

# OFFICER REVIEW

VOLUME 64 • NUMBER 5

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2025





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MOWW.ORG



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### ON THE COVER

2025 National Youth Civics Summit. Students and Companions at the US Capitol. MOWW hosted the 2025 National Youth Civics Summit from July 13–19 in Washington, DC.



# Commander in Chief's Intent and Priorities (OY 2025)

*Serving in my second year as the 93rd Commander-in-Chief of the Order, my intent is to continue the Order's modernizing effort as we strive to establish ourselves as an attractive Veterans Service Organization (VSO) with a clearly defined public image that we are "Serving Youth, Community, and Nation." This year's efforts continue to center around the same five essential priorities as last year.*

## **PATRIOTIC EDUCATION**

"To promote and further Patriotic Education in our nation..." Our Order's Patriotic Education program sets us apart from all other VSOs and is now our signature community outreach program. This year, **as our highest priority**, we will implement a streamlined yet robust Patriotic Education Program that is attractive and impactful, a program that will enhance the public perception of MOWW and quickly identify the Order as having the nation's premier VSO Patriotic Education Program. Our program must enhance the attraction of today's generation of veterans, who in turn will want to become part of this unique and identifiable outreach mission. Character development programs and resources, enhanced civics education, as well as increased mentoring opportunities and sponsoring of youth service projects, need to become an integral part of our program.

## **MOWW 2023-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN**

Our plan outlines the Order's short- and long-term goals, as well as associated objectives under the guidance of our VCINCs and the Strategic Planning Committee. To effectively achieve our



*Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret), takes the Oath for a second term.*

six Strategic Goals, it is essential for the future well-being of the Order to establish a revised operational structure. This structure should promote sustainable operations at all levels of the Order, reduce the total number of leadership layers, and enhance our community outreach efforts. Our goal is to create a robust and appealing national outreach presence that is less dependent on total membership numbers, yet implemented within a framework that increases the number of Chapters throughout the Order for years to come. Additionally, we aim to implement this within a framework that encourages the growth of more Chapters throughout the Order for years to come. This needs to be **our**

**second-highest priority**, as our Order's current chapter-centric membership-based operational framework and approach to community outreach is not sustainable. Our Strategic Growth Committee will be tasked to head up this effort over the next year.

## **OUR ORDER'S PREAMBLE**

The Preamble to the MOWW Constitution not only is the cornerstone of our Order, but artfully

articulates the Order's core values—values that are reflected in the efforts of all our Companions who collectively emulate our motto that “It Is Nobler to Serve Than To Be Served.” As SVCINC Lt Col Marlon Ruiz succinctly emphasized, if potential members “... have the passion for the MOWW tenets (Preamble), they should be invited to join MOWW.” Members need to continuously know the Preamble, embrace it, articulate it, and most importantly, promote it towards attracting those veterans we are reaching out to.

### THE ORDER'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

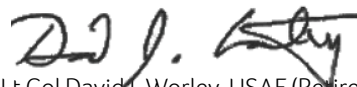
The Order's Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer General, and Board of Trustees will continue their comprehensive top-to-bottom review of our financial models towards ensuring long-term sustainability. Many adjustments to our fiscal strategy have already been implemented with more work to follow over the coming year.

### AMERICA 250

Under the direction of VCINC COL Joe Kirlin, who heads the MOWW America 250 *Ad Hoc* Committee, our Order is celebrating America with emphasis on the value of service. We aim to promote civics and patriotic education while increasing recognition and visibility of the Order

within each of our communities. Our intent is to involve all Companions in this year-long celebration with planned events at local, state, and national levels. Furthermore, we are continuing a 10-year effort to have MOWW markers placed at each of our nation's 156 National Cemeteries throughout 42 states and Puerto Rico, as well as at state-level veterans cemeteries. Parallel to our America 250 effort, the Order will invest the required financial and human resources to produce and implement a robust marketing plan, both online and through social media, which is the central means of communication for today's veterans and communities.

In short, as I stated last year, we must continue to look at “What Are We Doing and Why Are We Doing It?” and “What Aren't We Doing and Why Aren't We Doing It?” Last year, we made tremendous strides throughout the Order thanks to the dedicated and selfless efforts of our Companions: we must continue to nurture and promote that upward trend. ★



Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Retired)  
Commander in Chief and CEO, MOWW, Inc.

### MOWW Dedicates the Marana Historical Marker

On August 5, 2025, the MOWW National Convention was proudly inaugurated in Tucson with the dedication of a new granite historical marker at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Marana. This significant tribute honors all who have served—past, present, and future—and celebrates over 100 years of service by the Military Order of the World Wars as the nation looks forward to America's 250th anniversary.

On behalf of the Marana Town Council, Mayor Jon Post presented a proclamation declaring August 5, 2025, as Military Order of the World Wars Observance Day.



(L-R): Lt. Col. Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret), addresses the attendees. Mayor Jon Post presents the town proclamation to MOWW CINC Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret). The marker at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



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### National Officers

(L-R): SENIOR VICE CMDR-IN-CHIEF Lt Col Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret); VICE COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF: COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret); COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret); Col Adalberto Rivera, USAF (Ret), Dr. James A. Brady III, USA (Fmr), followed by Treasurer General CW4 Gary L. Smith, Sr., USA (Ret); Surgeon General CPT Dan L. Cameron, Jr., USA (Fmr); Chaplain General LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret), and Historian General HPM Mr. Charles W. Bennett, Jr.

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### COUNCIL OF AREA COMMANDERS

- CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)  
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## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Distinguished Service Award of the Military Order of the World Wars was established in 1963. This award is presented at the National Convention to recognize an American citizen who has made extraordinary contributions to the preservation of our constitutional liberties, and who selflessly promotes a strong national defense. It is the most prestigious award of the Order.

### RECIPIENT:

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Carlos A. Ruiz, USMC  
(BG Bultman Chapter (At Large))



## NATIONAL COMMANDER AWARD

The Commander-in-Chief is authorized to present the National Commander Award to the individual who, in his or her opinion, has made an outstanding contribution to the Order and has done the most in assisting the Commander-in-Chief in fulfilling their responsibilities.

### RECIPIENT:

LTC William K. Rapp, USA (Ret)  
(LTC Shehab Chapter, NJ)

## General of the Armies John J. Pershing CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Chapter of the Year Awards are presented to those chapters who have actively fulfilled the ideals and principles of The Military Order of the World Wars as set forth in the Preamble. They are also awarded to chapters which are a positive patriotic force within their communities, and that have grown in stature by performing good deeds for "The Good of the Order." The First Place recipients are presented a check for \$500 to support chapter programs.

### SMALL CHAPTER:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: MG Wheeler Chapter, AL
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: West Valley Chapter, AZ

### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Northern Virginia Chapter, VA
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

### LARGE CHAPTER:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Dallas Chapter, TX
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Philadelphia Chapter, PA

## Gold Medal Patrick Henry 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.

### PRESENTER: CINC LT COL DAVID J. WORLEY, USAF (RET)

IPCINC BG Victor S. Perez, USA (Ret)  
Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

COL Joesph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)  
Philadelphia Chapter, PA

PCINC COL Bert L. Rice, USA (Ret)  
General Meade Chapter, MD

### PRESENTER: LT COL MARLON RUIZ, USAF (RET)

LtCol Charles B. Palmer, USMC (Ret)  
MajGen Pendleton Chapter, CA

### PRESENTER: VCINC COL JOESPH P. KIRLIN III, USA (RET)

CPT Alan D. Johnson, USA (Fmr)  
MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME

### PRESENTER: VCINC COL MICHAEL P. PECK, USA (RET)

CWO2 Eliseo T. Lopez, USA (Ret)  
Chicago Chapter, IL

### PRESENTER: COL ADALBERTO RIVERA, USAF (RET)

Col Carlos A. Quiñones, USAF (Ret)  
Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

### PRESENTER: IPCINC BG VICTOR S. PEREZ, USA (RET)

BG Thomas E. O'Donovan, USA (Ret)  
Green Mountain Chapter, VT





## RECRUITING AWARDS

### Chapter Recruiting Excellence Award

The Recruiting Excellence Award is presented to the top three chapters who achieved the most significant net new member increases in living veteran and hereditary Perpetual and Regular member categories. The recipient is awarded a streamer, is listed on the MOWW Recruiting Honor Role on the MOWW website, and is presented a check to be applied to support chapter programs.

• **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Presented to the chapter that recruits at least six (6) new members AND achieves a ten percent or greater ( $\geq 10\%$ ) net increase in membership. The recipient is presented a check for \$2,000 to be applied to support chapter programs.

**RECIPIENT:** COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY

• **2<sup>ND</sup> 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 presented a check for \$1,200 to be applied to support chapter programs.

**RECIPIENT:** Conejo Valley Chapter, CA

• **3<sup>RD</sup> 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 presented a check for \$750 to be applied to support chapter programs.

**RECIPIENT:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

### Chapter Recruiting Merit Awards

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

• **WINNER:** Presented to the chapter that recruits the most new members.

**RECIPIENT:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

• **WINNER:** Presented to the chapter with the greatest net chapter growth

**RECIPIENT:** COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY

### Top Recruiter Award

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

**RECIPIENT: 18 NEW MEMBERS**

VCINC COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)  
(Philadelphia Chapter, PA)

### Individual Recruiting Citations

Individual Recruiting Citations honor Companions who personally recruited at least 4 or more new members.

• **CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING MERIT:**

COL Lonnie D. Vona, USA (Ret)  
(Sun City Center Chapter, FL)

Brig Gen Daniel H. Pemberton, USAF (Ret)  
(Conejo Valley Chapter, CA)

IPCINC BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret)  
(Puerto Rico Chapter, PR)

COL Vicente C. Ogilvie, USA (Ret)  
(Northern Virginia Chapter, VA)

RDML Stephanie T. Keck, USN (Ret)  
(Hill Country, TX)

VCINC COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret)  
(Chicago Chapter, IL)

CW2 Eliseo T. Lopez, Jr., USA (Ret)  
(Chicago Chapter, IL)

CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)  
(Northwest Florida Cadre)

SVCINC Lt Col Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret)  
(Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ)

MAJ Clement I. Goodwine, Jr., USA (Ret)  
(Prince George's County Chapter, MD)

Capt Michael P. Golden, USMC  
(COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY)

CPT Allen B. Clark, Jr., USA (Ret)  
(Dallas Chapter, TX)

CPT David C. Thackston, USA (Fmr)  
(Greater El Paso Chapter, TX)

CPT Richard A. Briggs, Jr., USA (Ret)  
(Fort Hood Chapter, TX)

CWO4 David A. McCuiston, USN (Ret)  
(Northeast Florida Chapter, FL)

Lt Col Sheldon A. Goldberg, USAF (Ret)  
(General Meade Chapter, MD)

LTC David R. King, USA (Ret)  
(Roanoke Chapter, VA)





## PROGRAM AWARDS

### Patriotic Education Program Awards

The Chapter Patriotic Education Program Award is bestowed on the chapter conducting the best patriotic education program for the preceding year. The purpose of this competition is to encourage chapters to develop programs that will provide the youth of our country with a knowledge and appreciation for this nation's institutions and government.

#### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** MG Wheeler Chapter, AL
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME

#### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Worth Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

#### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Philadelphia Chapter, PA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

### ROTC Awards

The ROTC Annual Award is presented to the chapters providing the best support of ROTC units.

#### CATEGORY 1:

##### SUPPORTING 1-17 ROTC UNITS

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Northwest Florida Cadre, FL
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Col Woolsey Chapter, CA

#### CATEGORY 2:

##### SUPPORTING 18-20 ROTC UNITS:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Roanoke Chapter, VA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** North Central Florida Chapter, FL

#### CATEGORY 3:

##### SUPPORTING 21-27 ROTC UNITS:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** San Diego Chapter, CA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Denver Chapter, CO

#### CATEGORY 4:

##### SUPPORTING 28-34 ROTC UNITS:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Capt Dillingham Memorial Chapter, HI
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Space Coast-Indian River Chapter, FL
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG Wheeler Chapter, AL

#### CATEGORY 5:

##### SUPPORTING 35-60 ROTC UNITS:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Chicago Chapter, IL
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Fort Worth Chapter, TX
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** LTG Walker Chapter, MS

#### CATEGORY 6:

##### SUPPORTING 61+ ROTC UNITS:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Columbia Chapter, SC

### HPM James C. Baird National Scouting Award

This award recognizes the Companion who contributed the most through the year to realize the goals and objectives of the Order's Resolution of Cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the USA.

**RECIPIENT:** Mr. Thomas R. Parker  
(COL Woolsey Chapter, CA)

### Scouting Program Award

For excellence in supporting the goals and objectives of the Military Order's Resolutions of Cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

#### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** COL Roosevelt Chapter, NY
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME

#### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Hampton Roads Chapter, VA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Houston Chapter, TX
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA

#### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Augusta Chapter, GA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Dallas Chapter, TX

### Veterans Affairs Program Award

This award honors excellence in program outreach and community support, in keeping with the MOWW motto, "It is nobler to serve than to be served."

#### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** MG (Bvt) Chamberlain Chapter, ME
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG Wheeler Chapter, AL

#### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

#### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Chicago Chapter, IL
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** San Diego Chapter, CA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Hill Country Chapter, TX





## Public Safety/Law & Order Chapter Program Awards

The Law & Order Award, which has chapter and individual categories, was instituted to honor exceptional chapters supporting the following Preamble tenant: "Ever to maintain law and order, and to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States."

### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Pinson Memorial Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Fort Knox Chapter, KY
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG Miles Chapter, NM

### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Dallas Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Greater El Paso Chapter, TX
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Hill Country Chapter, TX

## Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Exceptional Service Award

The National Law & Order Exceptional Service Award was created to recognize the distinguished service of a law enforcement or criminal justice official.

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Asst. Chief Kenneth Kushner (Santa Barbara City Fire Department, (CA) Sponsor: COL Woolsey Chapter, CA

*Note: The award will be presented at a local ceremony by the sponsoring chapter.*

## Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Outstanding Performance Service Award

The Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Outstanding Performance Service Award recognizes outstanding performance for heroic actions.

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Detective Cesar Dominguez (El Paso Sheriff's Office) Sponsor: Greater El Paso Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Sgt. Jeffrey Thiry (Tacoma Police Department) Sponsor: Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Officer Chance Skaufel, (California Highway Patrol) Sponsor: COL Woolsey Chapter, CA

*Note: These awards are presented at local ceremonies by the sponsoring chapter.*

## National Security Program Awards

The National Security Awards are given annually to the chapters demonstrating the most effective local programs in support of the resolutions pertaining to national security passed by the Order in the National Convention.

### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Augusta Chapter, GA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

## Homeland Security Program Awards

The Homeland Security Award recognizes excellence in supporting the MOWW Homeland Security Program.

### SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

### MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG Miles Chapter, NM

### LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA





## PROGRAM AWARDS

### Information & Publicity Awards

The Information & Publicity Award is conferred annually to the chapter with the most effective public relations program for the operating year within the chapter, the community and at a national level. It includes published items (except for items published in *The Officer Review*®), as well as electronic media (television, radio and the internet).

#### **SMALL CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** MG Chamberlain Chapter, ME
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** West Valley Chapter, AZ

#### **MEDIUM CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** MG Miles Chapter, NM

#### **LARGE CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Dallas Chapter, TX
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Greater El Paso Chapter, TX

### Chapter Newsletter Awards

The Chapter Newsletter Award is presented to the chapter with the most comprehensive newsletter.

#### **SMALL CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** West Valley Chapter, AZ
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Capt Dilworth Chapter, TX

#### **MEDIUM CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

#### **LARGE CHAPTER:**

- **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:** Sun City Center Chapter, FL
- **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE:** General Meade Chapter, MD

### BG Horace W. Port Award

For being the Region with the highest percentage of its National Staff Officers registered and in attendance at the annual National Convention.

- **WINNER:** Region VI

### Chapter Commanders' & Adjutants' Award

For being the Region with the highest percentage of its chapter commanders and adjutants registered, and in attendance at, the annual National Convention.

- **WINNER:** Region III

### 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**

##### • **1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE AWARD (\$2,000):**

CAPT Thomas J. Marshall, Jr., USN, (Ret)  
 "The Election of 1860"  
 (OR, May-Jun 24)  
 San Diego Chapter, CA

##### • **2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE AWARD (\$1,000):**

MAJ Clement I. Goodwine, Jr., USA (Ret)  
 "The Women of the Six Triple Eight"  
 (OR, Mar-Apr 24)  
 Prince George's County Chapter, MD

##### • **HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):**

COL Robert L. Reese, USA (Ret)  
 "The Doolittle Raid: Aviation's Boldest Mission"  
 (OR, Nov-Dec 24)  
 GEN Ridgway Chapter, PA

##### • **HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):**

BG Raymond E. Bell, Jr., Ph.D., USA (Ret)  
 "Going in Harm's Way"  
 (OR, Nov-Dec 24)  
 BG Bultman Chapter (At Large)

##### • **HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):**

BG Hector Lopez, USA (Ret)  
 "The Threat Within Our Backyard"  
 (OR, Jul-Aug 24)  
 Sun City Center Chapter, FL



*Together, United in Companionship*



# The Delegates to the 2025 MOWW National Convention Approved:

### LEADERSHIP

Lieutenant Colonel David J. Worley, 93rd Commander-in-Chief of MOWW, was reelected for a second term of office.

### MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION

The Delegates to the 2025 National Convention voted to amend the MOWW Constitution to make all veterans eligible for membership. This historic decision reflects the Order's commitment to recognizing the service and leadership of all who have defended our nation.

### THE DELEGATES APPROVED THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

#### THE MOWW CONSTITUTION:

1. Treasurer General (Article V, Section 2, Paragraph C). Added the Treasurer to the Board of Trustees as a non-voting member.
2. Selecting National Officers (Article V, Section 2, Paragraph A). Allows two Companions from a single region to be elected as Vice Commander-in-Chief.

#### THE MOWW BYLAWS:

1. Chief of Staff (Article IV, Section C): Duties revised to better align with current practices.
2. Treasurer General (Article IV, Section D): Duties revised to better align with current practices.
3. Standing National Committees (Article VI, Section 1):
  - Added the National Youth Civics Summit as a standing committee.
  - Changed the name of the National Convention and Seminars Committee to National Convention Committee.
  - Eliminated the Homeland Security Committee and consolidated its functions under the National Security Committee.

#### “THE MOWW REVIEW”

In light of the vote to expand membership, the Executive Committee (EXCOM) has approved renaming the *Officer Review* magazine to *The MOWW Review*. This change will take effect with the January–February 2026 issue.

### NEW CHAPTERS/CADRES

The EXCOM granted a new Chapter Charter to the Northwest Florida Chapter, FL, and approved the establishment of a Recruiting Cadre in Albany, NY.



## JOIN US FOR THE 2026 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN SAN ANTONIO, TX!

Convention Registration and Hotel Reservation  
Information will be online in Early 2026.

We hope to see you there!



AT THE 2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION,  
LTC SCOTT MANN, USA (RET), DELIVERED A  
POWERFUL PRESENTATION ON THE IMPORTANCE  
OF STORYTELLING IN  
BUILDING GREATER HUMAN CONNECTIONS.

*Now, let's tell Your Story!*



## *Announcement for the* 2025 MOWW Phoenician Essay Contest

The MOWW Phoenician Essay Contest is an annual patriotic-themed essay contest based on a thought-provoking subject of national interest and requiring a student to take a position and defend it. The contest is open to the top three students of each Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) held in the preceding 12-month period.

The contest details are available in the MOWW Policy Manual (Paragraphs 6.C.4.b and 7.D.5), and the MOWW forms (12-series) posted to [moww.org](http://moww.org).

**Beginning this year, MOWW has increased the contest award amounts to \$4000 for the winner, \$2000 for 1st runner-up and \$1000 for 2nd runner-up. Each awardee receives a scholarship check and certificate.**

The awards are presented at a ceremony arranged by the MOWW chapter in each winner's local community, designed to maximize attendance by the student's family and community.

### **2025 MOWW PHOENICIAN ESSAY QUESTION “?”**

“In light of perceived divisiveness in the United States, what are two ways we can become ‘a more perfect Union,’ as stated in the Preamble to the Constitution?”

MOWW Chapter leaders and YLC directors are requested to reach out to all eligible YLC attendees to inform and encourage them to participate in the MOWW 2025 Phoenician Essay Contest.



# Preparing Phoenician Essay Winners

LTC PAUL S. FAIDLEY, JR., USAR (RET)  
FORT WORTH CHAPTER, TX

I have been the Texas Wesleyan University (TWU) YLC Director in Ft Worth, TX, for four years. In those four years, I have had one student Winner, one student win 1st Runner Up, and one student win 2nd Runner Up. Our YLC has been fortunate to have very high-quality students attend during my tenure. That credit goes to the various Chapters and other sponsoring organizations who do an excellent job of selecting and sending top students to the TWU YLC.

Most of those organizations interview the students in person or virtually before sending them to the YLC. That process helps them determine whether the students are worthy candidates and likely to perform well at the Conference. Those organizations have good relationships with the top high schools in our area and know how to get the best students each year.

The TWU YLC typically has five groups of 8-10 students. Each group identifies its top leaders at the end of the Conference. I then conduct a Top Leader Board to determine the overall Top Leader of the YLC. The board ranks the top leaders 1 through 5. The top 3 leaders are the ones selected to participate in the Phoenician Essay contest.

I inform the top three students before the YLC ends about the Phoenician Essay Contest, giving them a heads-up and making them aware of the monetary rewards for placing in the top three nationally. I set the expectation that they will complete the essay and compete for the financial prize. I can now inform them that the TWU YLC has achieved significant success in winning prize money over the last three years.

Once I get the essay details, I immediately disseminate the information and guidance to the top three students. I often simplify the specifics to make it easy for students to follow the basic steps and requirements of the essay. I set a deadline for students to submit their essay packets to me about five days before the essays are due to the national point of contact (POC). This timeline allows me to address any necessary corrections or missing information. It ensures that all student requirements are included in the packet before the national essay committee reviews the essays.

These simple steps have led to three TWU YLC top students receiving scholarship checks. I expect to have another one this year as I have three excellent candidates from the 2025 YLC. ★



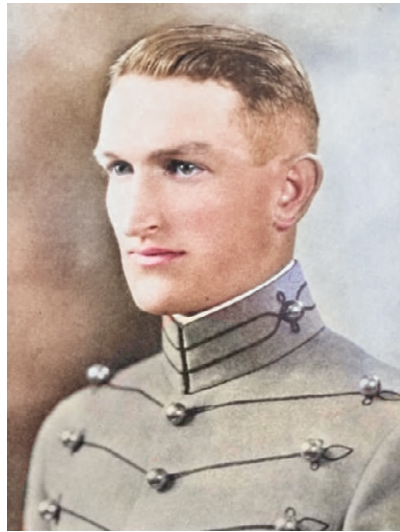
(L-R) Attendees from Texas Wesleyan University YLC who earned a Phoenician Essay Award under YLC Director LTC Paul S. Faidley, Jr., USAR (Ret):

- Ella Corinne Babic, 2022 MOWW Phoenician Award Winner;
- Zane Michael Pryor, 2023 MOWW Phoenician Award Winner 1st Runner Up (with LTC Faidley);
- Kailyn Emalee Alee, 2024 MOWW Phoenician Award Winner 2nd Runner Up poses a question during the 2024 National Youth Civics Summit in Washington, DC.

# Listen Up, Lieutenant Powell

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

On 9 June 1958, Colin Powell, soon to graduate from the City College of New York (CCNY), became a second lieutenant in the United States Army. Standing in front of him and fellow Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) cadets at their ceremony to give the commissioning address was Major General Raymond E. Bell, commanding general of the US Army's II Army Corps (Reserve). Their origins were worlds apart: Bell from Florida, Powell from New York. However, they had, or were about to have, the same mission: to lead and serve honorably, protecting the country in accordance with the American Constitution



**Major General Raymond E. Bell, USA**  
13 March 1904–6 March 1997

Bell came to the ceremony as a highly decorated World War II regimental commander. Awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, four Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, and three Bronze Stars in the war, he was the second most highly decorated officer in his United States Military Academy Class of 1927. Leading from the front, he won a battlefield promotion to colonel, serving in Northwest Europe with the US Army's Third Army. He thus brought a singular leadership record to the podium in helping launch Powell's military career.

Powell is widely recognized in today's global audience. His exceptional service in various high-level government roles, including military positions and as Secretary of State, is well-documented. His funeral in 2021 drew a host of former presidents and other important luminaries to a celebration of his life at the Washington, DC, National Cathedral. He will go down in history as a greatly admired American who realized his greatest ambition: to be a soldier.

Life-long military and civilian service to the United States of America is like putting together a large mosaic consisting of many disparate pieces. How

these pieces fit together is key to sound leadership and the effective performance of one's individual responsibilities. The first piece of the mosaic in Powell's active duty military career was initiated on that day in 1958. What was to develop over the succeeding years were the mosaics of his thirteen published "Rules." They served as context for his exemplary ability to fit those pieces in place while serving his country.

What effect Bell's speech had on Powell's introduction to military service is unknown. Powell made no mention of their impact, if any, on him in his memoirs, "My American Journey," or in the

book "Soldier." Readers must judge for themselves, based on Powell's "Rules," what effect, again, if any, the words Bell imparted to him at the start of his service had on his lifelong performance. In any case, the speech set a framework for Powell's mosaic.

So, what then did Bell have to say in those days in 1958 that could have served as an outline for the development of Powell's rules?

Bell started by welcoming Powell and the legion of fellow City College officers-to-be into the "fraternity of fighting men—of dedicated men—of honorable men." He noted that in World War II, 100,000 ROTC officers served. The words set the scene, placing Powell in the "Big Picture" and establishing the tone for the rest of his speech

Bell then quickly turned to his principal theme: leadership and how his audience of new lieutenants should conduct it. A key to successful execution lay in properly embracing two of his favorite acronyms: RHIR and RHIP, which stand for Rank Has Its Responsibilities and Rank Has Its Privileges.





**Colin Powell was a distinguished American statesman and four-star General in the United States Army.**

**He served as the 59th United States Secretary of State from 2001 to 2005 under President George W. Bush, becoming the first African American to hold the position.**

**GEN Powell also served as the 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993, the youngest person to hold that position.**

**During his military career, he was decorated for bravery after surviving a helicopter crash and rescuing others from the burning wreckage during his second deployment.**

RHIR was his main message for the newly commissioned lieutenants. There were the important leadership responsibilities that they would be required to acquire. First among those were the officers' men, a priority alongside accomplishing missions, assigned and assumed. Responsibility for their men meant their proper training, their billeting, their clothing, and their health, all matters to be properly taken care of. Taking care of their men, however, had to be accomplished alongside completing the job, including the execution of tasks, no matter how small or insignificant they might seem. He noted that issuing an order accounted for only one percent of the responsibility; following through on the mission amounted to the remaining ninety-nine percent. As a final point, he stressed the importance of setting an example in their conduct, not only in their appearance in uniform but also in their attitude towards their officership.

Moving on to RHIP, he listed "Association with other talented, well-educated, thinking and responsible young Americans." He thereby urged them to capitalize on the "bonding" as had taken place while members of the CCNY ROTC cadet regiment. He followed that prominent "privilege" with opportunities to broaden one's outlook on life; at a higher level to learn about national objectives; and to travel, seeing for oneself what made America, Europe, and the Orient "tick."

He then turned to a subject that the new lieutenants, looking forward, probably had not

given much thought to, that of leadership problems that they would soon encounter. First, what was more challenging than problematic was how to lead older and more experienced soldiers. A bit of sound advice was to seek their counsel at appropriate times and be respectful of that which was offered. Although the process of "mentoring" was not formally current within the Army's ranks at the time, Bell was suggesting such mentoring was indeed appropriate.

Bell was well aware that the Army was still transitioning from a segregated to an integrated armed force. Having grown up in Florida, he was aware of racial issues. Therefore, when he had a young Colin Powell, the top cadet at CCNY, being commissioned directly before him, he was conscious of how he addressed the subject of minority participants in the Army.

He made two points, trying to frame his remarks appropriately. First, he called for an understanding of what he termed "personal problems of minority groups." Second, when dealing with these problems, one should approach them objectively. At first glance, his remarks smacked of being condescending and dismissive. But considering the environment at the time and Bell's own guiding principles of empathy and respect, one might be circumspect in judging how the remarks might be interpreted by not only Powell but other new lieutenants from diverse backgrounds among those being commissioned. Bell was certainly not one to dwell on the subject, but the fact that he included

the remarks in his address was a recognition of the realities of those days.

Next, he portrayed the “nuts and bolts” of army life. He outlined the responsibilities a lieutenant could be expected to perform, including guard duty, courts-martial participation, and retention board action. All the while, he reminded the new lieutenants that they were on duty twenty-four hours a day all year round. He then raised the probability that they were subject to being separated from their families by overseas assignments which could last up to two years.

For parting words, he cited the motto of the United States Military Academy, “Duty, Honor, Country,” as truly applicable to all officers, since it embodied every officer’s ethos and was a motto which could serve as a guideline throughout their careers, in civilian life as well as in the military. He concluded his commissioning address by congratulating the new lieutenants and wishing them a profitable and interesting career, whether they chose an army one or that of a civilian.

How Powell responded to Bell’s commissioning address at the time is unknown, at least as far as his memoirs are concerned. Did he internalize the remarks? What was, if any, his reaction to Bell’s comment on the problems or challenges he would face as he entered a career which he looked forward to and for which his time as a ROTC cadet in a leadership position had shown him to have had outstanding potential. A look at “Powell’s Rules” does not hint at how they converged with the words Bell spoke to him and his newly minted fellow lieutenants on that day in June.

Did Powell “Listen Up!?” At first blush, it appears Bell’s address had no impact on Powell’s future in the army. Certainly, the “Rules” have no direct relation to Bell’s words. Powell’s rules do not include RHIP, RHIR, or problems to be solved or duties to be performed. It would even be hard to equate a motto to live by with any of Powell’s rules. However, if one examines Powell’s leadership style, it would seem logical that Bell’s address did help form the mosaic framework within which Powell served. ★



### Colin Powell’s Thirteen Rules of Leadership

1. It ain’t as bad as you think. It will look better in the morning.
2. Get mad, then get over it.
3. Avoid having your ego so close to your position that when your position falls, your ego goes with it.
4. It can be done.
5. Be careful what you choose. You may get it.
6. Don’t let adverse facts stand in the way of a good decision.
7. You can’t make someone else’s choices.  
You shouldn’t let someone else make yours.
8. Check small things.
9. Share credit.
10. Remain calm. Be kind.
11. Have a vision. Be demanding.
12. Don’t take counsel of your fears or naysayers.
13. Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.



# Inspiring the Next Generation: MOWW's 2025 NYCS

The Military Order of the World Wars proudly hosted the 2025 National Youth Civics Summit (NYCS) from July 13 to July 19 in Washington, DC. This event gathered 18 exceptional high school students from states including Maine, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, Colorado, Washington, and California. In partnership with the MOWW Foundation, this fully funded program offered a week of immersive civic education, leadership development, and direct engagement with the institutions of American democracy.

The NYCS opened with a keynote address by Michael "Rod" Rodríguez, President and CEO of the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation, who challenged students to lead with integrity and service. Over the course of the week, students visited the US Capitol, where

they met with Congressman Keith Self of Texas and Congressman Jeff Crank of Colorado; toured the Supreme Court, including a rare meeting with Supreme Court Marshal COL Gail Curley, USA (Ret); and explored the White House Historical Society and Library of Congress. A visit to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum emphasized the importance of human rights and history, while the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery provided a powerful moment of reflection.

Students also participated in an impactful event located in the Minuteman Memorial Building, owned by Reserve Organization of America. There they networked with congressional staffers and gained valuable insights into careers in public service. The week concluded with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Pentagon and the US Marine Corps Sunset Parade at 8th & I, where the





Secretary of Defense served as Guest of Honor.

Classroom sessions complemented these experiences with insights from distinguished leaders, including COL Joe Funderburke, Ph.D., Senior Military Fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies; Michael Halem, Acting Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Research and Technology; Ron Phillips, President and CEO of Republic Consultants; and Jay McConville of Constituting America. These discussions gave students a firsthand look at leadership, service, and the responsibilities of citizenship.

This year's student attendees have described their experience at the NYCS as transformative. One participant stated, "The most important thing I learned was that every American should know our history and how our government works. This experience put into perspective why



my generation needs to be engaged so we can ensure our country thrives." Another added, "This experience has changed my perspective of the world. Every young person should have the opportunity to have this life-changing experience. The amount you learn, grow, and transform your perspectives is amazing."

The 2025 National Youth Civics Summit demonstrated the impact of MOWW's investment in the next generation of American leaders. By providing these young men and women with direct access to the institutions and people who shape our democracy, the NYCS ensured they left Washington, DC, inspired to lead, equipped to serve, and connected to the responsibilities of citizenship. For MOWW Companions, the NYCS stands as a proud example of how the Order is shaping the future of our nation by preparing tomorrow's leaders today. ★

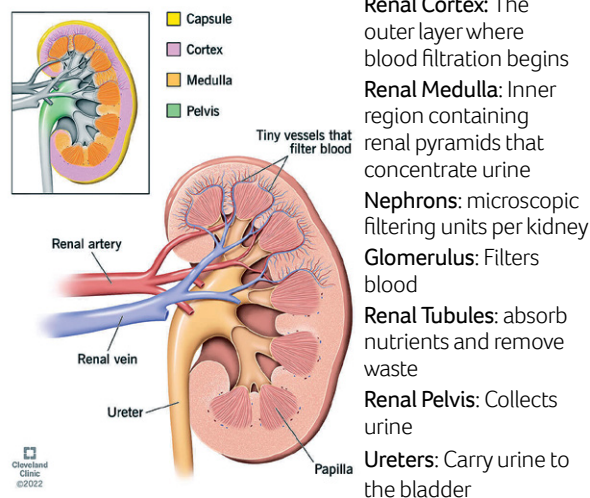
Learn more about the NYCS at [moww.org/nycs](https://moww.org/nycs)



# A Look at Kidney Disease

CPT DAN L. CAMERON, JR., USA (FMR)  
SURGEON GENERAL, MOWW

Your kidneys are two bean-shaped organs located near your spine. Anatomy of the kidney:



If you have the following symptoms:

- Fatigue and weakness
- Swelling in ankles, feet, or hands
- Changes in urination (frequency, color, or foamy urine)
- Nausea and vomiting
- High blood pressure
- Shortness of breath
- Persistent itching

You may have a condition called kidney disease.

Kidney disease, also known as renal disease, occurs when your kidneys become damaged and are unable to filter blood properly. This impairment leads to a buildup of waste, excess fluids, and toxins in your body, which can result in serious health problems over time.

## The kidney performs the following functions:

- Filter waste and extra water from your blood
- Help regulate blood pressure
- Balance minerals such as sodium and potassium in the loop of Henle. This thick ascending limb is impermeable to water but highly active in solute transport.

## There are five types of kidney disease –

- Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD): Gradual loss of kidney function over time, often caused by diabetes or high blood pressure
- Acute Kidney Injury (AKI): Sudden loss of kidney function due to trauma, infection, or medication toxicity
- Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD): A genetic disorder where fluid-filled cysts grow in the kidneys
- Glomerulonephritis: Inflammation of the kidney's filtering units (glomeruli)
- Lupus Nephritis: Kidney inflammation caused by the autoimmune disease lupus

## Leading Causes of Kidney Failure:

- Diabetes and Hypertension,
  - Autoimmune Diseases: Lupus, rheumatoid arthritis
  - Infections: UTIs, hepatitis B/C, HIV
  - Medications such as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and some antibiotics can have harmful effects on the kidneys.
  - Lifestyle, primarily smoking and obesity
  - Age: The risk of kidney failure increases with age.
- Water plays a key role in the kidney; it helps flush out infections and toxins. For people with advanced kidney disease or kidney failure, too much water can be dangerous. The kidneys may not produce enough urine, resulting in fluid accumulation that can lead to swelling, high blood pressure, and increased stress on the heart.

## Treatment

- Lifestyle modifications-switch up your diet
- Dialysis
- Hemodialysis: Blood is filtered through a dialysis machine.
- Peritoneal Dialysis: Blood is filtered through a machine
- Kidney transplant: Requires lifelong immunosuppressant therapy

The kidneys are vital organs that filter waste from the blood, regulate fluid and electrolyte balance, and help control blood pressure to keep the body in optimal harmony. Take care of your kidneys by taking care of your health. ★



# Do You Know God's Purpose For You as a MOWW Companion?

LTC VICTOR W. BURNETTE, USA (RET)  
CHAPLAIN GENERAL, MOWW



## TOGETHER WE SERVE



*"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." —Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV)*

Where were you on September 11, 2001—and where will you be on September 11, 2025? I know where I was on September 11, 2001. I also know where I will be on September 11, 2025. I write this to honor nearly 3,000 lives lost in New York, Arlington, and Somerset County, on September 11, 2001 and I write to challenge each Companion to ask: How is God calling me to serve others through the Military Order of the World Wars?

On 9/11/2001, I was a newly assigned staff officer in the Pentagon. That morning began like any other—sunny, crisp, and full of calendar day. I had planned to attend a decision briefing to LTG Timothy Maude, the Army G-1, but because I was the backup to the backup project officer, I stayed at my desk due to a full inbox of assignments.

As the briefing was starting, minutes later, our office gathered around the conference room TV as the first plane struck the World Trade Center. We were stunned. I remember thinking of the passengers, the World Trade Center workers, and their families. As a Christian, husband, father, and Soldier, I asked, *Lord, why?* And then, Lord, are you still in control, or are you asleep in the boat?

At 9:45 AM, a hijacked plane crashed into the Pentagon. We evacuated amid smoke and debris. I later learned that the meeting I skipped had become ground zero. I lost two ASAMR&A colleagues—MAJ Ron Milam and SGM Lacy Ivory—and others I never had the chance to meet. I was spared, not by luck, but by God's divine assignment.

In the days that followed, there was faith or fear in the afterman. Many church pews filled, flags waved, and hearts turned toward God. The events

drew me and others closer to God. I didn't receive a stone tablet or divine email explaining why I was spared—but I knew I had a purpose.

Before I was a MOWW Companion, and like many Companions, I felt a call to Serve. I was a Deacon, a JROTC Instructor, and a mentor to youth. I taught cadets about Patriot Day and helped them honor local heroes. I spearheaded Patriot Day programs at my high school. Today, as your MOWW Chaplain General, I feel called to run—not walk—with God. Like all of our Companions, after being spared at the Pentagon, our mission is to raise up a new generation of patriots. For example, all three of my daughters became Army officers and encouraged over 1,000 cadets to enlist and commission through ROTC/Service academies. Used the bible and teachings for a stronger faith and joined the MOWW to be committed to service. But I cannot run this race alone. Again, I am reminded of the article scripture Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV): *"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."*

Companions, will you join me? Will you use your testimony to inspire others? Will you support our youth programs with time and funding, mentor Scouts, and invest in tomorrow's leaders?

Let us be resolute in faith, united in purpose, and bold in our calling. I know where I will be on this September 11, I will be serving with my fellow Companions.

In closing, I invite you to pray with me, *Heavenly Father, We thank You for sparing lives and for calling us to a higher purpose. Strengthen us as Companions of MOWW to serve with courage, compassion, and conviction. May we honor the memory of those lost by living lives of faith, patriotism, and service. In your heavenly name, Amen. ★*





Region I

## Semper Paratus

BY LTC LAWRENCE A. WILLWERTH, USA (RET)  
COMMANDER, MOWW REGION I

Eight members of the US Coast Guard Academy, Class of 2025, were presented with moww awards during the Individual Proficiency Awards Ceremony. The presentations of two of the MOWW Awards took place at the US Coast Guard Academy, New Haven, CT, on Tuesday, 20 May 2025, one day prior to their commissioning to Ensigns.

### **CAPT Charles Avery Satterlee Memorial Award**

First given in 1985, the CAPT Charles Avery Satterlee Memorial Award is given to the cadet who excels in compassion and rhetoric. Named in memory of the late CAPT Charles Avery Satterlee, USCG, who was then captain of the Coast Guard Cutter Tampa during World War I and which was lost with all hands. This award was given to Cadet First Class Kalia Jerkatis, who excels in Composition & Rhetoric.

### **Military Order of World Wars Pistol Marksmanship Award**

A cash prize was awarded by the Military Order of the World Wars to Cadet First Class Ryan Yi, who attained the highest proficiency in pistol marksmanship.

USCGA Cadet First Class Ryan Yi, who attained the highest proficiency in pistol marksmanship, was presented the Military Order of World Wars Pistol Marksmanship Award at the US Coast Guard Academy by MOWW Connecticut Chapter Commander MSG Joseph Benete.

*(L-R): Cadet First Class Ryan Yi; MSG Joseph Benete, Jr. USA; LTC Lawrence A. Willwerth, USA (Ret), and Cadet First Class Kalia Jerkatis*



Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

## Hello Girls Tribute

BY COL VINCE OGILVIE, USA (RET)

On 25 May 2025, at the National Museum of the United States Army in Fort Belvoir, VA, a new unit tribute was dedicated to the WWI US Army Signal Corps female Telephone Operators Unit, known popularly as the “Hello Girls.” They were the first all-female unit in the US Army to directly contribute to combat operations in France and then post-war occupied Germany. Several Companions were in attendance: (L-R) NOVA Chapter Commander COL Vince Ogilvie, USA (Ret); NOVA Chapter Adjutant HPM Mrs. Roberta Yourtee; and NOVA Chapter Newsletter Editor HPM Mrs. Ruth Ogilvie. Also present, but not pictured, were NOVA Companion CSM Victor Angry and his family.



General Meade Chapter, MD

## Space Force Colors Presented to the War Memorial in Baltimore

BY COL KENNETH O. MCCREEDY, USA (RET)

On 16 June 2025, LTC Dennis Chojnowski, USA (Ret), presented the colors of the US Space Force to a representative of the War Memorial Commission in Baltimore to complete their set of the colors of all the services. Constructed in 1925, the War Memorial Building serves as a gathering place for all veteran, patriotic, and civic organizations, a depository for trophies of wars in which our country has engaged, and a tribute to those citizens of Maryland who gave their lives and their service in WWI.” LTC Chojnowski visited the facility recently, noticed that the US Space Force colors were not present with the colors of the other services, and acted to rectify the situation on behalf of the Military Order of the World Wars.



Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

## MOWW Recognizes Col Carlos Quiñones

BY COL ADALBERTO RIVERA, USAF (RET)

The MOWW Gold Patrick Henry Plaque was awarded to Col Carlos Quiñones, USAF (Ret), for his exemplary service to the Order and to the American people. VCINC Col Adalberto Rivera, USAF (Ret), presented the award in the CINC's name during the Chapter's Membership Meeting on 28 June 2025.

(L-R): Col Carlos Quiñones, USAF (Ret) and VCINC Col Adalberto Rivera, USAF (Ret).





Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

## ROTC Awards to Cadets at the VWIL

BY HPM MR. CHARLES W. BENNETT, JR.

On May 6, 2025, the Virginia Piedmont Chapter presented ROTC awards to Cadets at the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) graduation at Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, Virginia. VWIL is the only all-female corps of cadets in the US and provides extensive leadership training and military structure, along with participation in ROTC programs in partnership with active-duty units from the Virginia Military Institute. This unique program helps cadets develop the skills and character necessary for success as leaders in their communities and careers.

(L-R): Cadet Jacqueline Lee (Silver Award), Past Chapter Commander C. Michael Reeves, and Cadet Madison Jones (Bronze Award).



Alfred Shehab Chapter, NJ

## Four Eagle Scouts Honored

BY LTC WILLIAM RAPP, USA (RET)

On 15 May, Chapter Commander LTC William Rapp, USA (Ret), had the privilege of participating in the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for four young women from Troop 19 in Short Hills, NJ. He presented each of them with the MOWW Eagle Scout Certificate of Recognition along with the MOWW patch. It should be noted that Eva and Annette recently attended the MOWW YLC at Freedom Foundation, sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter. Both of them commented to LTC Rapp that it was a marvelous experience and wanted to thank everyone in the Order for the opportunity to attend.

With Scoutmaster Jim McKenna: (L-R) Giselle Bonardi, Eva Legasto, Nidhi Pusapati and Annette Johnson.



Boston Chapter, MA

## MOWW Boston Chapter Top 2025 Girl Scout Award

BY LTC LAWRENCE A. WILLWERTH, USA (RET)  
COMMANDER, MOWW REGION I

The Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts convened an esteemed award ceremony at Camp Cedar Hill in Newton, MA, on 18 May 2025. The "Marlborough Friends Fridge" project was commended for its exceptional measurable impact, sustainable practices, and meaningful community engagement, as well as its relevance to larger national and global issues. Katelyn Massey, a dedicated Girl Scout from Eastern Massachusetts, was honored with the prestigious Gold Award and recognized with the MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Medal.

Katelyn Massey with her parents and LTC Lawrence A. Willwerth, USA (Ret).



Puget Sound Chapter, WA

## New Companions Welcomed

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

Chapter Commander CAPT Caroline “Carrie” Myers Nielson, USN (Ret), extended her heartfelt congratulations to CDR Christine Doyle McManus, USN (Ret), on her recent induction as a new Companion on 4 May, in Steilacoom, WA. Behind them is Companion COL William McClary, USA (Ret), affixing the MOWW membership pin on COL Alan G. Bourque, USA (Ret), who joined in April 2025.

(L-R): CAPT Caroline “Carrie” Myers Nielson, USN (Ret), and CDR Christine Doyle McManus, USN (Ret); COL William McClary, USA (Ret), and COL Alan G. Bourque, USA (Ret).



Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

## Gen Chilton Discusses China's Global Ambitions and US Strategic Responses

BY COL KERMIT D. NEAL, USAF (RET)

The Chapter had the honor of hosting General Kevin Chilton, USAF (Ret), for a presentation in April. Kevin Patrick “Chilli” Chilton is an American mechanical engineer and retired United States Air Force four-star general, test pilot, and NASA astronaut. His last assignment was as commander of US Strategic Command from 2007 to 2011. His talk focused on China and its global ambitions. He emphasized that the world is not paying enough attention to the Chinese government’s statements about intentions to invade Taiwan by 2027 and their goal to surpass the United States as the premier world power by 2050. Acknowledging that China cannot compete with the US in a conventional war, Gen Chilton pointed out that China is targeting the US chain of command, deployment capabilities, and logistics through a strategy of Anti-Access/Area Denial.

Gen Chilton stated that the US must address our industrial base, educate the public about the importance of Taiwan, counter the increasing Chinese capabilities in space and cyber warfare, and enhance our naval and air forces since air superiority is crucial in dealing with China. Furthermore, the US should expand its strategic nuclear capabilities, including credible theater nuclear weapons, and utilize all instruments of national power to counter China’s influence.

It was a fascinating presentation, and we are grateful for the leadership Gen Chilton has provided and continues to provide to our nation!

(L-R): Gen Kevin Chilton USAF (Ret), accepts a MOWW Certificate of Appreciation from Col Kermit D. Neal, USAF (Ret), for his informative presentation to the Chapter.



## 2025 MOWW National Convention Photos Now Available

Photos from the 2025 MOWW National Convention are available for viewing and download at the [link below](https://fourwrightsphotography.pixieset.com/mowwconvention2025/) or by scanning the QR code:

<https://fourwrightsphotography.pixieset.com/mowwconvention2025/>

### All photos are free to download.

Companions may also purchase prints, framed prints, metal-mounted photos, and other formats by selecting the "Print Store" option in the upper right corner of the page.



### About Four Wrights Photography

Darren Wright started as a wildlife and landscape photographer then transitioned to a full-service photography provider. He specializes in portrait and event photography, but also offers a range of additional services. Darren is available for family portraits as well as senior and graduation portraits. He also offers "Sportraits" designed for athletes of all sports, featuring a cool dark background. Four Wrights Photography is a veteran owned/operated small business.



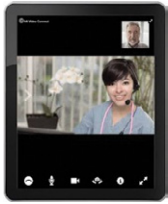
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- MICHAEL FARRELL, Colonel, USMC (Ret)  
Chief of Staff, & COO, MOWW, Inc.
- September 16, 2025





## Tele-Health Now Nationwide



Tele-emergency care (tele-EC) is now available nationwide. This is a step that increases timely access to virtual emergency care options for veterans enrolled in VA health care. This expansion of care—piloted in recent

months—has already shown promise for veterans, helping more than 61,182 callers with a 59.4% case resolution rate (meaning veterans' needs were resolved without having to travel from their homes to urgent care or an emergency department).

Tele-emergency care is a part of VA Health Connect, a phone service that veterans can call nationwide. Veterans who contact VA Health Connect will speak to a clinical triage nurse, who will connect them to tele-emergency care when clinically appropriate. Tele-EC providers will then evaluate the veteran over the phone or on video and recommend treatment or follow-up, including if in-person care is needed. In life-threatening emergencies, the clinical triage nurse will call 911 and stay on the line until help arrives.

For more information about VA care, visit VA's health care website. For more information about Veteran trust in VA, visit the VA trust website. To enroll in VA care, visit <https://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/>

## Learn. Detect. Protect.

<https://vsafe.gov/>



**Find resources about fraud targeting you. Know the signs of a scam, get advice about what to do, and learn how to report scams and identity theft.**

Veterans are often targeted by scammers due to a steady source of income, access to benefits, and trusting nature. Whether it's phishing emails or phone calls impersonating government agencies or fraudulent investment schemes promising quick returns, the threats are real and ever-present.

## How Can Veterans Protect Themselves?

Stay Informed! Knowledge is your greatest weapon against scams. Stay updated on common tactics used by scammers targeting Veterans. Read the most recent information from VA. Utilize resources

provided by trusted organizations like VA Privacy Service and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to educate yourself.

### Report suspected fraud!

Protect yourself and others; call the VSAFE Fraud Hotline at 833-38V-SAFE (8-7233).

## Nominate History's Unsung Champions



Our American Story is an oral and visual storytelling project aimed at collecting and preserving our nation's stories. Take this opportunity to nominate a living person—a friend, family member, neighbor, or community leader—whose story you think needs to be shared and preserved. Every story is one worth sharing. It could be someone in your life whose story resonates with you or has inspired you, but maybe isn't widely known. It could be someone who has made a difference in your community—famous or unknown.

Select stories from each region of the country will be recorded, shared for everyone to enjoy, and archived at the Library of Congress, to cultivate a permanent record of the collective American story.

The American story is woven from the unique and varied narratives of our people—let's tell and celebrate these stories.

## Empowering the Spirit to Prevent Veteran suicide: New program supports at-risk Veterans



Empowering the Spirit, an evidence-based curriculum, is combining the compassionate care of chaplains and nurses into a unique spiritual care bundle to help veterans at risk for suicide.

Launched as a 12-week pilot program in March 2025, the initiative invites veterans to explore their spirituality and discover how it can bring them hope, healing and connection.

<https://news.va.gov/142400/empowering-the-spirit-prevent-veteran-suicide/>





# Reveille

**RANK/NAME (SERVICE)**

**NEW MEMBER**

*Sponsor*

*\*Denotes PM/HPM \*\*Denotes RM/HRM*

*NOTE: Primary Memberships Only*

DATA FROM 1 JUN–31 JUL 2025

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CPT DAVID P. VAUGHN, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL Arthur N. Tulak, USA (Ret)*

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COL PATRICIA S. KLOP, USMC (RET)\*\*

*CW2 Eliseo T. Lopez, Jr., USA (Ret)*

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*LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)*

CSM MARTIN L. RICHARDS, USAR (RET)\*\*

*LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)*

## COL WOODS–OKLAHOMA CITY CHAPTER OK

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*Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret)*

## COL WOOLSEY CHAPTER CA

LTC SAMUEL B. SEVERSON, USCG\*\*

*BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret)*

## COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER CO

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*Lt Col Jon K. Wisham, Sr., USAF (Ret)*

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MR. RYAN N. SISAK\*\*

*2LT Natan Ton-That, USA (Fmr)*

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*CPT Richard A. Briggs, Jr., USA (Ret)*

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## GEN RIDGWAY CHAPTER PA

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*MAJ John R. Skovran, USA (Ret)*

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## MG MILES CHAPTER NM

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*LTC Gregg C. Giesler, USA (Ret)*

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*COL Rodney E. Willis, USA (Ret)*

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*CAPT Deborah A. Dombeck, USCG (Ret)*

SFC MARK S. PIERCE, USA (RET)\*\*

*CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)*

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PA

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*COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)*

LTC EDWARD G. PASIERB, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)*

LTC ERIC W. STETSON, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL Joseph P. Kirlin III, USA (Ret)*

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*COL James A. Moye, USA (Ret)*

COL GEOFFREY D. STEVENS, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL James A. Moye, USA (Ret)*

## PUERTO RICO CHAPTER PR

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# Reveille

**RANK/NAME (SERVICE)**

**NEW MEMBER**

*Sponsor*

*\*Denotes PM/HPM \*\*Denotes RM/HRM*

*NOTE: Primary Memberships Only*

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*LTC Daniel M. Still, USA (Ret)*

CAPT DAVID W. MYERS, JR., USAF (FMR)\*\*

*CAPT Caroline M. Nielson, USN (Ret)*

CW4 DOUGLAS A. STEARNS, USA (RET)\*

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CPT LLOYD W. GRABLE, USA (FMR)\*\*

*COL Lonnie D. Vona, USA (Ret)*

# Taps

**RANK/NAME (SERVICE)**

*\*Denotes PM/HPM*

*\*\*Denotes RM/HRM*

DATA FROM 1 JUN–31 JUL 2025

## ATLANTA AREA CHAPTER GA

MRS. BONNIE W. JONES\*\*

## CHICAGO CHAPTER IL

1LT BRIAN R. BURCH, USA (FMR)\*

## COLUMBIA CHAPTER SC

COL EDWARD B. BORDEN, USAF (RET)\*

LT COL ROGER B. RUCKER, USAF (RET)\*

## GA BRADLEY-COL HANSON CHAPTER CA

COL GILBERT T. GEMBACZ, USA (RET)\*

## GEN RIDGWAY CHAPTER PA

COL JERRY L. KINTIGH, USAF (RET)\*

## GENERAL MEADE CHAPTER MD

LTC HARRY D. SINCLAIR, JR., USA (RET)\*

## GREATER EL PASO CHAPTER TX

COL OLGA KALPAKCIAN, USA (RET)\*

## GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAPTER MO

CAPT CARL E. BOLTE, JR., USN (RET)\*

## HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER VA

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## MG MILES CHAPTER NM

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COL GERALD O. JENSON, USMC (RET)\*\*





"IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED"

# OFFICER REVIEW®

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS



The 80th anniversary of the end of World War II is being marked throughout 2025, with different dates signifying the final end of the conflict. The war in Europe concluded on May 8, 2025, known as VE Day, when Nazi Germany surrendered. The entire war ended on September 2, 2025, when Japan signed the formal surrender documents aboard the USS Missouri, officially ending the global conflict.

Japanese surrender aboard the USS Missouri,  
2 September 1945

Source: <https://www.history.navy.mil/> NARA Series, USA C-4626. Photograph served as the cover for the *Officer Review* January 2020.