



**JANUARY 2023
NEWSLETTER**

The Military Order of the World Wars ~ Phoenix Pacesetter Chapter

WHAT'S NEW: Commander's Time



Greetings Companions, Families, and Friends of the Order:

Happy New Year! Another great year is over and we still are an effective MOWW Chapter despite being the oldest MOWW Chapter in AZ! Debbie and I had a great time cruising from Rome to the Mediterranean Sea to Israel over the last part of NOV into DEC and gratefully returned to AZ in time to prepare for DEC Holiday celebrations.

Of course, as you know from our DEC newsletter, even though Deb and I were out of the country, our Chapter was pretty busy with the 7 DEC MOWW Apache Trail Chapter's 29th Annual East Valley Massing of the Colors held at Marcos de Niza HS (MDNHS) and the Pear Harbor Remembrance Day Ceremony held in downtown Phoenix. But it didn't stop there! On the morning of DEC 17 - the same day as our Holiday/Christmas Party - Sr Vice CDR Jeanne represented our Chapter at the Wreaths Across America Remembrance Ceremony held at the Green Acres Cemetery in Scottsdale, AZ. I'm sure that some of our Companions and friends also participated in the Wreaths Across America Remembrance Ceremony held at our National Memorial Cemetery of AZ in Phoenix on the same day. Photos of those events are posted on page 2 of this publication.

Many of you know that the Minors hosted our Chapter's DEC Meeting and Holiday/Christmas Party on 17 DEC with great food and camaraderie! We were blessed to have our son Richard and grandson Tristan as cooks and the Chicken Leg Lollipops were again a hit! They are both members of the Chapter. We were blessed with having 14 Chapter Companions attend the party, in addition to family and friends ... and we thank you all for that!! Additionally, we had some special friends: Colonel Dave and Diane Gibson attend. Dave Gibson is a past MOWW CINC and they hail from Washington State. We did present one Silver Patrick Henry to our ROTC and JROTC Committee Chair MAJ (Ret)/Dr Kirk Loving. Colonel Dave Gibson did the honor of pinning it on him. We also recognize Jeanne Blaes, our Sr Vice CDR who provided the wine and chocolates for our Education Raffle. Together with raffling off four additional donated bottles of wine, we collected \$250 to add to the Chapter Fund to support AZYLC 2023. A special thanks to Susan Farrell for helping Jeanne operate the raffle and to Victoria Loving for capturing the occasion in photos. In addition to Victoria, who is a past AZYLC graduate, Pearl, another AZYLC alumni, attended with her now crawling age daughter (also Pearl), and was a part of the great Mahar Family String Trio that provided our festive music. Little Pearl's attendance just added to the merriment and reminded us of our ever expanding, wonderful group of family and friends. We are grateful to everyone who helped make this gathering a memorable one!!!

We are continuing to support the planning and preparations for the 10-13 JUL AZYLC 2023. The new AZYLC Director, Fred Garnet, has provided the Inc BOD with options to evaluate. I will keep you informed as we proceed through this process and solidify our plans.

There will be a Region XIII and CINC Conference held on 20-22 JAN 2023 at the AZ Grand Resort & Spa in Phoenix. A select group of leadership and staff from each of the Region Chapter's will attend.

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On 21 FEB I will transporting and presenting our Chapter flag to the Sun City/West Valley MOC, which will be held at the Palm Ridge Recreation Center, Sun City West. If you are thinking about attending and need more information please contact me (Dick).

The Minors wish you a very Happy New Year and appreciate your support through the past year!!

CDR Dick Minor



Photos Above: 17 DEC 2022 Wreaths Across America Remembrance Ceremony, Green Acres Cemetery, Scottsdale

Photos Below: 17 DEC 2022 Wreaths Across America Remembrance Ceremony held at the Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery of AZ



Photos Above Holiday Meeting/Party 17 DEC 2022: (L to R) (Top to Bottom) Minor's party kitchen with good eats; Chapter Story Boards for MOC and AZYLC; Raffle; Presentation of Silver Patrick Henry to MAJ (R)/Dr K. Loving; COL (R) D. Gibson pinning & congratulating Dr. Loving with COL's (R) N. Erwin & J. Moye looking on; the Mahar Family Trio with baby Pearl.





AZ LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The AZ 56th Legislature, 1st Regular Session began on 9 JAN 2023. LTC (Ret) USA is the new Director for the AZ Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS). ADVS Military and Veterans Legislative updates for the 2022 Session can be found posted at <https://dvs.az.gov/about/legislative-updates>. Upcoming / Active AZ Bills can be found at: <https://legiscan.com/AZ> The AZ Legislative calendar can be viewed at <https://www.azleg.gov/>.

PRESIDENT SIGNS NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA) INTO LAW

Dec. 23, 2022 | By Jim Garamone , DOD News |

President Joe Biden has signed the Fiscal 2023 National Defense Authorization Act into law allotting \$816.7 billion to the Defense Department.

The act means a 4.6 percent pay raise for military and civilian members of the department, and includes \$45 billion more than originally requested to counter the effects of inflation and to accelerate implementation of the National Defense Strategy.

The act also authorizes \$30.3 billion for national security programs in the Department of Energy and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board and \$378 million for other defense-related activities.

Although inflation has been dropping, the act authorizes \$12.6 billion for inflation impacts on purchases. It also funds \$3.8 billion more to account for inflation in military construction. It is a testament to the size of the agency that the act authorizes \$2.5 billion for inflation impacts on DOD fuel purchases.

One of the more contentious items in the act is requiring the defense secretary to rescind the mandate that members of the armed forces be vaccinated against COVID-19. "The department will fully comply with the law," DOD officials said. "DOD remains committed to the health and safety of the force and to ensuring we are ready to execute our mission at all times."

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III ordered the mandate on 24 AUG 2021. The COVID-19 vaccinations have been successful. Some 98 % of active duty service members and 96 % of the total force have been vaccinated. Since April, only two service members have died from COVID-19. Austin argued that the mandate is necessary to protect military readiness, and he has been clear in his support for maintaining it. Still, Congress has spoken and the department will fully comply with the NDAA, officials said.

On the personnel side, the act authorizes additional funding to address the effects of inflation on compensation. It also puts in place language allowing more service members to qualify for the basic needs allowance by increasing the eligibility threshold and allowance size from 130 % of the federal poverty line to 150 percent. The act authorizes the defense secretary to increase this benefit to 200 % of the poverty line when appropriate.

The act increases bonuses and special pay for service members in qualifying career fields. The act also looks to give recruiters a tool to revive and extend temporary authority for targeted recruitment incentives.

DOD officials have said that roughly 1/3 of spouses must obtain new professional licenses every time they move to a new state. The act expands the scope of financial reimbursement related to spouse relicensing and business costs arising from a permanent change of station.

The act also calls for a pilot program to reimburse military families for certain child care costs related to a permanent change of station.

There are several changes in the act regarding housing. The act extends the authority to adjust the basic allowance for housing in high-cost areas. It encourages DOD to coordinate efforts to address housing shortages. The act also makes the assistant secretary of defense for energy, installations and environment the department's chief housing officer.

There were no surprises on active duty end strength with the Army set at 452,000; the Navy at 354,000; the Air Force at 325,344; the Marine Corps set at 177,000 and the Space Force at 8,600.

Other aspects of the act include the authorization of special duty pay for members based on cold weather climate conditions in which their duties are performed. The act also starts a program to reimburse Alaska-based service members for the cost of airfare to travel to their homes of record.

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PRESIDENT SIGNS NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA) INTO LAW *(continued)*

The NDAA authorizes \$32.6 billion for Navy shipbuilding, an increase of \$4.7 billion. This will fund 11 battle force ships including three Arleigh Burke-class destroyers; two Virginia-class submarines; two expeditionary fast transports; one Constellation-class frigate; one San Antonio-class amphibious ship; one John Lewis-class oiler and one Navajo-class towing, salvage and rescue ship.

The act also calls for the Navy to build a third Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and allocates \$2.2 billion to the effort. The act funds eight F-18E/F aircraft, 16 F-35C aircraft, 15 F-35B jets and 12 CH-53K helicopters. The legislation also authorizes two more V-22 Osprey aircraft, seven E-2D Hawkeye aircraft and five KC-130J tanker aircraft. The act funds several unmanned aerial platforms including the Triton and Stingray systems.

The act authorizes the full fiscal year 2023 budget request for the European Deterrence Initiative and extends and modifies the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative. It authorizes \$800 million in fiscal year 2023, an increase of \$500 million above the initial budget request.

More importantly, the act expresses the sense of Congress that the United States' commitment to NATO is iron-clad, and emphasizes the importance of maintaining a unified response to Russia's unjust war in Ukraine and other shared security challenges, according to a release on the Senate Armed Services Committee website. The Senate release also stressed that the U.S. must continue to assist Ukraine in its fight against the unjust and unprovoked attack by Russia.

To that end, the act calls for an assessment of the required U.S. force posture and resourcing needed to implement the National Defense Strategy in Europe and uphold U.S. commitments to NATO.

Across the globe, the act extends the Pacific Deterrence Initiative through the fiscal year and identifies approximately \$11.5 billion of investments in support of initiative objectives.

The U.S. military works alongside allies, partners and friends, and the act provides an increase of \$198.5 million for partner capacity building through the International Security Cooperation Programs account within the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

The NDAA also calls for an independent assessment of DOD efforts to train, advise, assist and equip the military forces of Somalia, and authorizes an increase of \$10 million to support U.S. Africa Command's efforts to diversify the locations of its multilateral military exercises on the African continent.

The legislation extends the authority to assist Iraq to counter the Islamic State and provides monies to train Syrian allies against the terror group.

The act looks to provide long-term aid to Ukraine especially in waiving restrictions related to contracts for munitions to support Ukraine or to increase DOD's stocks of critical munitions. It also provides multi-year procurement authority for certain munitions.

The act authorizes DOD to establish a Center for Security Studies in Irregular Warfare to serve as a central mechanism for developing irregular warfare knowledge. The center will be open to allies and partners.

Finally, the act fully funds the U.S. Special Operations Command's budget including approximately \$250 million for unfunded requirements identified by the SOCOM commander.



NDAA 2023 WINS & LOSSES

- *The compromise version of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act is a general win for national defense
- *Cutting the Army end strength to only 452,000 soldiers locks in the service's worst projections for recruiting, forestalling any possibility to achieve greater success.
- *Good news for Military Families with SM & DoD Civilian Pay Raise, BNA, Child Care, TRICARE Dental, Spouse Employment, EFMP, Impact Aid, SBP
- *Air National Guard military technicians and full-time Reserve and Guard personnel remain at FY2022 levels.

+_MEDIC's BAG+_ 7 WINTER HEALTH AND WELLNESS TIPS (FOR SENIORS)

We may not get snowstorms in the Valley of the Sun, but we still have a winter—especially in our Northern country! January and February are historically damp, cool months that call for cozy blankets and hot soup. For many seniors, winter can be a challenging time to stay healthy and active. Try these seven great winter health tips that will maximize your health and wellness this winter, with minimal time and effort!

1. **Get your flu shot.** Adults over 65 are at high risk for experiencing serious health complications from the flu. Be sure to get your flu shot every year. The vaccine is safe, will not make you sick and can reduce the risk of getting the flu by up to 60 percent. Be aware of flu symptoms and when to see your doctor.

2. **Stay active indoors.** Physical fitness is important at every stage in life for good health and well-being. During the cooler winter months, you may not feel inclined to walk or hike outside. But there are still several great activities you can do indoors:

Chair yoga. Chair yoga is a wonderful option if you have limited mobility. It provides the same benefits of traditional yoga – increased circulation, flexibility, muscle tone and respiration – without the tricky poses that could cause injury.

Stretching. Joints and muscles will quickly get stiff and achy if they are not taken care of properly. Stretching keeps your whole body limber and flexible, making it less prone to pain and damage. Make time for 15-20 minutes of full body stretching every day.

Light weight lifting. Use light dumbbells to maintain your upper body strength. Do basic strength-building exercises like bicep curls, overhead presses and tricep kickbacks.

3. **Cook healthy one-pot meals.** Cut down on your cooking and cleaning time. Discover the ease and simplicity of healthy one-pot meals for warm, nourishing lunches and dinners throughout the winter. As the name suggests, these recipes use just one pot to cook a nutritious, tasty meal with plenty of leftovers! Here are some recipes to try.

4. **Let the sunshine in.** Take advantage of Arizona's bountiful sunny weather by opening the blinds and curtains each morning when you get up. Sunlight will warm up your home and your spirits. Sun is essential to good winter health as seasonal depression and vitamin D deficiency can still occur in mild climates like Arizona's Valley area. Spend at least 30 a day sitting by a sunny window to feel your best.

5. **Socialize with loved ones.** Though it might be tempting to hunker down under the blankets all winter long, don't forget the importance of socialization. Spending quality time with friends and family is essential to a good quality of life. It makes you happier, more connected, and reduces stress, anxiety and depression.

6. **Wear layers indoors.** If you are wondering why we get colder when we get older, it's because our metabolism slows down as we age. This can lead to poor blood circulation and feeling cold more often. Layering up inside can save on your heating bill and protect your immune system by decreasing the chances that you'll get sick. Sweaters, thick socks, and a warm robe are wardrobe staples that you should have on hand throughout the colder months.

7. **Prevent slips and falls.** In Arizona, when it rains, it often pours. That means slippery dirt, wet leaves, and deep puddles can quickly accumulate outside your door. To help prevent slips and falls, be sure to keep all paths, walkways and stairs around your home free from debris and as dry as possible.

Modified from an article found at <https://scrippsamg.com/7-winter-health-wellness-tips-for-seniors/>



CHAPLAINS CORNER: NEED OF FRIENDS IN A NEW YEAR

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.” Proverbs 17:17

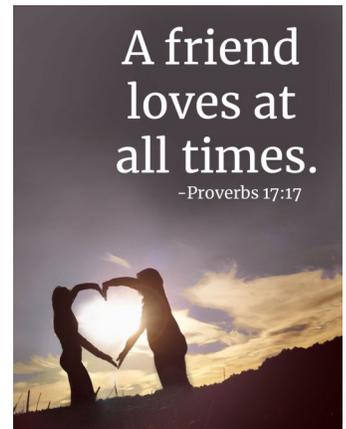
In the last few months, I have been bombarded with one topic from various sources. The topic is the importance of good relationships with other people. One minister stressed the idea that if the church (speaking of the people in the church) does not actively cultivate good relationships with people in the community, the church will die. In fact, the mission of the church to introduce people to God will fade away and be misplaced by other social entities.

As I looked through the importance of relationships, I also found several studies from various universities and found that there was a common theme in all of their research. They showed that if you have a healthy relationship with other people it can help you: 1] Live longer: people with strong social relationships are 50% less likely to die prematurely. Who does not want that! 2] Deal with stress: people supported by caring friends are provided with a buffer against the effects of stress. I know that stress brings on headaches, high blood pressure, sleeplessness, even grouchiness. Just ask my wife. 3] Be healthier. Psychologist Sheldon Cohen found that college student with good relationships were half as likely to catch a common cold. This works in all areas and ages of life and health. 4] Feel richer. This was fascinating to me, for the National Bureau of Economic Research found that by doubling your group of friends through healthy relationships it has the same effect on your wellbeing as a 50% increase in income! Who does not want to be richer?

These are interesting studies on relationships within this society and in this world. But there is a relationship that is far greater than just those of this mere life. That is why I find this passage so interesting as it focuses on Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. These women are related to one another, but very different. Elizabeth, a woman advanced in age, is six months pregnant with her one and only son (1:36). Mary was a young girl and most agree that she was probably between the ages of 12 to 16. In Jewish culture of that day, Jewish girls were usually betrothed (engaged) to their husbands as early as twelve. When Mary went to Elizabeth, she may have been as young as 14. Think about that! Here are two ladies who are pregnant, one old and one young. They are related to each other, but they seem to have a special relationship in spite of their age difference.

And what really amazes me is the response of these two ladies as they get together. When Mary greeted Elizabeth in her house, Elizabeth “exclaimed with a loud cry.” This is my imagination, but I picture a quiet young lady entering the household of her relative in a very respectful and dignified manner, merely greeting her kinswoman. Instead of an equally respectful greeting, Elizabeth shouts out: “Blessed are you among women, and your child will be blessed!” This might have been startling, even frightening. Elizabeth was excited beyond what we can even imagine. Then she goes on and states: “How could this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” This is a declaration beyond what is normal. Somebody does not usually enter your house and you suddenly make some outlandish statement about your pregnancy. And it is not normal to call a baby, still being formed in the womb, ‘my Lord.’ Elizabeth is declaring the child Deity.

My wife and I have four children. Charlene, who is about as gentle as any woman I have ever known, seems to have the same kind of demeanor as Mary had. I know that is high praise for my wife, but I mean it. And it is not just because she has been married to me for 40 years. (Although, I believe that automatically makes her a saint to have survived with me.) I am just stating that no one has ever shouted at her about one of our kids be something special. They were polite and happy when we told them she was expecting. But nothing dramatic like such a greeting as Elizabeth’s. Of course, none of ours were the Messiah.



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CHAPLAINS CORNER: NEED OF FRIENDS IN A NEW YEAR (Continued from pg 5)

Then Elizabeth exclaims, before speaking to Mary, "Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill what he has spoken to her!" How did Elizabeth know what Gabriel told Mary (vss. 30-33)?

And what was Mary's response? "My soul praises the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..." Notice the importance of what this young woman says in light of what Elizabeth just stated, namely that the Lord, her baby, is great beyond what humans can understand. Her child is the Creator of all and He (God) has come in the form of humanity as an developing embryo. This whole scenario was put together by God and two of the greatest figures in history are present, only in their respective wombs. It is no wonder that Elizabeth was excited and John was doing backflips in her womb.

But continue with what Mary states. She clearly declares her need of a Savior. Elizabeth calls Mary's child 'my Lord.' He is God. Mary takes it further by saying the Lord is 'my Savior.' She too was in need of someone to redeem her from the curse of this world, sin. This young woman, who in today's world would be attending high school, is making theological statements that would affect all of mankind.

And you know what amazes me through this all, the special relationship the two ladies had in spite of their multiple differences. Elizabeth, old, married to a priest and pregnant spends the next three months with Mary, young, betrothed to carpenter and pregnant. I cannot imagine the weighty, thoughtful, reflective conversations they had during these months. How exciting and electrifying they must have been. And through those difficult months of pregnancy, they encouraged and strengthened each other with hope and anticipation of the future.

Why talk about Mary's and Elizabeth's relationship at this time of year? Because they must have helped the other a great deal. Both were ridiculed. Elizabeth because she was barren. Mary because she was pregnant while betrothed. It never says that they met later in Scriptures. Yet at this crucial time, they came together to assist the other.

The truth of the matter is this, we still need good solid relationships. We need to be build on the same foundation as found in Mary's and Elizabeth's, that of our Savior. This was the center of their focus and the reason for Jesus coming to earth. He came to restore broken relationships. The first is that of the sin problem. And the second is the poor relationships we have with other humans. This New Year, cultivate your relationship with God and work on your relationship with good friends.

♥ CHAP BUTLER

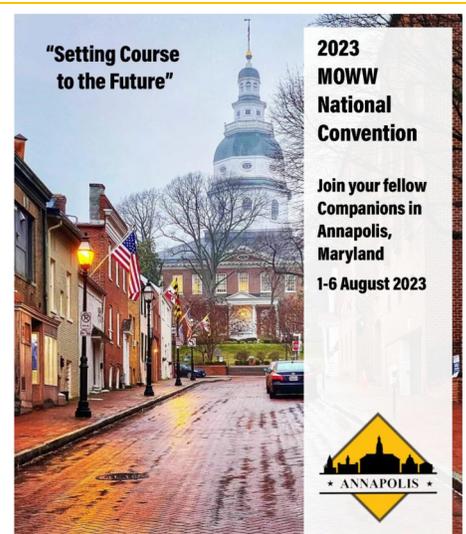


IT'S TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

We are now preparing for the 2023 MOWW National Convention which will be held from 1-6 AUG 2023 in Annapolis, Maryland! So, mark your calendars and keep your eyes open as details will be forthcoming.

By the Way: Official photos of the 2022 MOWW National Convention held in Jacksonville, FL have been posted to the Convention webpage as are historic past Convention flyers; go check them out now.

For more information on the 2023 MOWW National Convention as it becomes available go to the **MOWW CONVENTION** webpage at <https://moww.org/convention/>



The Military Order of the World Wars - The Phoenix Pacesetter Chapter

The Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) founding resulted from General of the Armies John J. Pershing's request that his officers continue serving America after their active military service ended following World War I. Since MOWW's establishment in 1919, MOWW members ("Companions") have lived by the Military Order's motto: "*It is nobler to serve than to be served*".

- MOWW **Outreach Programs** involve the local community, state and nation. They include :
Patriotic Education – ROTC & JROTC Programs – Scouting Program – Monuments & Memorials – National Security – Homeland Security – Law & Order – Veterans Affairs Program

- MOWW members receive the following award-winning **Publications**: the quarterly Officer Review; the Phoenix Pacesetter Chapter monthly Newsletter

- MOWW holds an **Annual Convention** where members convene to exchange ideas, honor selfless service, attend educational workshops and business sessions, and listen to guest speakers.

- **Monthly Luncheons**: The Chapter meets four times a year (SEP, DEC, MAR, JUN) on the fourth Saturday of the month. Currently, we are meeting at American Legion Post #44 located at 7145 E. 2nd St, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Staff meetings are open to all mem-

bers with Check-in/Set-up/Meetings starting at 11:00 am. Sometimes items are raffled off at luncheon or a 50-50 raffle is held, with collected funds going to support our Patriotic Education Youth Programs. Guest speaker topics address any one of the Outreach Programs previously mentioned. ***Note COVID-19 impact: hybrid Zoom meetings may be held**

To Join: Have potential members view "The MOWW Movie" at <http://www.moww.org/> and click on the "JOIN US" tab at the top left of the screen. Just fill in the application form dated 18 OCT 2022; new members can use their **credit card** to pay!

Membership Categories:

- ★ Veteran Regular (Annual) Membership @ \$40/year
- ★ Veteran Perpetual Membership (1st year of Commission/Warrant) @ 1 x \$200 or 4 x \$50 quarterly
- ★ Veteran Perpetual Membership @ 1 x \$350 or 4 x \$87.50 quarterly
- ★ Hereditary Regular (Annual) Membership @ \$40/year
- ★ Hereditary Perpetual Membership (age 18-20) @ 1x \$200 or 4 x \$50 quarterly
- ★ Hereditary Perpetual Membership (age 21+) @ 1x \$350 or 4 x \$87.50 quarterly
- ★ Memorial Perpetual @ 1x \$200.00

2023 CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE & IMPORTANT DATES:

- ◆ **20-22 JAN 2023** ~ Region XIII & CINC Conference, AZ Grand Resort & Spa, Phoenix
- ◆ **21 FEB 2023** ~ MOWW Sun City MOC, Palm Ridge Rec Center, Sun City West
- ◆ **25 MAR 2023** ~ Chapter/Staff Meeting 3rd QTR & Lunch, Club Rm, American Legion Post #44, Scottsdale
- ◆ **24 JUN 2023** ~ Chapter/Staff Meeting 4th QTR & Lunch, Club Rm, American Legion Post #44, Scottsdale
- ◆ **10-13 JUL 2023** ~ AZYLC 2023, ASU West, Glendale, AZ

** *Have any ideas for our quarterly meeting programs? Contact Dick or Jeanne with your input!!*



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW! Will you make a time commitment & volunteer to help our Chapter fill the many vacancies that we have in our Staff & Chair positions? Many of the following positions have been vacant for over a year! ***Please, won't you help?***

* **STAFF JAG** Do you know of a current or former civil or military Attorney; someone with a background in legal affairs? **(this is a critical staff position)**

* **HISTORIAN** Our Historian will capture the history of the Chapter in publications, photos, documents, etc.

* **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**: MONUMENTS & MEMORIALS, NATIONAL SECURITY, HOMELAND SECURITY, and LAW & ORDER



<https://www.facebook.com/militaryorder>
<https://www.moww.org/>
<https://www.mowwscv.com>

**Military Order of the World Wars
 Phoenix Pacesetter Chapter**

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Pride of the Valley of the Sun!

**"It is nobler
 to serve
 than to be
 served"**



Newsletter Editor
 Jeanne J. Blaes, PhD
 COL (Ret) USA



<http://www.facebook.com/mowwphoenixchapter/>

MOWW 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.

**Happy
 Birthday
 January
 Babies!!**



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