



# The Greater El Paso Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars

**IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED**

“Serving Youth, Community and Nation”

**Celebrating the Start of the Second 100 Years of Our Order**

## Command Staff

2021 - 2022

<b>Commander:</b>	LTC Jesus Beltran
<b>Sr. Vice:</b>	LTC Rich Moore
<b>Jr. Vice:</b>	CPT Bob Melson
<b>Adjutant:</b>	LtCol Buck Hamilton
<b>Treasurer:</b>	CPT Bob Melson
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Ms Laura Beltran
<b>Marshall:</b>	Mr Kevin Lassiter
<b>Director at Large:</b>	CPT Paula Mitchell
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	LtCol Buck Hamilton

### January Birthdays

Emilian Gorgas-Cabrera	2 Jan
James Maloney	4 Jan
Albert Mitchell	4 Jan
Charles Dorsey	6 Jan
Paula Mitchell	10 Jan
Walter Herkenhoff	16 Jan
Sean Ylinen	16 Jan
Kaitlyn Scarboro	17 Jan
Patrick Abney	21 Jan
Olga Kalpakgian	21 Jan
Wayne Bassham	26 Jan

### February Birthdays

Joseph Cancellare	3 Feb
Larry Spradlin	3 Feb
James Smith	8 Feb
J. Lucas	13 Feb
Laura Beltran	20 Feb
Matthew Holland	21 Feb
Jazmin Lombrana	24 Feb
Michael Moore	25 Feb

## Why I Joined MOWW

I don't know how many of you have done so, but I occasionally find myself asking why, 50 years after leaving military service, I joined MOWW.

I jokingly say it was because Jesus Beltran, our current Chapter Commander promised me a pony of my own (naive infantryman that I was and am, I wanted to believe him!). Of course it was for other reasons that, even now, I have trouble identifying. Part, I think, was that I felt at loose ends after serving on two city advisory committees, but in larger part it was because of MOWW's involvement in areas I feel to be neglected in today's world: patriotic/civic education, support of ROTC and JROTC, a strong commitment to national defense. Those are the surface reasons but, surely, there are other, deeper reasons. What might they be?

Top of the list, I think, is shared service. I left after 8 years, most Companions have retired, others still serve. What we have in common, though, is our officer's oath, our membership in a select group whose history extends to the beginnings of our republic and, we all hope, will continue into the future. From that shared service come shared values: of service before self, of responsibility and accountability for our actions, a belief that the republic established by the Constitution is worth preserving, even, if need be, at the expense of our lives. And, perhaps above all else, that the obligation to serve is never ending.

Those are some of the things that caused me to join our Order. I'm 100% certain each of you has his or her own reasons for joining and I'd like to ask you to share them with us. For those of you reading this on your computer, smartphone or tablet, if you wish to share with me directly, you can send your comments to [melson.r@att.net](mailto:melson.r@att.net). If you'd prefer to reply by snail-mail, you can reply to the chapter's mailing address: Greater El Paso Chapter, MOWW, POB 640475, El Paso, TX 79904.

Robert (Bob) Melson  
Jr. Vice Commander/Treasurer  
Greater El Paso Chapter, MOWW

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

February 2022

Greetings to all members and friends of the Order. I hope that these greetings find everybody well. Thank you to all the companions that continue to assist the chapter and in turn help out all of the different organizations that we are involved with. As our motto says, **"It is better to serve than to be served"**. All of you reading this newsletter can help out in many different ways. If you are not sure in what please call one of us.

The month of January we had Ms. Debra Ruz, accountant executive, from the Accent Care Care Givers, as the guest speaker. She discussed the importance of signing up with the Veterans Administration for medical care and using the services there. She mentioned how on a personal level her dad was hesitant in signing up with VA, but eventually she got involved and it helped him tremendously.

In other business, this month a Region 13 conference was held virtually as well as in person. Many ideas and changes were discussed. Hopefully, with the new administration in place some of them will take off. Some things that were mentioned were changing the name of the Order because "Order of World Wars" signifies older companions and that does not have an appeal to younger officers. Another word that stuck in my mind was "antiquated." Certainly other things were mentioned, so we will have to see what changes, if any, are done.

I also had the privilege to award an Eagle Certificate to Landon Grimm of Troop 248 at Fort Bliss, Texas. Pictures can be found on the website and further down in the newsletter. There are 3 other eagles from Troop 4 that will be awarded their certificates on February 9. They are Juan C. Franco, Bryan Liang, and Carlos Gonzalez. We look forward to that ceremony.

Once again, my sincere thanks to all members doing more than share for the Order. Paula, Laura, Buck, Bob, David Thackston, and Rene, for all your assistance and support. I truly appreciate all of your efforts!

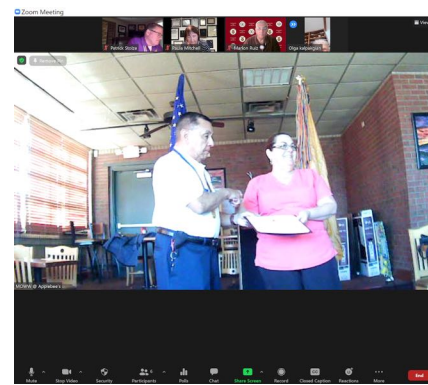
Jesus Beltran, LTC, (Ret.) USAR  
Chapter Commander



Bob Nelson gives his committee report



Buck Hamilton gives his Security Minute



The meeting as seen on Zoom

### December Meeting

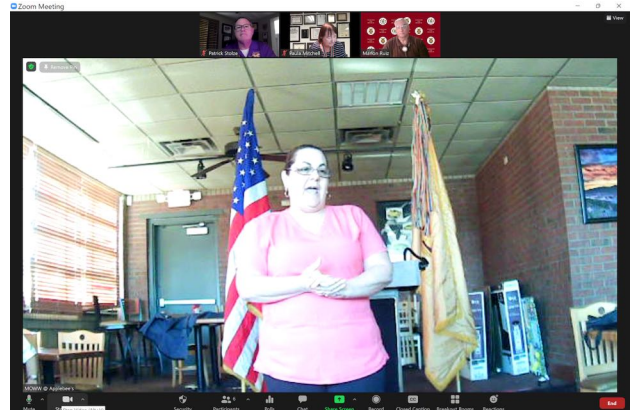


December's Christmas meeting was held at Applebee's on Saturday 18 December. The meeting had no formal speaker, but Scout Executive SGM Nathaniel Jones spoke on the outstanding service to Scouting provided by Companions Jesus and Laura Beltran. Friend of the Order, Robert Jeskey spoke on his participation with the Order and presented \$100 for the Chapter. This funds were raised by his on-line supporters who wanted to support the Chapter's patriotic education efforts.

New Companion Ron Quiett spoke about his background and his relationship with Chapter Commander Jesus Beltran. Bob Melton spoke on the cancellation of the JROTC visit to the Ft Bliss Simulation Center. Operational commitments at Ft Bliss precluded the Chapter's JROTC visit. The scheduled speaker, Ms Ruz, could not attend due to illness.

LtCol Hamilton spoke on the Social Security Fraud alert issued by the SSA Inspector General. The meeting closed at approximately 1320 with a benediction by Chaplain Laura Beltran.

### January Meeting



January's meeting was held at Applebee's on 15 January. Ms Debra Ruz spoke on little known benefits offered to veterans by the VA. Regional Commander Pat Stolze and Regional VCINC Marlon Ruiz both attended the meeting via Zoom. A total of 5 companions/friends attended via Zoom. Companion Paula Mitchel reported on National Convention planning committee. Jr Vice Bob Melson spoke on the first meeting of the MOWW National Strategy committee. The members voted to continue the chapter's participation in the Unified Veteran's Service Organizations for 2022. The Chapter will use the UVSO's mailing list for invitations for the Massing of the Colors (MOC) and for newsletter distribution. MOC plans were discussed and the restrictions on the use of EPCC facilities due to Covid may cause addition scheduling delays. February's meeting will honor our 80 and 90 year old companions. David Thackston was tasked will providing a speaker for February. The meeting closed at 1320 with a benediction by Chaplain Laura Beltran.

### Support Your Chapter's Activities

It takes over \$6,000 a year for the Greater El Paso Chapter of the MOWW to conduct our outreach and educational activities. Please help us continue our JROTC, Scouting, Student Education, newsletter, and website. Donate using the Chapter's website (<http://www.elpasomoww.org/>) link "Our Square Fundraiser". Click on the link and it will take you to the site:

<https://checkout.square.site/merchant/MLV7VKMHR3PGB/checkout/TIDY444UERJMQ27EI4ETMIH4>. Once there you can contribute. For those uncomfortable with using the web to donate by mail using the Chapter's PO Box 640475.

### Membership Anniversaries

#### January

Jimmy Brown	1984	Walt Herkenhoff	1984
Richard Park	1984	Donald Williams	1984
Chester Young	1984	Monica Divis	1994
Rubin Dinwiddie	1998	Roy Gray	2003
Douglas Vogel	2003	Kevin Lassiter	2014
Albert Mitchell	2017	Ronald Quiett	2022

#### February

Charles Berkeley	1983	Barbara Bevins	1997
Kathi Bassham	2001	Wayne Bassham	2001
Patrick Abney	2004	Jesus Beltran	2004
Elsa Garcia	2004	Edward Greer	2004
Gary Crafton	2005	Bruce Gramlich	2006
David McCoy			2018

## HOMELAND SECURITY MINUTE

In the news or on social media, you often see stories about the large number of firearms being bought by first time gun owners. I would like to go over the basic rules of gun safety. To do this, I am going to draw heavily from the writings of LtCol Jeff Cooper, USMC. He is considered the creator of the "modern technique" of handgun shooting and a true expert in the handling of arms.

Jeff Cooper laid out four "golden rules" for gun safety\*. He did not quibble and he did not hesitate to explain that these rules must be engrained in the character of everyone who handles firearms.

**1. All guns are ALWAYS LOADED.** Ignore this rule at your and everyone else's peril. A firearm is only safe when it is not in someone's hand.

**2. Never let the muzzle of your weapon cover anything you are not willing to destroy!** This is especially true when returning your weapon to its holster. Too often, shooters let the muzzle pass over a thigh or foot, occasionally with dire consequences.

**3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.** A modern firearm will not discharge unless someone pulls the trigger. Even in the midst of imminent danger, no finger on the trigger until your sights are on the target...**Always!**

**4. Be sure of your target** and what is behind it. Know what you are aiming and shooting at! Be aware of your surroundings and do not assume anything. A catastrophic example of not following this rule occurred recently in California, where a member of a police response unit fired at a suspect with a rifle, missed, and killed a girl in a dressing room. When in doubt, don't shoot.

Keeping a firearm in the home is a personal responsibility. This is doubly so when children are present. Teenagers must be taught the skills of safe gun handling. Young children must be taught four simple rules. These rules come from the NRA. For whatever faults the NRA has, these are excellent rules to teach children:

If you see a gun:

- a. Stop!
- b. Don't Touch!
- c. Run Away!
- d. Tell an adult!

Please Google these rules for more information and learn to keep everyone safe around firearms.

\*Excerpted from: Cooper, Jeff. To Ride, Shoot Straight, and Speak the Truth (p. 24-25). BookBaby. Kindle Edition

CF "Buck" Hamilton CPP, PSP  
LtCol USMC (Ret)



### New Eagle Scout

On 29 Jan at the Court of Honor of Troop 248, new Eagle Scout Brandon Grimm receives congratulations from his scoutmaster LtCol Bob Sellars USMC (Ret). GELP Chapter Commander LTC Jesus Beltran presented Eagle Scout Brandon with the Chapter's

Stay Current with Chapter Events at our website [www.elpasomoww.org](http://www.elpasomoww.org), on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/elpasomoww](https://www.facebook.com/elpasomoww) and our Twitter account @El\_Paso\_MOWW

### New Social Media Accounts

The chapter has established a Twitter account where updates and meeting announcements will be posted in addition to email, website, Facebook and newsletter postings. The chapter's account is: **@El\_Paso\_MOWW**.

Also the Chapter has established an email account where Companions with questions can easily ask via email. The email account is:

[gep.moww@gmail.com](mailto:gep.moww@gmail.com)

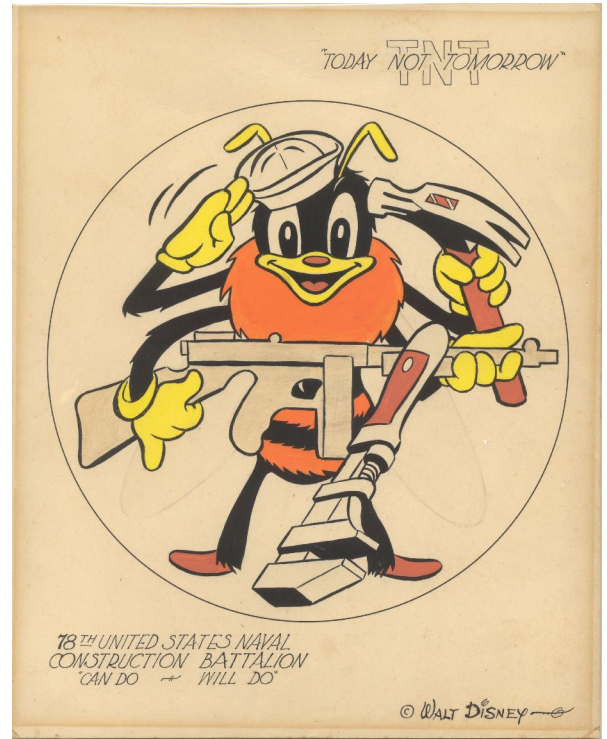
The email will go to the Chapter's Adjutant LtCol Buck Hamilton USMC (Ret) for distribution to the Staff as appropriate.

#### Other Key Social Media Addresses

Chapter Website: <https://www.elpasomoww.org/>

National Website: <https://www.moww.org/>

Regional Website: <https://www.mowwscv.com/>



### Some Interesting Dates for January & February

5 Jan 1942 Seabees created

8 Jan 1815 Battle of New Orleans

14 Jan 1784 American Revolution Ends with Signing of the Treaty of Paris

22-23 Jan 1879 Battle of Rorke's Drift Natal Province, South Africa

2 Feb 1901 Army Nurse Corps established

3 Feb 1941 USO Incorporated

23 Feb 1945 Iwo Jima Flag Raising

### MOWW Sponsors

Applebee's Grill & Bar 1985 George Dieter provides our meeting room every third Saturday

Mafdet Group, LLC provides our Zoom meeting software for Chapter & Staff meetings

We Could Not Function without the help of Sponsors. Please support us by supporting our sponsors!

### Up Coming Chapter Events

January Hybrid Chapter Luncheon/Zoom Meeting	1130	Saturday 15 Jan
February Virtual Staff Meeting	1900	Monday 7 Feb
February Hybrid Chapter Luncheon/Zoom Meeting	1130	Saturday 19 Feb
March Virtual Staff Meeting	1900	Monday 7 Mar
March Hybrid Chapter Luncheon/Zoom Meeting	1130	Saturday 19 Mar



The Greater El Paso Chapter  
The Military Order of the World Wars  
P.O. Box 640475 - El Paso Texas 79904

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Our mission is reflected in our Preamble:**

- To cherish the memories and associations of the World Wars waged for humanity;
- To inculcate and stimulate love of our country and flag;
- To promote and further patriotic education in our Nation;
- 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;
- To foster fraternal relations among all branches of the armed forces;
- To promote the cultivation of military, naval, and air science and the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of national security for the United States of America;
- To acquire and preserve records of individual services;
- To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of memorials of the World Wars;
- And to transmit all these ideals to posterity, under god and for our country we unite to establish the **MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS**.

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @EL\_PASO\_MOWW**

**VISIT OUR CHAPTER WEBSITE: [WWW.ELPASOMOWW.ORG](http://WWW.ELPASOMOWW.ORG)**

**FACEBOOK: EL PASO CHAPTER, MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS**

**VISIT OUR NATIONAL MOWW WEBSITE: [WWW.MOWW.ORG](http://WWW.MOWW.ORG)**

**NATIONAL MOWW FACEBOOK: THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS**