CHAPTER, UT

I recently enjoyed reading *The River of* Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey, by Candace Millard (Broadway Books: 1st Edition (10 Oct 06), New York; ISBN-10: 0767913736; ISBN-13: 978-0767913737). It was a fantastic read on the exploits of former United States President Theodore Roosevelt's journey to discover one of the last remaining unexplored areas in South America. This Brazilian rainforest river had never been measured or charted. As a result, it had been penciled in on the map by US Army engineers as a "river of doubt."

Roosevelt's ordeal was ill-planned from the start and nearly cost everyone their lives. In my judgment, they should have turned back. The expedition met with luck, and it was a miracle that both he and son, Kermit, survived. This story, as told by Candice Millard, reminded me



Roosevelt's initial party. Seated left to right are Father Zahm, Rondon, Kermit, the American naturalist George Cherrie, the expedition's physician, Doctor Miller, four Brazilians and Roosevelt. They set out on the ninth of December, 1913, reached their objective on the 27th of February and set out in dugout canoes to explore the river.

of a situation that I experienced as a young leader. We were deep in a mountain jungle in Vietnam and struggling to locate our position on the map for a

resupply.

Having been days into an operation, all the men were tired and bitching from the lack of rest, suffocating heat and weight of a Soldier's load. I did not know exactly where we were. We needed to request an air supply of water and rations. I needed to triangulate our position, but to do this I had to see with my eyes other terrain features to orient the map.

We climbed to a ridge and using our machetes, hacked a path along its spine. Slashing our way out along the ridge, we discovered a small stream of water. Water seeks the lowest point. I reasoned that it would lead us to a waterfall. It did. At this point, I could see that there was no going any further. The fall was 30 feet or more off the side of the mountain. It was pretty, but dangerous. The ground beneath our feet had turned into muck.

Standing at the edge, I pondered whether to



Riflemen of 1st Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division (US) receive an air resupply of rations and water (1973). Source: Author's Collection

JUNGLE CLASSROOM

turn around. By now it was late in the afternoon. Low on water, I decided to attempt a descent. Dropping my gear and rifle, it would be me that would try this. I opted not to use a rope for safety. Digging the heels of my boots into the mud, I grabbed a large clump of grass and small vegetation that had managed to root on the mountainside.

The technique worked. However, as I moved slowly downward, my foot gave way to the water-saturated earth. I reached for a clump but I was too heavy. I felt my body drop. Somersaulting once—maybe

twice—the fall was broken by the jungle canopy below. Dangling in the thick vines and tree branches, I could feel the bouncing as I finally came to rest. Not bodily injured, my pride was bruised realizing that I was now cut off from the entire platoon.

My judgment on this day was impaired due to stresses and a lack of experience, but I learned from the embarrassment of being separated from my men. In hindsight, I should have never taken any action that had the potential of separating me from my leadership responsibilities.

Leadership is an evolution of building

upon mistakes and learning from others until you become competent in decision making under stress. All too often we look to some class to teach us about leadership when, in fact, life itself is a



(L-R): 25th Infantry Division; 5th Infantry Regiment



Deep in the jungle, an infantry soldier assigned to 1st Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division (US) attempts to climb a mountain side using a rope (1973). Source: Author's Collection

classroom—just as was the jungle. Those you meet every day will teach you lessons if you just take time to stop, look and listen, and don't pass up the opportunity to learn from mistakes. ★



GENERAL FOX CONNER

STEPHEN BARRETT TANNER

John J. Pershing considered Fox Conner to have been "a brilliant Soldier" and "One of the finest characters our Army has ever produced." During World War I, General Fox served as the Chief of Operations for the American Expeditionary Force in Europe. Pershing told Conner, "I could have spared any other man in the A.E.F. better than you."

Dwight D. Eisenhower viewed Fox Conner as "the outstanding soldier of my time." In the early 1920s, Conner transformed his protégé Eisenhower from a struggling, young officer on the verge of a courts martial into one of the American Army's

rising stars. Eisenhower acknowledged Fox Conner as "the one more or less invisible figure to whom I owe an incalculable debt." This book presents the first complete biography of this significant, but now

Pershing's Chief of Operations and Eisenhower's Mentor

STEVEN B. RABALAIS

forgotten, figure in American military history.

In addition to providing a unique insider's view into the operations of the American high command during World War I, Fox Conner also tells the story of an interesting life. Conner felt a calling to military service, although his father had been blinded during the Civil War.

From humble beginnings in rural Mississippi, Conner became one of the Army's intellectuals. During the 1920s, when most of the nation slumbered in isolationism, Conner predicted a second world war. As the nation began

to awaken to new international dangers in the 1930s, President Roosevelt offered Fox Conner the position of Army Chief of Staff, which he declined. Poor health prevented his participation in World War II, while others whom he influenced, including Eisenhower, Patton and Marshall, went on the fame.

Fox Conner presents the portrait of the quintessential man behind the scenes in US military history. Readers will find this book, and the man, fascinating. ★

"CONNER HAD THREE PRINCIPLES OR RULES OF WAR FOR A DEMOCRACY THAT HE IMPARTED TO BOTH EISENHOWER AND MARSHALL. THEY WERE:

> 'NEVER FIGHT UNLESS YOU HAVE TO; NEVER FIGHT ALONE, AND; NEVER FIGHT FOR LONG."

Robert Gates "Reflections on Leadership" (PDF).
Parameters. US Army War College (Winter 2010-11): 185–191.
[Initially published in the Summer 2008 issue.]

Steven Rabalais. General Fox Conner: Pershing's Chief of Operations and Eisenhower's Mentor. Havertown, PA: Casemate, 2016

(ISBN: 978-1-61200-3979)



CADET EARNS BRONZE PATRICK HENRY AWARD

LTC PATRICK C. STOLZE, USA (RET) APACHE TRAIL CHAPTER, AZ

Cadet Major Christian J. Marquez, a recent graduate of Marcos de Niza High School, was awarded the Bronze Patrick Henry Award and Certificate at the 15 Apr 16 JROTC Program Award Ceremony by Companion CW4 Robert Delker USA (Ret).

Christian earned the MOWW's Most Outstanding East Valley JROTC Cadet competition for school year 2015-2016. He was presented the award again by LTC Patrick Stolze, USA (Ret), at the Apache Trail Chapter's May Luncheon in Mesa, AZ.

This is our chapter's fifth annual presentation to candidates nominated by up to 22 Senior JROTC Instructors from throughout the Phoenix Metropolitan-East Valley area.

We began the solicitation for nominations early in February and gave the JROTC programs 60 days to select and forward their candidate's packet to our chapter. Upon receiving these packets, our chapter conducted a selection board at the April staff meeting, after which we made the notification, printed the certificate, engraved the plaque and presented the award to the winning high school's JROTC Program at its spring award ceremony.

The criteria for the award includes: the cadet's biographical sketch, a narrative award justification, MOWW activities in which the candidate is involved, (e.g., Massing of the Colors, Youth Leadership Conferences), awards received, a photo of the nominee in uniform and the Senior Instructor's endorsement.

Cadet Major Marquez was a very strong candidate. As a member of the Marcos de Niza High School Army JROTC program, he was a significant factor in his unit earning and then retaining the Honor Unit with Distinction during the past four years. Christian was also his unit's Public Affairs Officer and was extremely active in the program's Drill Team. Additionally, Christian was his Class Student Government President each of his four years.



(L-R) LTC Stolze presents the MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry plaque to Cadet Maj Christian Marquez.

We re-created the earlier presentation at our May, 2016 Chapter Luncheon. Cadet Major Marquez was accompanied by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Marquez. Mrs. Marquez served in the United States Army in the early 1980s as a Combat Telecommunications Center Operator.

Christian will attend Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, commencing in the Fall. Christian plans to major in mechanical engineering and he will also be a part of the US Air Force ROTC Detachment there. *

Bravo Zulu, also referred to as "BZ," is a naval signal, typically conveyed by flaghoist or voice radio, meaning "Well Done." In addition to US naval forces, it has also been used as part of vernacular slang within NATO and other Allied naval forces.





HONORING ARIZONA YLC STUDENTS

LTC PATRICK C. STOLZE, USA (RET)
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER | APACHE TRAIL CHAPTER, AZ (REGION XIII)



Armando Ellis giving his testimony about the merits of the YLC



Group photo of YLC Delegates attending the Luncheon



Daniel Nguyen receiving his plaque for his Bronze Patrick Henry Award for being the Most Outstanding Delegate at the AZ YLC along with the Commander's Coin of Excellence by Chapter Commander, LTC (Ret) Edward McDowell

On 17 Sep 16, the Apache Trail Chapter hosted 11 of 19 delegates we sponsored at this summer's Arizona Youth Leadership Conference at a luncheon with the Companions and their spouses. We also sponsored 16 family members.

Held at the Dobson Ranch Inn, the opening chapter meeting of this fiscal year enabled delegates and their family members to meet and get to know each other while sharing a meal.

We were joined by HPM Debbie Kerr Minor, the Arizona Department Commander, who presented the National Citation for Outstanding Service to MAJ Rosanne Trujillo, USA (Ret), for her consistently outstanding work on our chapter newsletter for the past year. Rosanne was honored at the National Convention for her work as well.

COL Dick Minor, USA (Ret), the Arizona State YLC Director, and the Commander of the Phoenix Chapter, also attended. COL Minor presented the Most Outstanding Delegate Award to Daniel Nguyen, a junior at Metro Tech High School in Phoenix. Daniel plans to attend one of Arizona's state universities to pursue his goal of becoming an emergency room doctor. COL Minor reported that Daniel finished second of 70 delegates in the Essay Contest.

Each delegate had the opportunity to mention the one thing that they enjoyed most about attending the YLC as well as the one thing each would do to improve it. For their individual efforts for attending the YLC, our Chapter Commander, LTC (Ret) Edward McDowell, presented each delegate with his Commander's Coin of Excellence.

The 19 delegates we sponsored last July at Arizona State University West (Glendale, AZ) shattered the number we usually sponsor. The \$350.00 cost of each delegate was largely borne by Apache Trail Chapter Companions. When it looked like we could only send 12 students, the chapter donated the additional funds needed to send the remaining seven delegates. This enabled the Apache Trail Chapter to sponsor more than other chapters in Arizona at the 2016 YLC Conference.

We hope our usual donors will continue their generosity and that Companions who have not participated in this very worthy fundraiser will donate enough to send one student to the YLC. This noble gesture helps deserving students become better citizens as they prepare to enter new phases of their lives, whether they include higher education, the military or entering the workforce. They are counting upon us!

We greatly enjoyed the luncheon, which concluded with Diane McDowell leading all students in singing Lee Greenwood's "Proud to Be an American." ★

Editor's Note: The chapter sent out news releases with added information to three newspapers on this event.

Bravo Zulu, also referred to as "BZ," is a naval signal, typically conveyed by flaghoist or voice radio, meaning "Well Done." In addition to US naval forces, it has also been used as part of vernacular slang within NATO and other Allied naval forces.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

PCINC CAPT DEBORAH A. KASH, USAF (RET) MAJGEN PENDLETON CHAPTER. CA

San Diego County Deputy Sheriff Alvin Vasquez was recognized for his valor and service with the award of the 2016 Law Enforcement Excellence Award by the MajGen Joseph H. Pendleton Chapter, MOWW.

Deputy Vasquez has served in law enforcement for over twenty years and is assigned to the Sheriff's Department, Rural Enforcement Team. Deputy Vasquez was recognized for his valor when he responded to a report of assault with a deadly weapon at a mobile home park in rural Borrego Springs, CA.

During the course of the incident, the suspect retreated into his home, poured gasoline on himself and lit himself on fire. Deputy Vasquez twice attempted to enter the building to rescue the suspect but was driven back by heat, flames and exploding ammunition. When the suspect crawled near the entrance, Deputy Vasquez was able to

enter and pull the suspect from the building.

Deputy Vasquez shared his experiences at the 23 July chapter meeting and explained the differences between rural and city policing.

In addition, Companion LtCol Kenneth W. Pipes, USMC (Ret), the MajGen Pendleton Chapter's Law & Order Chair, was awarded the Silver Patrick Henry Medal. As a result of LtCol Pipes' efforts, several law enforcement officers have been recognized both at the chapter and at the national levels for their courage under fire. LtCol Pipes is also a Reserve Captain of the San Diego Sheriff's Department. LtCol Pipes activities have also raised community awareness of MOWW.

In addition, LtCol Pipes has brought hope and inspiration to incarcerated veterans through participation in the Veterans Moving Forward program, which is dedicated to eliminating recidivism among veteran inmates. ★



(L-R): Deputy Sheriff Alvin Vasquez (San Diego County Sheriff's Department) and LtCol Kenneth W. Pipes (a Reserve Captain, San Diego Sheriff's Department).



MOWW OUTREACH SERVICE MEDAL

MAJ ROBERT J. WILLIAMS, USAF (RET) CHAIR, MOWW SCOUTING COMMITTEE

he EXCOM approved implementation of the MOWW Outreach Service Medal (OSM) to honor the service of chapter Companions actively involved in one or more of the Order's designated outreach programs; i.e., Scouting, ROTC/JROTC, Patriotic Education, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security, Law & Order, National Security, and Monuments & Memorials.



Chapter commanders may approve this award using the general criteria and the specific criteria established for specific outreach programs. To illustrate, a Companion could initially receive the medal for the Outreach Program in

which the Companion is primarily involved, e.g., Scouting. The chapter commander would present the medal and citation to the Companion at a chapter meeting. Recipients must meet at least one general and one specifications.

This medal consists of a gold medallion featuring the Order's insignia with the word "Outreach" above and "Merit" below. The medallion is suspended on an electric blue ribbon accompanied by the Outreach Service Medal citation.

- General Criteria:
 - Be a Companion in good standing.
 - Be a Program Coordinator/Chair of one or more MOWW's chapter outreach programs for at least one year and meet the specific program criteria for at least one program.
- Ensure chapter submits a chapter outreach program award nomination in accordance with the MOWW Policy Manual for the applicable program.
- Provide direct support to an outreach program.

- Companions may also earn the OSM for service in other outreach programs by meeting the specific criteria for such other programs.
 Subsequent OSM awards are denoted by a large, bronze oak leaf cluster.
- Scouting Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter scouting program.
 - Organize chapter scouting program activities that recognize Boy Scouts/Venturers/Sea Scouts and/or Girl Scouts by presenting MOWW Eagle Scout, Venture Summit and/ or Sea Scout Quartermaster Certificates, and MOWW Girl Scout Gold Award Certificates of Recognition during Courts of Honor, recognition banquets, etc.
 - Invite scout units to participate in chapter meetings, presentation of colors, Massings of Colors, etc., or collaborate with scout units to co-host patriotic events in the local community.
- Homeland Security Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter Homeland Security Program.
 - Coordinate chapter recognition of public servants/volunteers who help secure the nation, and help respond to or recover from disasters, including recognizing public servants/volunteers at chapter meetings and other public venues.
 - Coordinate chapter involvement with other public agencies and volunteer organizations (e.g., Red Cross, Community Emergency Response Teams), or support security, disaster response or recovery efforts.
 - Implement educational outreach or support to the local community in security, emergency, and disaster preparedness/response.

- Law & Order Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter Law & Order Program.
 - Coordinate chapter recognition of public servants whose functions are to ensure the safety and security of American citizens. This includes formal recognition of first responders, criminal justice and other comparable officials at chapter meetings and other public venues.
 - Coordinate chapter interaction and involvement with community and patriotic organizations.
- Patriotic Education (PE) Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Assist in organizing and participating in any size Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) supported by the chapter.
 - Assist in either establishing a Massing of the Colors (MOC) or coordinating support of a MOC from ROTC/JROTC, scouting, veterans or patriotic organizations.
 - Assist in establishing and supporting chapter and youth involvement in any patriotic education activity, e.g., "Wreaths Across America," Veterans Day events, military balls, student scholarships to attend YLCs.
- ROTC/JROTC Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter ROTC/ JROTC Program.
 - Maintain a list of ROTC and Junior ROTC (JROTC) units supported by the chapter.
 - Recognize ROTC cadets and JROTC cadets via of ROTC/JROTC Medals of Merit presentation at spring awards ceremonies by organizing chapter Companions to make the presentations.
 - Recognize ROTC/JROTC cadets and instructors with MOWW Certificates of Appreciation, and for Cadet of the Year, excellence in drill, color guard and patriotic community support activities.
 - Invite local ROTC/JROTC units to participate in chapter meetings (e.g., presentation of colors or PE support (e.g., Massing of the Colors).

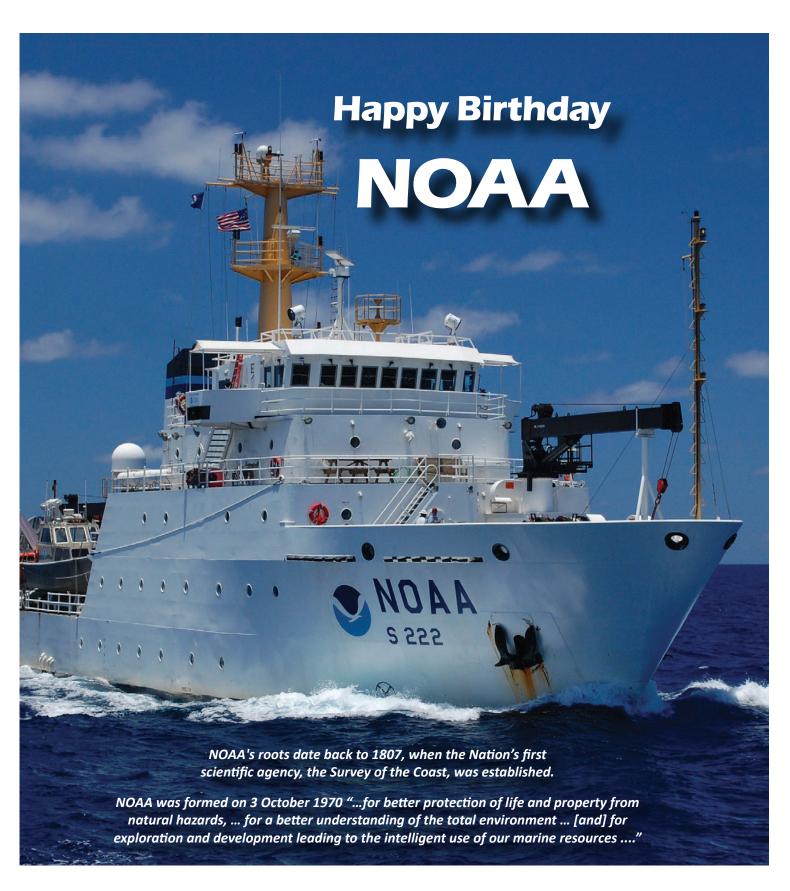
- National Security Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter Law & Order Program.
 - Coordinate chapter recognition of public servants whose functions are to ensure the safety and security of American citizens. This includes formal recognition of first responders, criminal justice and other comparable officials at chapter meetings and other public venues.
 - Coordinate chapter involvement with community and patriotic organizations.
 - Deliver a national security presentation at chapter meetings or:
 - Write national security articles.
 - Be recommended by the chapter commander.

"The EXCOM unanimously approved this award to recognize the selfless service of our Companions in providing the outreach services to the community and nation required by our Preamble. Companion service that exemplifies the ideals of our motto and sets the example will strengthen our chapters and our outreach programs. That service and its results are the real legacy we honor and encourage in our Companions."

—CINC COL CLAY C. LE GRANDE, JR., USA (RET)

- Monuments & Memorials Program (Specific Criteria):
 - Develop and implement a chapter Monuments & Memorials Program.
 - Lead chapter efforts to establish memorials as appropriate.
 - Coordinate chapter interaction and involvement with community and patriotic organizations.
- Veterans Affairs Program (Specific Criteria).
 - Develop and implement a chapter veterans affairs program.
 - Coordinate chapter involvement with public agencies/volunteer organizations to provide recognition, education and support. ★





CINC Hamilton Visits San Diego

BY PCINC CAPT DEBORAH A. KASH (RET) SAN DIEGO CHAPTER. CA

The Order's San Diego Chapter welcomed CINC LTC Ruth L. Hamilton, USA (Ret), to the city from 19-20 June 2016. Dinner at San Diego's famous Mexican restaurant, Casa de Guadalajara, in Old Town, San Diego, was a lively occasion with a Mariachi band and singers. Chapter Commander, CDR Ted Parsons, presented several certificates of appreciation to staff members.

The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agency Honor Guard presented the Colors for the meeting. The Sun Harbor Quartet sang classic Americana songs, as well as the National Anthem and patriotic songs. CINC Hamilton spoke about our Order and MOWW Strategic Plan's five Strategic Goals, and installed our 2016-2017 Chapter officers. In keeping with Strategic Goal 5 (Recognition), four more chapter members received recognition and awards.

The Chapter Commander, CDR Ted Parsons, presented CINC Hamilton with a Statue of Liberty print created by our Companion maritime artist, Richard DeRosset. In addition, we gave CINC Hamilton a tour of special San Diego sights on both Sunday and Monday—events enjoyed by all.

Importantly, the next day, chapter staff members met with CINC Hamilton to showcase the chapter's activities and progress towards the chapter achieving the MOWW Strategic Plan's five Strategic Goals—the Order's prime directive. Significantly, the luncheon included representatives from the BGen Holland and MajGen Pendleton Chapters.

Monday evening, many chapter staff members spent a relaxing dinner with CINC Hamilton at Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant overlooking San Diego Bay. We were absolutely delighted to host the CINC's visit with our sister chapters, the MajGen Pendleton and BGen Holland Chapters! ★









Photos top to bottom:

- Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agency Honor Guard
- Sun Harbor Quartet
- CDR Ted Parsons, HPM Richard Derosset, CINC LTC Ruth Hamilton
- CINC Hamilton installs (left to right) 2016-2017 Chapter Commander Ted Parsons, Adjutant Craiq Noble, Treasurer Tom Marshall and Sr. Vice Commander Darryl Peralta.





CHAPTER AND REGION VISITS

Date	Event	Host Chapter	Visit Coordinator
9 - 12 Sep 16	Nogales & Phoenix MOCs	Santa Cruz Valley & Phoenix	LTC Marlon Ruiz
9 - 12 Nov 16	Mid-term EXCOM/Veterans Day	HQ MOWW	Brig Gen Morrill
5 - 7 Dec 16	Chapter Christmas Meeting	Dallas	Capt Paul Brown
16 - 18 Dec 16	Chapter Christmas Meeting	MG Meade	COL Erwin Burtnick
20 - 22 Jan 17	Apache Trail Chapter Visit	Apache Trail	LTC Edward McDowell
15 - 17 Feb 17	Anniversary Banquet	Sun City Center	Maj Jim Haney
10 - 12 Mar 17	2017 PR NATCON (tentative)	PRG	Pershing Rifles
31 Mar - 2 Apr 17	Companion Dinner & MOC	El Paso	LTC Pauline Ballestero
5 - 6 May 17	Region VIII Conference	Dallas	Maj Robert Williams

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(4) Requested Copies Distributed by Other Mail Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
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- 17. Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication will be printed in the October 2016 issue of this publication.
- ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, Brigadier General, USAF (Ret) Chief of Staff, MOWW

Submit Articles for Publication in The Officer Review®

- Feature Articles
- "Coast to Coast Chapters in Action" inputs
- National Committee articles
- National Officer articles
- Commander articles
- Chapter "Best Practices" (Tips & Guides) articles
- Companion Profiles
- Op-Ed pieces



REMEMBER:

- Submit the online IRS Form 990N (e-Postcard) via the IRS website
- Submit IRS successful filing confirmation email to: treasurergeneral@moww.org
- Submit the online MOWW Form 9 via the MOWW website www.moww.org



ONWARD AND UPWARD

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET)

CHIEF OF STAFF, MOWW

My oldest son, Art IV, a CPL of Infantry (and, as are his two brothers, an HPM of our Order), just redeployed after a year in the Middle East. During his Yellow Ribbon Ceremony, the Chaplain officiating shared his thoughts on continued service. I was struck by his insights and their applicability to continued service as an involved servant-Companion of our Order.

As I thought about his comments, it occurred to me that what he was talking about is exactly what we Companions must do to guarantee our Order's future:

- Measurably increase recruiting in every chapter of our Order, and:
- Renew our personal commitment to enhanced service by significantly increasing Companion involvement in each chapter's activities, and;
- Mentor and support each other to promote greater camaraderie and measurably increase retention.

Our EXCOM made these things the cardinal priority of our Order, i.e., to achieve Strategic Goal 1 (SG-1) and all Strategic Goals in every region and chapter. This is what we all must work on together—in uplifting and mutually-reinforcing companionship.

Our Commander-in-Chief, COL Clay Le Grande, is personally leading this effort by his own example, but also by teaming via other means. For example:

- VCINC Capt Paula Mitchell accepted appointment as the Oversight VCINC for the Membership Committee. The CINC-appointed Committee Chair is Capt Mike Halpin and the Vice Chair is Capt Alea Nadeem. Its prime directive is to directly support the chain of command in achieving SG-1 in all regions.
- PCINC Capt Debbie Kash accepted appointment as Chair, Convention Workshop Committee (ad hoc). Its CINC tasking is to: implement

"Let the things that brought you in our army keep you in our army"

—CH (MAJ) Brett L. Johnson 329 RSG, 29 ID, VANG

> innovations supporting chapter development and Chapter Action Plan (CAP) execution; provide regions and chapters leadership and management training, and; promote achieving greater Companion participation in chapter and Order activities.

These and related CINC initiatives are complemented by coming innovations in income generation via the Order's Financial Development Committee and the Order's Investment Portfolio.

In sum, these are exciting times. Since old challenges cannot be remedied by old thinking, we'll need to be inclusive and innovative as we support our CINC and work issues together. The good news: as our centennial approaches, we each have the opportunity to make our down payment on the next 100 years of the Order. ★



Brig Gen Morrill is also the Commander, BG Bultman Chapter, and Adjutant, Northern Virginia Chapter. His 37-year USAF career included tours in SAC, USAFE, PACAF, AFMC and HO USAF, and duty as the PACAF/A4, CJTF-519/J4, AFMC/A4 and Vice Director, DLA. He attended SOS, ACSC and ICAF (DG). He holds a BS (History/Political

Science, University of Great Falls, cum laude) and a MPA (Ball State University). He earned Defense Acquisition University certificates in Lifecycle Logistics (Level III) and Program Management (Level III). He completed executive programs at Harvard University (JFK School), Syracuse University (Maxwell School) and the University of North Carolina (Kenan-Flagler School).

MOVING ON

CPT (DR) ROBERT E. MALLIN, USA (FMR) SURGEON GENERAL, MOWW

OK, the inevitable has happened. It really is time to move, and I have. As I have observed, and as others have alluded, I am not getting younger. Believe it or not, I am not getting healthier either. The various subjects of past and present articles are either directly related to me or Companions—and such stories are increasing, not decreasing, as time goes by. In total they have brought home the need for me and others to be near caring family.

As it turns out, I have a wonderful daughter and her family in Denver. Actually, my place is in Littleton. Denver has grown so much and so fast that the only way to tell where you are the street signs announcing a new town. Physically undeveloped open spaces are things of the past.

In light of these considerations, I have followed my own advice and have moved into an apartment on the ground floor with no steps. I am getting a custom shower and toilet with grab bars as needed. The apartment complex is OK with these changes as long as I pay for them. It is far from a retirement place or assisted living choice. I see it as a place for up and coming families waiting to get a house or people going down the other side of the mountain who are looking to divest themselves of the obligations of houses, lawns and snow shoveling.

Volunteer opportunities such as my civil war medicine and surgical presentations are there. In the southwest, contrary to popular thinking, Texas, New Mexico and Colorado were involved rather significantly in the American Civil War. I will be able to add to my 600 presentations. Pecos National Park has graciously given me a lifetime loan of the instruments, etc., that I have donated to them. I am grateful.

MOWW chapters are in Denver and in nearby Colorado Springs, as is MOAA, the American Cancer Society and the Cancer Action Network and I've been introduced to their CEOs. On my last trip to visit the "kids," we found a lovely water complex with a warm water, therapeutic pool. The



University of Colorado Hospital has the specialists needed for my various maladies. For my kidney's presumed cancer, I will find fine specialists to fight the good fight. My University of New Mexico doctor vouches for their expertise, which is reassuring.

In today's modern world, I can still communicate with my girlfriend in Albuquerque and visit occasionally. It will never be the same, but our support and caring will continue through time and space as does the relationship I share with my second (ex) wife.

One thing I have learned is that all doctors do not take Medicare or TRICARE. In New Mexico, they pretty much have to get paid often, but in Colorado the economics are such that they can be choosy. In short, I loved Santa Fe and my life here, but I sense a valuable window of health, etc., through which I can go to determine my situations and do what is needed. To paraphrase what my aunt said as she approached her eightieth year, "If life begins at 40, I am on the third half."

Be well. ★



CPT (Dr.) Robert E. Mallin, USA (Fmr), is a graduate of Adelphi University and New York Medical College. He is certified with the American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. In private practice from 1975-94, he was the Alaskan State Physician of the Year. While in the US Army (1966-1968) he

earned a Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Air Medal, and a Combat Medical Badge.



WHAT IS PRAYER?

CH (MAJ) JAMES L. BECKWITH, USA (RET)
CHAPLAIN GENERAL. MOWW



If we want to see things changed, it starts with prayer.

Companions, I wrote last time that I intend to concentrate on the topic of prayer for this next year. Again, let me assure you that I am here to serve you, in prayer, as you wish. I do hope that many of you will join with me to pray for our country, our organization and its leaders, and the needs of each other.

I was told a long time ago that a burden shared is cut in half via prayer, and a praise is doubled by prayer. Think what we could do if we join together. So, let me start with a simple question, "What is prayer to you?"

The late Dr. George Kuykendall of Ft. Leavenworth used to poke fun at what he called "King James prayers," meaning flowery, verbose public displays attempting to show piety, but that usually just bounce back off the ceiling.

Conversely, an Army friend who was a POW in Vietnam told me, "When you get down to simply praying for enough food to sustain you through the day, or to be able to withstand the tortures, then you know the importance of prayer."

Prayer, in its most simple form is just

communication between you and the Creator who made you. It does not require you to learn fancy words or to speak aloud. All that is required is your honest attempt to tell God whatever you should. Like any other form of communication, to have a conversation one must also listen. A "hot mike" prayer only goes one way and does not count as a conversation.

When we go into combat, we must stay in constant communication with any unit supporting or commanding us. Likewise, life requires constant communication in prayer as we fight life's battles.

Keep up the prayers and let me hear from you. Blessings to you! ★

Solo Gloria Deo

Chaplain Jim



Jim served more than 20 years as a US Army infantryman, his Army service culminating with his assignment as CGSC faculty. He also served as a college educator, business consultant, not-forprofit CEO, and a Sheriff's Chaplain and reserve deputy. Jim and his wife Karen now travel full time in their RV ministering

across the Midwest USA.





Clearwater Chapter, FL

Chapter Commander keynote speaker

BY LTC DAVID MASON, USA (RET)

Commander of the Clearwater Chapter, LTC Steve Hodges, USA (Ret), was the keynote speaker at the 9th Annual Purple Heart Recognition Day Ceremony, 5 Aug 2016, at Purple Heart Park, Dunedin, FL.



Roanoke Chapter, VA

Honoring of their sacrifice

BY LTC DAVID R. KING, USA (RET)

A 12-year old Civil Air Patrol cadet hands a symbolic poppy to a veteran at the Danville, VA, Veterans Day Parade in 2015.

Correction: In the September 2016 issue of *The Officer Review®*, the Law & Order Exceptional Service Award to Capt Howard Orr, and the Law & Order Outstanding Performance Award to Detective Michael Hollis, were sponsored by the COL Woolsey Chapter, not the Gen Vandenberg Chapter. Capt Orr is with the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.





GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER, MA

LT O'Grady's exceptional effort awards over 30 GSUSA certificates

BY 2LT JASON A. SOKOLOV, USA, (FMR)

The remarkable work of LT Gerald O'Grady III, USNR (Ret), was recognized at a recent meeting. LT O'Grady has demonstrated great diligence in administering the Chapter's Girl Scout Gold Award recognition program. The object of the program is to present an MOWW certificate to every Girl Scout who received the Gold Award in Eastern Massachusetts. In addition, three Girl Scouts are selected for the award of the MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Award. During the past year, more than thirty such certificates were presented by LT O'Grady and volunteers from the Chapter, as well as three Bronze Patrick Henry awards presented at the State House. In recognition of his efforts, LT O'Grady was presented with the Outstanding Service Award, consisting of a citation and the Outstanding Service medal.

Above (L-R): LT Gerald O'Grady, left, displays the citation for the Outstanding Service Award and the medal. With him is Chapter Commander Fred Maguire as LT Jason Sokolov looks on..



Left: At the State House, as part of a ceremony presided over by Governor Charles Baker, three Bronze Patrick Henry Awards were conferred to outstanding Girl Scouts. (L-R): Akshitha Ramachandran of Winchester, Aimee Correia of Dartmouth, Amanda Judah of Wayland and Chapter Commander, LTC Fred Maguire. Photo courtesy of Randy H. Goodman.



Augusta Chapter, GA

Eagle Scout's STEM Project

BY CPT JAMES BRADY III, USA (FMR)

Past Chapter Commander, LT Richard Herdegen, USN (Fmr), recognized new Eagle Scout, Alex Brady of Troop 15 on 27 June 2016.

Alex's Eagle Service Project was building more than 500 electrical circuit training kits for Richmond County Board of Education's Tutt and Langford Middle School students in an effort to encourage their interest in STEM education.



Governor honors Companion

POSTED ON INSTAGRAM: LOUISIANA_GOV

LTC Oren Peters, USA (Ret), who is a highly decorated, 95 years young veteran, says a few words from the podium after he was presented with a Governor's Citation by Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards for his lifetime of service and dedication.

(L-R): LTC Oren Peters, Governor John Bel Edwards and then-SVCINC COL Clay C. Le Grande, Jr., USA (Ret)



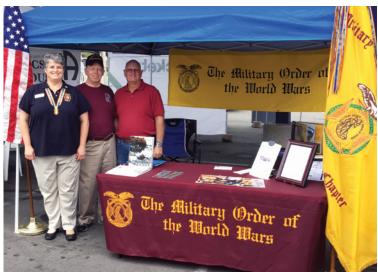
Puget Sound Chapter, WA

Puget Sound Companions reach out to veterans

BY SVCINC COL DAVID B. GIBSON, USAF (RET)

Companion CDR Ron Kirkland, USN (Ret), speaks to two patients at the the Washington Veterans Home, a VA homeless veterans facility at Retsil, WA, on 20 August. This annual picnic is part of the Chapter's veteran outreach program to bond on a vet-to-vet basis.





San Diego Chapter, CA

Recruiting initiative

BY PCINC CAPT DEBBIE A. KASH, USAF (RET)

PCINC Capt Debbie Kash, USAF (Ret); Chapter Commander CDR Ted Parsons, USN (Ret), and Adjutant HPM Craig Noble introduced MOWW to the community at the 2016 BonitaFest festival. This annual community event showcases diverse organizations. The chapter invited the community to participate in its upcoming Massing of the Colors, spoke to four potential members, and signed up interested

students and parents for its SDYLC email list. Chapter Companions talked to nearly 200 people and handed out many past issues of our newsletter and *The Officer Review®* magazine—all with a business card attached.



Region VIII

VCINC receives Gold Patrick Henry Award

BY LTC ARTHUR B. FOWLER, USA (RET)

VCINC LTC Charles S. Chamberlin, USA (Ret), was presented the MOWW Gold Patrick Henry Award from then-SVCINC COL Clay C. Le Grande, Jr., USA (Ret), during the Region VIII Convention held in May.



Download Your Own VA Medical Records



Think of all the times you've sat in the doctor's office, trying to remember what year you had surgery or the

name of that hard-to-pronounce prescription you're taking. Or maybe you have difficulty keeping track of your appointments or how stable your blood sugar levels have been lately.

Stay on top of managing your health by using My HealtheVet's Blue Button feature. It allows you to view, print or download from your personal health record (PHR).

Start building your PHR by self-entering your personal information, such as your health history, emergency contacts and medications. You can monitor your vital signs and use the journals to track your diet and physical activity. Even if you're not a veteran, you can take advantage of this convenient way to organize your information.

Then when you click the VA Blue Button, you can view all the data! If you're a Veteran who receives care from VA, you can set your preferences so that some VA and/or DoD records feed into your VA Blue Button copy of your PHR, such as your military service information.

You can make your PHR even more beneficial by upgrading to a Premium Account. This level gives you full access to My HealtheVet features, including Secure Messaging with your VA health care team. When you download your data with the VA Blue Button, you can also view information that VA/DoD has added into your health record.

To get this type of account you need to go through an authentication process to verify your identity and have your My HealtheVet profile information linked to VA/DoD records. This is a process by which VA verifies a veterans' identity before allowing access to his or her VA health record.

A number of smartphone apps are also available through a variety of non-VA sources. While VA doesn't endorse specific apps, there are now creative, secure and easy-to-use ways of viewing Blue Button data. Search for "Blue Button" in your smartphone apps library to learn more.

State of Women Veterans Social Media Campaign Launched



The VA is partnering with Women Veterans Interactive (WVI) to launch a State of Women Veterans' social media campaign. The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness of women veterans' military and

societal contributions and provide an avenue for informing women veterans about the VA benefits they have earned.

This campaign is a collaborative effort to establish partnerships with nonprofit organizations that advocate and provide assistance on behalf of women veterans," said Kayla Williams, Director of VA's Center for Women Veterans. "We are elated to be partnering with WVI in this important initiative. The new State of Women Veterans' social media campaign offers another way to connect with women veterans to raise awareness about VA care and benefits and to encourage collaborative partnerships.

The campaign will conclude over the Veterans Day weekend and will be recognized and featured during a WVI-sponsored event in November.

For more information or to join in the conversation, follow @DeptVetAffairs on Twitter, like the Department of Veterans Affairs Facebook page and use the hashtag State of #WomenVets.

Veterans Choice Locator



To schedule a Veterans Choice Program appointment you must call 866-606-8198.

Please do not contact the provider directly.

Follow the link provided to a map locator for your area: http://www.va.gov/opa/apps/locator/

Please note that the list of approved providers is continuously updated. If there is a provider who you would like to see for care who is not listed, please call the Choice Program Call Center at 866-606-8198. ★

















REVEILLE

NEW MEMBER

Sponsoi

*Denotes Perpetual Member

Conejo Valley CA

CAPT J. CHARLES PLUMB, USN (RET) *
LT Edwin C. Holt, USNR (Fmr) *

Dallas TX

MG KEITH L. THURGOOD, USA (RET) * LTC Don B. Munson, USA (Ret) *

Denver CO

MICHELLE G. MALLIN, HRM

CPT (Dr) Robert E. Mallin, USA (Fmr) *

CAPT SHELLY OWENS, USN (RET)

LCDR Coy D. Ritchie, USN (Ret) *

Hann-Buswell Memorial [At Large]

LTG RUSSELL L. HONORÉ, USA (RET) * LTC William K. Rapp, USA (Ret) *

LTG Middleton LA

DANIEL P. WILLIAMS, HRM

CAPT Russell C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret) *

MG Critz OK

CPT DAVID C. CASEY, USA (RET)

Col John W. Spencer, USAF (Ret) *

MAJ EDWARD L. MCKESSON, USA (RET)

Col John W. Spencer, USAF (Ret) *

MAJ BILL F. WHISENANT, USA (RET)

Col John W. Spencer, USAF (Ret) *

MG Miles NM

CPT DONALD J. LOTT, USA (RET)

LTC Gregg C. Giesler USA (Ret) *

North Texas TX

CAPT DOUGLAS B. HACKETT, USN (RET) *

CDR John Lopez III, USN (Ret) *

Northern Virginia VA

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET) *

CAPT Russell C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret) *

CAPT RUSSELL C. VOWINKEL, USN (RET) *

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

BEVERLY VOWINKEL, HRM

CAPT Russell C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret) *

Pinson Memorial TX

LTCOL JOHN G. MORRIS, USMC (RET)

LTC Arthur B. Fowler, USA (Ret) *

Puget Sound WA

BG SHEILA R. BAXTER, USA (RET)

CW4 Jack D. Jory, USA (Ret) *

Topeka KS

MAJ MICHELLE A. SWEENEY, USAFNG (RET) CW5 Delbert L. Hill, USA (Ret) *

















TAPS

RANK/NAME (SERVICE)

*Denotes Perpetual Member

G/A Bradley – COL Hanson CA

COL ED MCMAHON, USMC (RET) * LIEUTENANT JOHN W. NEVILLE *

Gaylord-Dillingham Memorial HA

MAJ DOUGLAS C. THOMAS, USA (RET) *

Granite State NH

LCDR JOHN M. HOLTON, JR., USN (RET) *

Miami FL

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Narragansett Bay RI

LTC HERBERT SILVA, USA (RET) *

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Virginia Beach VA

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