



THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WAR

CHARTERED DIST. OF COLUMBIA 1919 - CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER 1992

"THE CRUZIN' NEWS"

SANTA CRUZ VALLEY CHAPTER AZ - Chartered October 24, 1985

"IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED"

COMMANDER

COMPANION: Ronnie D. St. Clair

CHAPTER STAFF NOTES**ADJUTANT**

COMPANION: Marlon Ruiz

COMMANDER'S REPORT:

Welcome back everyone. We hope every companion had a pleasant and restful summer recess. As we begin preparing for the 2025 operating year's (OY2025) activities and projects before us, let's take a moment to get caught up on some exciting developments within our Order. First up a grateful shout out to all those fellow companions who contributed to a wonderful and successful 2025 National Convention in Tucson, Arizona this year. During the first week of August, we hosted fellow companions visiting from throughout the country and abroad here in Tucson. Highlights included a historic reimagining of our traditional and long dormant MOWW Historic Marker Placement Ceremonial Events, once occurring with greater frequency during the early 20th century. Our most notable such projects a still being visited by local companions every Veterans Day in such renowned veteran service cemeteries such as Arlington National Cemetery and in the city of Bayamon, Puerto Rico abroad. We can now proudly add the Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Marana, AZ (west Tucson) to the list of prominent MOWW historical marker placements throughout the world. Next month's newsletter will have a "full spread" with plenty of photos on our very successful national convention event - so stay tuned.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Welcome back everybody. A quick review of our initial Santa Cruz Valley Chapter AZ-193 finances shows us in great shape, as we begin the current OY2025 activity season. Our strong finance numbers is mainly due to our very successful chapter fundraising efforts during our recent week-long national convention [4-9 AUG 2025] planning and the awesome fundraising generosity of visiting companions from throughout the Order stateside and from Puerto Rico and Hawaii. In all, we were able to collect enough funding to replenish our administrative (ADMIN) and operational and management (O&M) chapter replenishment funding Chapter Budget targets of \$500 ADMIN and \$1000 O&M respectively. We were also able to partially replenish our patriotic education (PE) funding target budget sector goal at currently one-third the needed funding and our standalone Chapter Arizona Youth Leadership Conference (AZYLC) is currently stable at around \$3K (with our usual Green Valley Arizona IRS 501c3 Country Fair White Elephant Grant Program funding request - "CFWE") already submitted and entered into the annual OY2025 funding chapter external funding solicitation pipeline, as of early August. Lastly, our chapter has already also complied with all MOWW annual IRS Reporting mandatory requirements and is eligible once again for MOWW Perpetual and Memorial (P&M) dividend MOWW HQ payout consideration again this operating year.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT:

Greetings from Tucson to all our returning companions, affiliates, partnered veteran service organizational colleagues, and supportive family and friends. While fresh out of closing out a very successful OY2024 annual closure and our usual very productive national awards season where we once again placed among the top three MOWW performing chapters for 2024 and even took top "Chapter of the Year" honors once again in the Medium Category, we begin once again accruing our wins for the new operating year currently before us. Of paramount coordination importance is establishing our operating year Chapter meeting calendar which includes planning our big 40th Chapter Anniversary event in October, planning our two Massing of the Colors signature events for the months of November 2025 and January 2026, and revising our Chapter Action Plan (CAP) for the current operating year's events, activities and projects. Our next monthly newsletter edition will include further details on all the above, so until then looking forward to seeing everyone at our first regular membership chapter meeting scheduled for the first Saturday in September on the 6th at our usual Casa Del Rio Mexican Restaurant location in east Tucson, AZ.

CHAPTER COORDINATION CONTACT LISTING**COMMANDER**LTC Ronnie D. St. Clair, USA: (915) 727-2779 texasbarebow55@yahoo.com**ADJUTANT**LT COL Marlon Ruiz, USAF: (520) 780-7107 marlon.ruiz@earthlink.net**TREASURER**Mrs. Adriana Ruiz, HPM: (520) 784-4626 vivacali_adriana@hotmail.com**CHAPTER OUTREACH - EAST TUCSON / SIERRA VISTA**CW5 Karl S. McKensie, USA: (785) 320-1658 mckenzie03@gmail.com**CHAPTER OUTREACH - SAHUARITA / GREEN VALLEY**CDR Bradley Roberson, USN: (520) 625-3502 ext: 1538 broberson@sahuarita.net**CHAPTER OUTREACH - RIO RICO / NOGALES**LTC Ronnie D. St. Clair, USA: (915) 727-2779 texasbarebow55@yahoo.com**REGION XIII FB PAGE:** <https://www.Facebook.com/mowwscv/>**REGION XIII WEBSITE:** <https://www.mowwscv.com/>**MOWW WEBSITE:** <http://www.moww.org/>**MONTHLY SCHEDULE BULLETIN BOARD**

Jul 03rd - MOWW: PCOYWG [Q-4] VCC Mtg, Virtual, AZ - 11AM
 Jul 05th - VSO-2: UAV Monthly [M] VCC Mtg, Virtual, AZ - 11AM
 Jul 07th - VSO-1: Jul (4) WOW [W] HYB Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 9:30AM
 Jul 08th - R-13: AVCMCF [M] VCC HYB Mtg., Marana, AZ - 6:00PM
 Jul 09th - MOWW: NCSC [M] VCC Mtg., Virtual AZ - 11AM
 Jul 15th - MOWW: VAC [M] VCC Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 9AM
 Jul 15th - VSO-4: PVAHCS [M] HYB Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 11:30AM
 Jul 15th - R-13: MGM Chapter [M] HYB Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 5PM
 Jul 17th - MOWW: CAC [Q] VCC Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 12PM
 Jul 17th - VSO-5: ALOV Post 132 [M] Mtg., Oro Valley, AZ - 6:30PM
 Jul 19th - R-13: GELP Chapter [M] HYB Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 11AM
 Jul 20th - VSO-6: MVC [M] Mtg., Continental Ranch, AZ - 4PM
 Jul 22nd - MOWW: NFC [P] VCC Mtg., Virtual, AZ - 11AM

NEXT SCV CHAPTER MTG: SEPT 6th (HYB)**MEETING
LINK****MEETINGS:** (Formats: HYB "membership" & VCC "staff")**EVENT:** RM-1: SCV Chapter Membership Meeting - 12PM**ATTIRE:** Guest - Casual / Members - MOWW Meeting Attire**PROGRAM:** OY 2025 SCV Regular Membership Program**AGENDA:** "QTR-1 SCV Chapter Working Luncheon Activity"

NOTE: "Local Chapter staff meetings (SM) are programmed on a quarterly ("QTR") every 3-month intervals on the 4th Saturday of the designated month) and alternating chapter fellow companion regular hybrid/locale membership meetings ("RM") on selected months without scheduled special events or staff meetings on either the 1st or 2nd Saturday of the designated month).

PRESS THE LINK BOX ON THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER TO GO TO THE ZOOM MEETING SESSIONSubmit comments to marlon.ruiz@earthlink.net or call (520) 780-7107 and leave a message

COMMITTEE TOPIC NEWS

National Defense

<http://www.defensenews.com/>

DefenseNews

DefenseNews Air Land Naval Space Cyber CAISR Pentagon Congress Global TV/Video Thought Leadership

SPECIAL FEATURES



Register: Defense News Conference 2025

Military, government and industry leaders will gather to discuss the hot topic of "Deterring Threats from the Indo-Pacific"



Whitepaper: Delivering Connectivity on Military Bases

Learn how high-speed internet is a necessity on military bases, how outdated network infrastructure is a priority, and more.



Whitepaper: How Modular Systems Help Ensure Defense Readiness

Learn how a Modular Open Systems Approach avoids proprietary lock-in, how ease of sourcing replacement parts helps ensure readiness, and more.



DoD 8140 Compliance Guide for Cyber Workforce Leaders

A break down of what 8140 requires, highlighting where teams get stuck, and how you build a plan that gets your workforce qualified.

Sponsored Content



Tips for Balancing Student Loans as You Start Your Career — Money Minute

Watch Now
Jeanette Mack from Navy Federal Credit Union is here with advice on how to handle your student loans as you take the next big step in your life.

Air



F-16s intercept Russian spy planes near Alaska two days in a row

The Russian surveillance and reconnaissance planes stayed in international airspace, but flew close enough to prompt NORAD to launch F-16s to intercept.

B-1 bombers, NATO fighters fly over Latvia to show unified force

Air, Space Force budgets seek to boost weapons, cut civilian jobs

In surprise move, Air Force chief of staff to retire 2 years early

Broken propeller caused \$13M military Heister drone to crash into sea

Land



Michigan bids to become America's arsenal of rapid defense innovation

Cummings fine-tunes Hellhound drone for Golden Dome mission

Army readies to launch 2026 competition for counter-drone laser weapon

Could Golden Dome funding get next-gen interceptor back up to speed?

Pentagon

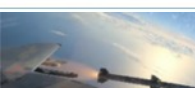
Pentagon's realistic electronic warfare system to move to Navy lab

DARPA says it has built the world's largest, most realistic electronic warfare test capability.



Female vets in Congress slam Hegseth's report of Christian Nationalist

Partners in the video said they want the U.S. to be a Christian republic, adding calls for criminalizing homosexuality and for women to submit to husbands.



Pentagon awards \$7.8 billion in missile contracts for US and allies

The Pentagon ordered thousands of new missiles for the Air Force, Navy and a host of allies, including NATO nations, Ukraine and Israel, among others.

Pentagon unit seeks Ukraine-like conditions for drone testing

Most commercial firms can't access test space where they can refine their products under conditions they might face in the field. DOD wants to change that.

Pentagon picks finalists for Replicator 2 counter-drone demo

The chosen firms will participate in a live demonstration at U.S. Northern Command's Falcon Peak exercise later this year.

Naval



Sailors battle blaze aboard USS New Orleans off Japan's coast

US briefly deploys warships after Chinese military ships' collision

Navy Adm. Brad Cooper takes over at CENTCOM

Space



Space Force launches X-37B carrying quantum and comms experiments

In the 21st century, space is the new battlefield

Could this weargame shape the future of the Space Force?

Deep-space radar hits key testing milestone

The sweeping contract covers operations and maintenance of the Space Force's two major launch ranges.

VIDEOS

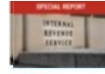


Wait, you can put a suppressor on a minigun? a cannon?

Manufacturers have made it possible to make even the gnarliest weapons silent but deadly.

National Security

<http://www.govexec.com/defense/>



Workforce Federal Workforce Reduction Tracker



Oversight OPM will forego FEVS in 2025, despite law requiring it



Pay & Benefits New Education rule could end public service loan forgiveness for some and open a wealth of questions



Management Improved emergency communication in federal buildings focus of new bipartisan legislation



Pay & Benefits Coverage for gender-affirming care will be eliminated from FEHB plans in 2026



Sponsor Content GovExec TV: Five Questions with REDCOM's Courtney Stiles

Government Executive NEWS MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT DEFENSE TECH PAY & BENEFITS WORKFORCE INSIGHTS LEADERSHIP VOICE

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Sponsor Message

Defense



Navy to cut at least a third of its civilian public-affairs staff

The service is also centralizing all PAO hiring and contracting.

MICHAEL REAGAN | AUGUST 16, 2025

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Texas House: Will 'Move Quickly' on Redistricting With Democrats Back

President Donald Trump and Vice President J.D. Vance will be meeting with Congress on Tuesday to discuss potential funding ahead of the upcoming deadline.

Trump's warning signs of a clash to come on government funding

The House's House of Representatives will be facing a clash to come on government funding

Texas Redistricting War Escalates Across Country

The decision by state Democratic representatives to file Texas over Republican congressional redistricting plans has set off a series of events and a new phase in the redistricting war across the country.

House Speaker Mike Johnson and Texas House Democrats said "standalone their only" to "stand" and "endure the threat of 'takeover' Democrats, threatening to stop

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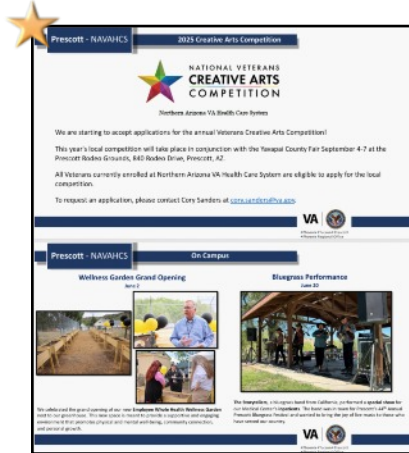
House Speaker Mike Johnson and Texas House Democrats said "standalone their only" to "stand" and "endure the threat of 'takeover' Democrats, threatening to stop

NOTABLE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES



Contact the Santa Cruz Valley Chapter and your local district youth leadership development organizations today for a complete listing of scheduled activities in your local community and surrounding areas.

ACTIVITY ACCOLADES:



PROGRAM CONTACTS:

AJROTC Events – For an update on local Rio Rico HS Army JROTC activities and information please contact LTC Ronnie St. Clair at rstclair@scv35.org Program Website – <https://sites.google.com/site/jrotcrorico/>

- 01 JUL Elks Lodge Flag Retirement Ceremony, Rio Rico, AZ
- 21 JUL Scheduling Day Support for Seniors, Rio Rico, AZ
- 22 JUL Scheduling Day Support for Juniors, Rio Rico, AZ
- 23 JUL Scheduling Day Support for Sophomores, Rio Rico, AZ
- 24 JUL Scheduling Day Support for Freshman, Rio Rico, AZ
- 31 JUL Assist Teachers with Classroom Setup, Rio Rico, AZ

NJROTC Events – For an update on local Sahuarita HS Navy JROTC activities and information please contact Commander Bradley Roberson, USN (ret.) at broberson@sahuarita.k12.az.us

- 11 JUL Phoenix Orienteering Club Papago Park, Phoenix, AZ
- 12 JUL Grand Canyon National Park Visit, Grand Canyon, AZ
- 14-18 JUL Raider Camp, Sahuarita, AZ
- 19 JUL Flag Folding Ceremony, Green Valley, AZ
- 21 JUL SHS Freshman Orientation, Sahuarita, AZ
- 30 JUL Color Guard, SUSD Back To School, Sahuarita, AZ



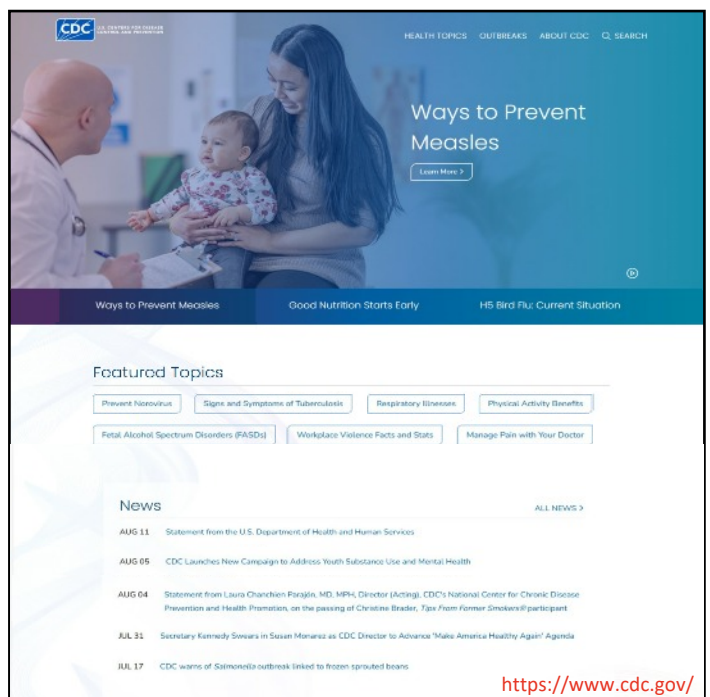
LEFT CLICK IMAGE TO VIEW INTERNET CONTENT

June 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 WOW Weekly HYB	3	4	5 MOWW: America 250	6	7 UAV VCC MTG RM-6 SCV HYB
8	9 WOW Weekly HYB	10 AVMCF HYB VCC	11	12 TOP-8 VCC MTG	13	14 USA BIRTHDAY
15 Happy Father's Day FATHER'S DAY	16 WOW Weekly HYB	17 VAC VCC MTG PVAHCS VCC MGM CH HYB VCC	18	19 ALOV P-132 MTG	20 R-13 SPG CONF	21 GELP CH HYB
22	23 USCG AUX BD WOW Weekly HYB	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 WOW Weekly HYB					

July 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3 MOWW: PCOYWG	4 Independence Day R-13 Q4 VCC MTG	5
6	7 WOW Weekly HYB	8 AVMCF HYB VCC	9 NCSC VCC MTG	10	11	12 WV CH VCC MTG
13	14 WOW Weekly HYB	15 VAC VCC MTG PVAHCS VCC MGM CH HYB VCC	16	17 CAC VCC MTG ALOV P-132 MTG	18	19 MOAA CMC MTG GELP CH HYB
20 VSO-8 MVC MTG	21 WOW Weekly HYB	22 NFC VCC MTG	23	24 NCSC VCC MTG	25	26 CS CH HYB MTG
27 Korean War Armistice Day	28 WOW Weekly HYB	29	30	31 NCSC VCC MTG		



<https://www.cdc.gov/>

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Excerpts from the Psalms and Isaiah:

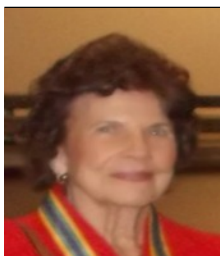
"I lift up my eyes to the hills---from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber nor sleep."

"Do not fear for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

"For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

I have many "favorites" in the Scriptures. No matter how difficult or chaotic life becomes, I can always find comfort in these ancient words of wisdom. The promises of God are solid and steadfast. There is no promise that everything will be perfect or trouble-free. There is, however, the promise that we are never alone or forsaken. With God's everlasting love and mercy, we can withstand any challenge life throws in our way. Let us constantly give thanks and praise to almighty God for all he does for us.

Chaplain Jean



Our Chapter welcomes fellow MOWW companion HPM Gloria Jean Nelson, who has transitioned over from the former Catalina Mountains Chapter in East Tucson. Jean served three years as the chapter's commander and chaplain. Jean has graciously accepted to fill our Santa Cruz Valley Chapter (AZ-193) Chaplain position vacancy. In anticipation of her welcoming, our Chapter Newsletter will now provide a dedicated Chaplain's Corner page segment in every monthly edition beginning with this edition.

COMPANION CORNER

Companion Membership Anniversaries

June Anniversaries:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben L. Andersen, PM (45 years) • Guy A. Bake, PM (22 years) • Hugh Belden, PM (49 years) • James G. Blue, PM (64 years) • Barbara J. Cataldo, HPM (26 years) • Louis A. Chaboya, PM (20 years) • William G. Downey, PM (48 years) • Pauline A. Eisele, PM (20 years) • Duvi R. Frantz, HPM (9 years) • James R. Frantz, PM (9 years) • Charles J. Hornisher, PM (38 years) • Julia E. Jacks, HPM (33 years) • Paul B. Jenkins, HPM (37 years) • Edward J. Kloos, PM (45 years) • Hazel E. Larimore, HPM (36 years) • Robert A. McMullen, PM (29 years) • Andrew P. Meshel, HPM (31 years) • Pedro Najera, PM (40 years) • Ray A. O'Bannon, PM (48 years) • E. S. Olsen, PM (40 years) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robert R. Ozier, PM (40 years) Ellsworth M. Pershing, HPM (45 year) Julie D. Preble, HPM (37 years) Harry O. Reuse, PM (40 years) Howard R. Rowe, PM (42 years) William R. Sterling, PM (21 years) Homer B. Tilton, PM (46 years) Ira G. Scott, PM (47 year) Richard M. Simpson, PM (13 years) Claudia L. St. Clair, HPM (8 year) Burnes O. Starks, PM (36 year) Charles A. Ulery, PM (44 years) Kirk D. Wallendorf, PM (4 years) Wallace A. Weaver, PM (40 years) Maurice W. Wiley, PM (45 years) |
|--|--|

Companion Birthday Celebrations

June Birthdays:

- Frances C. Burrows, HPM (remembered on the 23rd)
- Christine M. Cataldo, HPM (celebrated on the 14th)
- William F. Cataldo, HPM (celebrated on the 7th)
- Richard D. Clifton, PM (celebrated on the 4th)
- Jeffrey Coberly, RM (remembered on the 25th)
- Robert W. Dalrymple, PM (remembered on the 10th)
- John A. Devine, PM (remembered on the 1st)
- Theodore J. Dreveniak, PM (remembered on the 2nd)
- David F. Fagergren, PM (celebrated on the 5th)
- Erik Fagergren, PM (celebrated on the 21st)
- Thomas F. Gross, RM (celebrated on the 27th)
- William Rustin Kern, RM (remembered on the 23rd)
- Donald S. Hopkins, PM (remembered on the 22nd)
- Peter M. Leander, HPM (celebrated on the 1st)
- Richard C. Leander, Jr., HPM (celebrated on the 26th)
- James I. McArthur, PM (remembered on the 8th)
- Robert Lynn Munson, RM (celebrated on the 15th)
- Ken Robinson, PM (celebrated on the 20th)
- Marlon Ruiz, PM (celebrated on the 15th)
- Francisco J. Trejo, RM (celebrated on the 30th)
- Randy Velarde RM (celebrated on the 9th)
- Mary E. Wallendorf, PM (celebrated on the 12th)

Companion Membership Anniversaries

July Anniversaries:

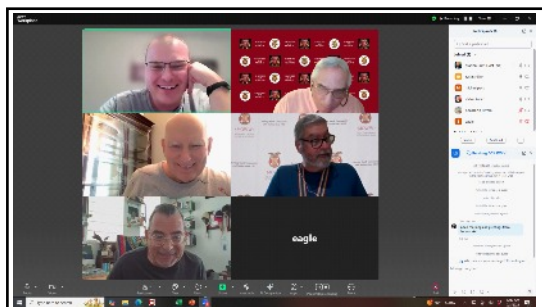
- James W. Cocke, PM (48 year)
- Frank M. Feliciano, PM (43 years)
- Adam T. Free, PM (20 years)
- Daniel R. Free, PM (20 years)
- Joel M. Greenberg, RM (7 years)
- Warren A. Grossetta, PM (48 year)
- Laird Guttersen, PM (48 year)
- Fred S. Hanna, PM (48 years)
- Ronald A. McCreery, PM (40 years)
- David I. Miller, PM (40 years)
- Billie L. Stephens, PM (22 years)
- Matthew R. Tank, PM (41 years)
- Pierce W. Timberlake, HPM (43 years)
- Michael S. West, PM (41 years)
- Carl F. Wright, PM (46 years)

Companion Birthday Celebrations

July Birthdays:

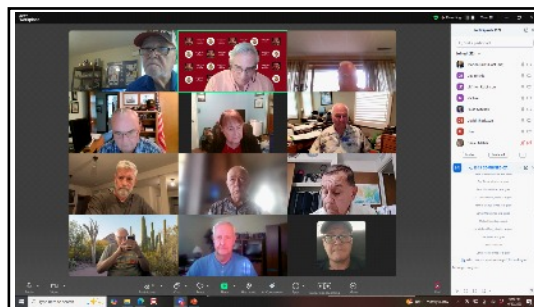
- James E. Adams Jr., RM (celebrated on the 22nd)
- Myles K. Beck, PM (celebrated on the 7th)
- George W. Biggs, PM (remembered on the 2nd)
- Fred J. Cone, PM (celebrated on the 20th)
- John T. Curtis, Sr., RM (celebrated on the 3rd)
- Bobby J. Edwards, RM (celebrated on the 14th)
- Robert E. Johnson, PM (remembered on the 16th)
- Carol A. Kadous, HPM (remembered on the 3rd)
- Charles R. Macon, PM (remembered on the 23rd)
- Roland H. Mapes, PM (remembered on the 28th)
- Michael J. Massee, PM (celebrated on the 4th)
- Fay R. McCormick, PM (remembered on the 1st)
- Karl S. McKenzie, RM (celebrated on the 21st)
- Charlotte M. Post, HPM (remembered on the 19th)
- Richard L. Simpson, PM (celebrated on the 25th)
- Claudia M. St. Clair, PM (celebrated on the 10th)
- Juan M. Trevino, RM (celebrated on the 20th)
- Frances M. Wainwright, HPM (remembered on the 18th)

CHAPTER-IN-ACTION



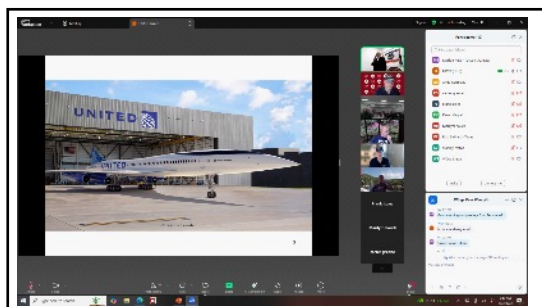
MOWW: PCOYWG [M] VCC MTG - JUL 2025

The annual MOWW Pershing Chapter of the Year (PCOY) Award program is managed and annual award winners chosen by the Working Group comprised of the Immediate Past Commander in Chief (IPCINC), and chaired by the Senior Vice CINC and made up of the four VCINCs. This past operating year the process driving the award competition and selection process was altered which eliminated having chapters submit a FM-1919 and based the scoring and selection process totally upon FM-27 CAR data performance.



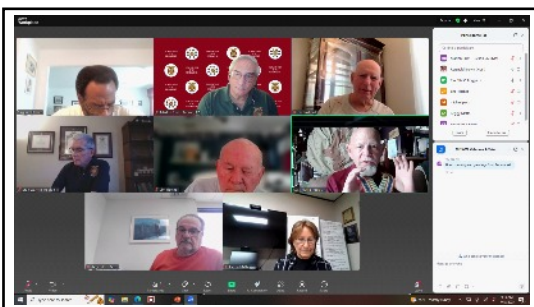
R-13: QTR-4 STAFF VCC MTG - JUL 2025

Our Region XIII (R-13) commander hosted his last quarterly 2024-2025 staff online ZOOM meeting (originally scheduled for 31 JUN 2025) on 17 JUL 2025, due to a very busy OY2024 closeout schedule which included putting the final coordination touches on the 2025 MOWW National Convention also hosted by R-13 in Tucson, AZ this year - which was to begin a week and a half later in early August. Thew online meeting dovetailed both our R-13 Spring Conference agenda and quarterly operating year checklist.



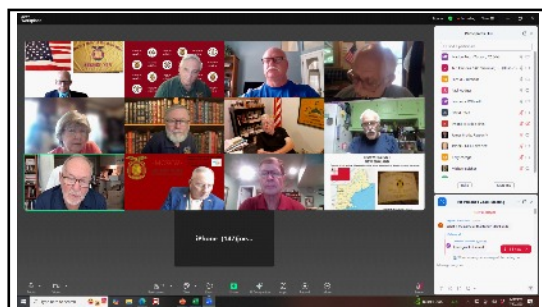
VSO-1: WOW [W] HYB VCC MTG - JUL 2025

The Wings Over Wendy's (WOW) non-profit organization is our most expansive hybrid supported cross-state lines veterans service organizational partnership. WOW meets weekly each Monday morning at 9:30 AM (PST). While they are mostly active servicing their local community throughout central and southern California tending to food / clothing drives and planning field trips and attending special events, their meetings gathers veteran communities from over four states each week helping propagate military service heritage.



MOWW: VAC [M] VCC MTG - JUL 2025

The MOWW Veterans Affairs Committee (VAC) meets monthly year-round. It is currently comprised of regional representatives appointed by their respective commanders. There are currently 5 to 6 regional representative active with continued committee expansion efforts constantly underway to eventually achieve a full 10-region representative committee forum. Committee meetings review regional veterans affairs activities and supported events throughout the entire Order which include major Holiday observances and special projects.



MOWW: CAC [Q] VCC MTG - JUL 2025

The MOWW Council of Area Commanders (CAC) is part of the Order Top-8 leadership architecture and is comprised of regional commanders - representative of the entire Order operational grassroots structure. The CAC's operational role is vital to day-to-day operational dissemination of communications, coordination efforts, and feedback data-mining operational efforts. The Senior Vice Commander in Chief provides routine MOWW HQ and the Order's Commander in Chief oversight guidance nexus structure.



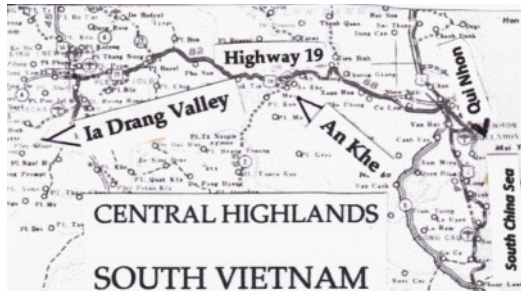
MOWW: NCSC Monthly VCC MTG - JUL 2025

The MOWW national Convention and Seminars Committee met via ZOOM several times in the month of July - leading up to the execution of the 2025 National Convention during the first week of August [4-9 AUG 2025] at the Desert Diamond Hotel & Casino in southeastern Tucson, AZ. The collaboration from the local community, partnered veteran service organizations, and MOWW national resources brought to bear were superb and ensured a most successful convention venue which exceeded all expectations.

MONTHLY FEATURED ARTICLE

Our First Big Vietnam Battle

On 28 October 1965, our heavy artillery battalion debarked a troopship at Qui Nhon, and convoyed to An Khe, the 1st Cavalry Division's brand-new base camp on Highway 19 in Vietnam's Central Highlands. After a week of waiting for the ballistic meteorology equipment and



the big field pieces, 8-inch howitzers and 175-millimeter guns, to be off-loaded from our ship, word came that several 1st Cav units were in a fierce, bloody fight with North Vietnam Army (NVA) regulars at Ia Drang Valley, 50 miles to the west-southwest. While giving wind and air density adjustments for Division's smaller howitzers, 105s, one of the men of Division's meteorology section was wounded and their theodolite shot up.

In future battles, my section went to battle sites and DIVARTY's section

stayed at An Khe. Two lieutenants from my tent, an observer and pilot, flew to Ia Drang to spot 105 fires; another had the sad task of helping retrieve our dead. First indication of casualties from Ia Drang was that the division's 7th Cavalry had 79 killed. That would increase to 300. The NVA death toll was much larger. Our troops defeated the NVA effort, for the start of full-scale war.

I walked over to 7th Cavalry's An Khe base camp and stopped before a white cross, about four feet high, a memorial to the 79. As I stood at that cross, a young trooper, rifle slung on shoulder, face sweaty, fatigues soiled as if he had been prone on the ground, came toward me at a trot. It was clear he had just been flown back from Ia Drang. With a smile acknowledging the surprise thrust on me, he threw a salute and shouted "GARRY OWEN,"* the 7th Cavalry greeting. I returned the salute. He trotted on. TLC

"Garry Owen" came from an Irish tune that Lt. Colonel (Civil War Major General) George Armstrong Custer adopted as a morale-builder. In 1876, his 7th Cavalry suffered defeat at the Little Big Horn.



We welcome fellow Santa Cruz Valley Chapter - 193 companion CWO (RET) Theodore L. "Ted" Cogut, USA to our monthly newsletter writing staff contributor team for the new year. Ted transferred his chapter membership affiliation over to our chapter from the former Catalina Mountains Chapter which operated out of east Tucson until this past June 2022 when they ceased operations. Ted was also a very active chapter newsletter article writer for the CM Chapter, contributing regularly to the "Ted's Page" monthly entry where he routinely provided very interesting and entertaining articles for that publication. With the addition and 2023 launching of Ted's Page to our monthly publication, we hope will further enhance our publication's outreach among our chapter readership and general public outreach appeal. As always, our staff welcomes every opportunity to continue to deliver our MOWW award-winning publication and most importantly your inputs and feedback.

JULY IN HISTORY

July 1

July 1st - Canada Day, a national holiday in Canada, formerly known as Dominion Day, commemorating the confederation of Upper and Lower Canada and some of the Maritime Provinces into the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867.

July 1, 1862 - President [Abraham Lincoln](#) signed the first income tax bill, levying a 3% income tax on annual incomes of \$600-\$10,000 and a 5% tax on incomes over \$10,000. Also on this day, the Bureau of Internal Revenue was established by an Act of Congress.

July 1, 1863 - Beginning of the [Battle of Gettysburg](#) during the American [Civil War](#).

July 1, 1893 - President [Grover Cleveland](#) underwent secret cancer surgery aboard a yacht owned by his friend, Commodore E.C. Benedict. The surgery was performed on a cancerous growth in his mouth. The entire left side of his jaw was removed along with a small portion of his soft palate. A second, smaller operation was performed on July 17th. Cleveland was then fitted with a rubber prosthesis which he wore until his death in 1908. The secrecy was intended to prevent panic among the public during the economic depression of 1893.

July 2

July 2, 1776 - The Continental Congress in Philadelphia adopted the following resolution, originally introduced on June 7, by [Richard Henry Lee](#) of Virginia: "Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved. That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances. That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation."

July 2, 1788 - Congress announced the [United States Constitution](#) had been ratified by the required nine states and that a committee had been appointed to make preparations for the new American government.

July 2, 1881 - President [James A. Garfield](#) was shot and mortally wounded as he entered a railway station in Washington, D.C. He died on September 19th.

July 2, 1917 - A race riot occurred in St. Louis, Missouri, resulting in an estimated 75 African Americans killed and hundreds injured. To protest the violence against blacks, [W.E.B. DuBois](#) and James Weldon Johnson later led a silent march down Fifth Avenue in New York.

July 2, 1964 - President [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) signed the [Civil Rights Act](#) of 1964, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race in public accommodations, publicly owned or operated facilities, employment and union membership and in voter registration. The Act allowed for cutoff of Federal funds in places where discrimination remained.

Birthday - The first African American on the U.S. Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993) was born in Baltimore, Maryland. Nominated by President Johnson, he began his 24-year career on the High Court in 1967.

July 3

July 3, 1775 - During the [American Revolution](#), [George Washington](#) took command of the Continental Army at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

July 3, 1976 - The raid on Entebbe airport in Uganda occurred as an Israeli commando unit rescued 103 hostages on a hijacked Air France airliner. The jet had been en route from Tel Aviv to Paris when it was hijacked by pro-Palestinian guerrillas. Three hostages, seven hijackers and twenty Ugandan soldiers were killed during the rescue.

July 3, 1988 - Iran Air Flight 655 was destroyed while flying over the Persian Gulf after the U.S. Navy Warship *Vincennes* fired two surface-to-air missiles, killing all 290 passengers aboard. A subsequent U.S. military inquiry cited stress related human failure for the mistaken identification of the civilian airbus as an enemy F-14 fighter jet.

July 4

July 4, 1776 - The [Declaration of Independence](#) was approved by the Continental Congress.

July 4, 1863 - [Vicksburg](#), the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River, surrendered to General Grant and the Army of the West after a six week siege. With the Union in control of the Mississippi, the Confederacy was effectively split in two, cut off from its western allies.

July 4, 1882 - The "Last Great Buffalo Hunt" began on Indian reservation lands near Hettinger, North Dakota as 2,000 Teton Sioux Indians in full hunting regalia killed about 5,000 buffalo. By this time, most of the estimated 60-75 million buffalo in America had been killed by white hunters who usually took the hides and left the meat to rot. By 1883, the last of the free-ranging buffalo were gone.

Birthday - Novelist and short-story writer [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#) (1804-1864) was born in Salem, Massachusetts. His works included; *The Scarlet Letter*, *The House of the Seven Gables* and *The Blithedale Romance*.

Geo Challenge Trivia

This major world city, the westernmost national capital in the Americas is continually sinking deeper into the ground every year. Can you name this city, and why is it sinking?

For the answer to this riddle or question go online to <http://www.geomidpoint.com/challenge.html>

FEATURED MONTHLY REPORT



Greetings VSOs, Congressional offices, and valued community partners,

I have officially been appointed as the Interim Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) Director/Chief Executive Officer effective July 1, 2025. To begin, I would like to thank Ms. Jennifer Gutowski for her 26 years of dedicated service to our nation's Veterans. She has left an indelible mark on the SAVAHCS and VA. Her commitment to excellence and unwavering support for Veterans have set a high standard for all of us. As I step into this role, I am eager to build upon her legacy to enhance the quality-of-care SAVAHCS provides to those who have served our country.

I would like to share my professional biography to provide you some background about myself and my VA journey.

Prior to my appointment as Interim SAVAHCS Director, I was appointed as Associate Director for SAVAHCS in June 2022. As the Associate Director/Chief Operating Officer, I provided oversight for Engineering, Financial Management, Health Administration, Pharmacy, VA Police Services, Emergency Management, Privacy, and Facility Planning Programs, and served as the facility liaison to Human Resources Management Service. Prior to this assignment, I also served as the Associate Director of the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System in California and as the Assistant Director of the West



Palm Beach VA Medical Center in Florida. I began my service to Veterans in January 2008, as a fellow of the Graduate Healthcare Administration Trainee Program for the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System and served in various supervisory administrative roles before transitioning to executive leadership. I was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio and have a Master of Public Health degree from the Ohio State University.

I have met many of you through various partnership meetings, outreach events and town halls since my time as the SAVAHCS Associate Director. In this new role, I look forward to continuing to work closely with VSOs, Congressional Offices, and Community Partners in providing exemplary services to our Veterans. I know that SAVAHCS cannot do the work alone, and we need our valued partners to be successful in caring for Veterans, their families and caregivers.

Finally, I would like to thank all our partners for your continued dedication in serving our nation's Veterans.

Maria Nguyen
Interim SAVAHCS Director



We thank fellow SCV Chapter companion and current Adjutant Officer Lt Col (RET) Marlon Ruiz, USAF for compiling and presenting our EOY Chapter Activity Plan Update Report - which offers a timely administrative and operational management summary of how we did throughout the 2023-2024 chapter activity season. Fellow companion Ruiz is currently serving his third term as an MOWW Vice Commander-in-Chief for the Order (with oversight responsibilities for the entire southwest geographical Region XIII and the Gulf coast geographical Region VII area of responsibility) and previously served as our chapter commander for 12 years. We are thankful to have him continue to serve our local chapter as our current Adjutant and senior MOWW leadership advisor. Lt Col Ruiz is also serving as our Region XIII Adjutant and general committee representative in the national Veterans Affairs Committee, along with his other MOWW higher headquarters corporate responsibilities and commitments.

MOWW MEMBERSHIP

A UNIQUE VETERANS ORGANIZATION

The Military Order of the World Wars®



*Promoting and Encouraging
Good Citizenship,
Patriotic Education,
Military and Public Service,
National Security, and
Youth Programs*



Why MOWW?

Is National Security a concern of yours? Is it important to you, for everyone living in America to understand how this Country was founded and the great history it has to tell? Do you believe that our young people need a chance to learn and experience leadership and civics? Do you feel that it is important that every citizen get a chance to not only meet, but ask questions of community, military, and business leaders? Are you concerned that the youth of America do not know how to honor our Flag or understand and respect our democratic principles? Do you agree that "Freedom is not free"?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, you are in good company, because the members of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) say YES to all of them. Some of you might even say, "I want to become involved, how do I join, how do I help?"

Well, there are several ways you can help—the main way is to join the Order, if eligible. Consider supporting the Order by contributing financially to its efforts if you are not eligible to join.

If you have questions regarding MOWW membership, or how to financially contribute to the Order, contact MOWW National Headquarters, or a Chapter in your local area. See MOWW web site for membership application form or to review Chapter locations at www.militaryorder.net



www.moww.org