

THE OFFICER REVIEW

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America 250: Celebrating MOWW's Service to America

On July 4th, 2026, this great nation will celebrate its 250th birthday, marking a quarter of a millennium as a shining beacon of freedom and democracy throughout the world. In the coming year and a half, our Order will celebrate the MOWW's *Service to America* under the America 250 initiative. We will highlight our Order's 105 years of dedicated service to "Youth, Community, and Nation," as General Pershing intended when he chartered us. This commitment is clearly expressed in our Order's Preamble. Our goal is to establish throughout the Order a mindset of celebrating our nation's heritage and the recognition and promotion of our Order's heritage of Companions' service to our country both during and after life in the military.

The overall goal of America 250 is to enhance public awareness and promote the MOWW brand to veterans and non-veterans alike. As you read in the September-October edition of this magazine, we need volunteers to be part of our America 250 *Ad Hoc* Committee. The committee will create a broad national marketing plan integrating the American 250 initiative at all echelons of the Order in ways that exponentially increases the Order's overall visibility.

As we celebrate and promote MOWW's *Service to America*, we will reaffirm our unique value proposition as the Military Order of the World Wars. As we "Cherish the memories and associations of the World Wars waged for humanity," it is imperative that as we "Promote and further patriotic education in our Nation" through our flagship Youth Leadership and Patriotic Education Programs, we articulate to today's youth this country's values those who fought in two World Wars defended and sacrificed for in the interest of lasting freedom and liberty, brave men and women who "Defend(ed) the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States."

Finally, as part of America 250, we must continue promoting the essential obligation of *Patriotic Service* to today's youth. This can involve various forms of public service, such as joining the military, assisting those less fortunate in our communities, becoming educators, volunteering with one of the many organizations available, or participating in other meaningful ways. These actions help keep our country grounded, maintain our vitality, and strengthen the foundation of our nation, contributing to what America truly represents today. As part of our Order's America 250 initiative, let's passionately articulate and broaden this message while at the same time creating programs at the Chapter level, allowing us to work hand-in-hand with our young men and women through creating, assisting, and mentoring Patriotic Service Projects in their *Service to America*.

As always, I "Thank You!" for all you do for our country and our Order...

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Commander in Chief and CEO, MOWW, Inc.



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Table of Contents

2 CINC's Perspective

Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret)
America 250: Celebrating MOWW's Service to America

4 Cover Story: The Stamp Act

CAPT Thomas J. Marshall, Jr., USN (Ret)

9 Assist Your Chapter by Submitting a Grant Request

PCINC Capt John M. Hayes, USAF (Fmr)

10 Celebrating The Services Who Secured 250 Years Of Independence

VCINC CAPT Ed Gantt, USN (Ret)

11 Announcing the MOWW National Convention Tucson 2025

12 OP-ED National Security

Support for the Philippines
COL James T. Roberts, Sr., USA (Ret)

14 A Goleta, CA, Post Office Renamed

In Honor of PCINC BGen Frederick Lopez

15 Companions, Make Your Voice Heard!

MOWW Membership Satisfaction Survey

16 Diminish a Chapter or Make It Grow

LTC Donald E Willhouse, USA (Ret)

17 Outreach: Public Safety, Law & Order

Maj James Haney, USMC (Ret)

18 The Order Needs You!

Capt Edward J. Murphy, USAF (FMR)

19 JROTC Drill Competition

Maj Earl Johnson, USAF (Ret)

Departments

20 Surgeon's Tent

"Taking Charge of Your Health in 2025"
CPT Dan L. Cameron, Jr., MD, USA (Fmr)

22 Chaplain's Pulpit

"A New Year, A New President"
LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret)

23 Veterans Day: Nation's Capitol

25 Coast To Coast: Chapters in Action

27 VA: In the News

28 In Memoriam:

PCINC CAPT Rollin M. "Rollie" Stevens II, USN (Ret)

29 Companion Roll Call: Reveille | Taps

32 Submit Your Chapters in Action!

Cover: Painting of Patrick Henry's "If this be treason, make the most of it!" speech against the Stamp Act of 1765. Artist Peter F. Rothenmel (1812-1895); Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation.





The Stamp Act

THE SPARK THAT IGNITED THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CAPT THOMAS J. MARSHALL, JR., USN (RET)
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER, CA

On 1 November 1765, an event occurred which had monumental historical significance. Its true significance was not appreciated at the time, and today, it is rarely mentioned or remembered by the general public. On that date, the Stamp Act Tax, officially known as "The Duties in the American Colonies Act of 1765," became effective in the British colonies in North America. It set in motion forces that truly changed the course of history and created the world we live in today.

To appreciate the significance of this act, a short review of the geo-political situation at the time is in order.

On 10 February 1763, the Treaty of Paris brought an end to the war known as the Seven Years' War in Europe. In America, this conflict is referred to as

the French and Indian War. At the end of this war, Great Britain emerged victorious and possessed a worldwide empire. They acquired all French possessions in North America, as well as French territory in India and several small islands in the Caribbean Sea. In addition to these territories, Great Britain emerged from the war with a large standing army and an enormous national debt of 129,586,789 pounds (about \$31.3 billion today).

These facts presented the British with several significant problems. They had to defend their new territories, pay their soldiers, especially the officers, and pay off the debt. All of these obligations required money, which they did not have readily available. With the British no longer at war and their primary opponents defeated, their new territories required fewer troops for defense. Therefore, an obvious solution to the money



Left: A proof sheet of one penny stamps submitted for approval to the Commissioners of Stamps by their engraver on May 10, 1765. Right: George Grenville (14 October 1712–13 November 1770) was a British Whig statesman who came up with the Stamp Act.

crunch would be to decrease the size of the army. However, they could not do this due to the political connections of the army's officer corps, 1,500 of whom were either members of Parliament or had family members who were. It was clearly politically impossible to put these officers out of work.

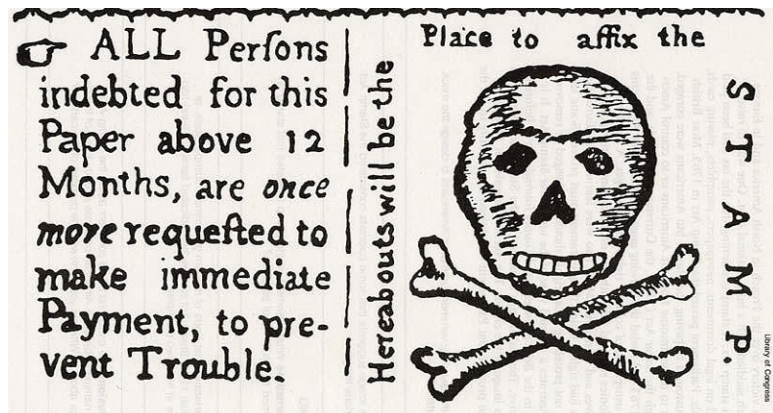
Consequently, Parliament decided to keep the officers on active duty alongside the men under their command. The British public was not interested in supporting a large army on British soil. Given the circumstances, it was decided to use these officers and their men as garrison troops in the colonies. Unfortunately, this solution was very expensive. Maintaining the 10,000 troops assigned to the American Colonies was estimated to cost 225,000 pounds (\$54 million in today's US dollars). This cost would be in addition to the funds used to pay down the government's debt. It became evident to Parliament that an increase in taxes was necessary. The British public was unwilling to accept further taxes, as clearly demonstrated by the riots in London in early 1763 following a tax on cider. The British Government, led by Prime Minister George Grenville, decided to raise the revenue needed to cover the expense of maintaining troops in America by taxing the colonies for their food, supplies and salaries.

The American colonists were unhappy about having British Regulars stationed in the colonies despite their mission of maintaining peace between the colonists and the restive Indian tribes. The colonists believed that the troops were ineffective against Chief Pontiac's uprising in 1763 because most were stationed in coastal cities rather than along the frontier. In the words of John Adams, "Americans were not interested in maintaining British Troops in idleness and luxury at their expense."

Grenville's first attempt at raising money from the colonies was the Sugar Act of 1764 which was a modification of the Molasses Act of 1733. The Molasses Act placed a tax of 6 pence (\$5.24 in present US dollars) on each gallon of molasses imported from non-British islands in the Caribbean. The colonists easily circumvented this act by smuggling and importing rum rather than its

precursor material, molasses. Consequently, very little revenue was raised. The Sugar Act lowered the tax rate to 3 pence per gallon (\$2.62) in the hope of obtaining more revenue. Since this was an import tax, the colonists raised no significant objections to it.

By early 1765, it was clear that more money needed to be raised from the colonies. On 22 March 1765, Parliament passed the Stamp Act, which was to go into effect on 1 November 1765, to raise additional revenue. This act required all printed materials in the colonies to be printed on paper from London, which was embossed with a revenue stamp. Printed materials were defined as all legal documents, playing cards, newspapers,



The Stamp Act protests took many forms, including this mock stamp.

and magazines. Books, defined as printed material greater than 20 pages in length, were exempt from the tax. This act also required that the tax be paid in British coin rather than colonial paper money. This act was the first direct tax ever placed upon the colonies by the British Parliament, and it created quite an uproar.

The British Government had always expected the colonies to contribute to the cost of their defense but had never resorted to direct taxation before. In the past, there was little problem in convincing the colonial legislatures to contribute to the cost of their defense since the French in Canada and their Indian allies were always a threat. The colonial legislatures contributed to the cost of their defense by raising colonial militias at their expense to fight alongside the British Regulars. The cost of supplying and maintaining the militias and sometimes even British Regulars was borne by local taxes upon the colonists passed by the colonial militias.



The Stamp Act bypassed this system and directly taxed the colonists. The colonists would not tolerate this usurpation of what they considered their rights as British subjects. They believed it to be a violation of their rights since they had no representation in Parliament. “No taxation without representation” became their watchword. In response, members of Parliament pointed out that 90% of the British population had no representatives in Parliament since property ownership was a requirement to vote. These people, they contended, were “virtually” represented by members of Parliament who had a common interest with them. Americans should feel that they were similarly represented.

The colonists would not buy this explanation. In a pamphlet by Daniel Delaney, a Maryland attorney and mayor of Annapolis, the American position was summarized thusly, “The interests of members of Parliament in London and Americans have so little in common that Americans could not rely on them to represent them virtually or otherwise.” From the American point of view, they were represented in their colonial legislatures, and they were the only ones who could tax them.

The American response to this act was swift and

followed two tracts. One was the official tract, and the other could be referred to as the direct action tract. On the official front, by the end of 1765, all colonial legislatures, except for Georgia and North Carolina, had sent official protests to Parliament concerning the Stamp Act. These protests asserted that Parliament was usurping their legislatures’ exclusive authority to impose taxes on the colonists.

In October 1765, delegates from nine colonies met in New York as the Stamp Act Congress and drew up a formal protest of the Act to send to Parliament and the King, representing the consensus of all the colonies. They called it a consensus despite the fact that NH, GA, NC, and VA were not represented. This consensus was that the Stamp Act violated their rights as Englishmen only to be taxed by their duly elected representatives and should be repealed.

While these actions were taking place, the direct action arm of the colonial response was proceeding apace. Committees of Correspondence were sent up throughout the colonies to coordinate the colonies’ response to the act. Groups of local activists calling themselves “The Sons of Liberty” were founded throughout the colonies.



John Trumbull's painting, *Declaration of Independence*, depicting the five-man drafting committee of the Declaration of Independence presenting their work to the Congress. The original hangs in the US Capitol rotunda. It does not represent a real ceremony; the characters portrayed were never in the same room at the same time.

They led protest demonstrations against the act in several major cities, and in some, they hung effigies of government officials who were tasked with collecting the tax. In some cities, Boston especially, these demonstrations degenerated into riots. There, they burned the home of the local Stamp Tax collector and forced him to publically resign his post under a large elm tree, which they named the Liberty Tree, on 14 August 1765. Tax collectors in several other colonies were also intimidated into resigning their posts. The actions of "The Sons of Liberty" in the different colonies were a little less violent than those in Boston. They generally restricted themselves to picketing in front of tax collectors' homes and throwing a few rocks through windows. There were a few incidents where tax collectors were assaulted, but they were uncommon. By the end of 1765, there were few people willing to collect the stamp tax. In addition, "The Sons of Liberty" threatened to organize boycotts against British goods, which caused a

panic amongst the British merchant class.

On 10 July 1765, Lord Rockingham replaced George Grenville as British Prime Minister. Seeing all of the chaos caused by the Stamp Act in the colonies, its potential for disruption of British commerce with the colonies, and the difficulty in finding people to collect the tax, he decided to introduce a bill in Parliament for the repeal of the Stamp Act. He was able to accomplish that on 21 February 1766 by a vote of 276 to 168. Parliament, however, insisted on the simultaneous passage of the American Colonies Act of 1766, also called the Declaratory Act, which, while agreeing with the repeal of the Stamp Act, declared that parliament retained the right to legislate for the colonies "in any case whatsoever." This principle eventually led to the American Revolution. On 22 March 1766, the King gave Royal Assent to these acts of Parliament, marking the end of the Stamp Act, but its long-term effects were only beginning.



"The repeal, or the funeral procession of Miss America-Stamp." The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs: Print Collection, The New York Public Library.



Lantern hung on Liberty Tree, Boston, on repeal of Stamp Act. (In Old State House). The New York Public Library.



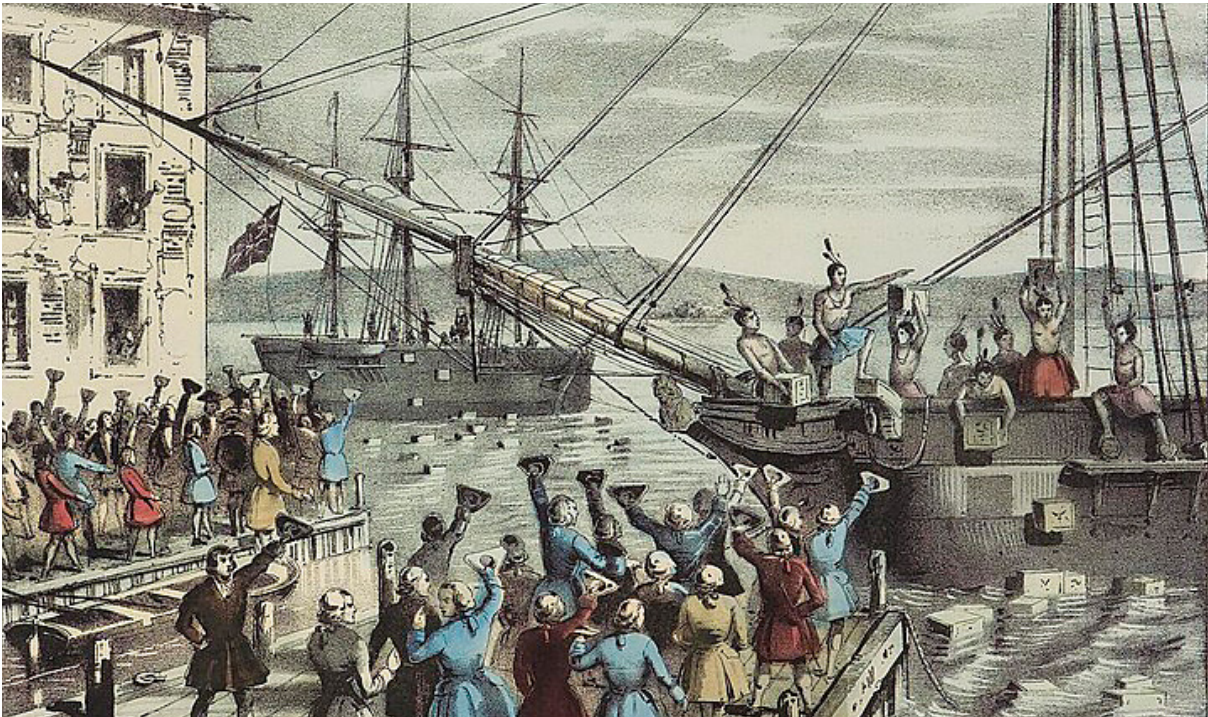
The historical importance of the Stamp Act and its repeal would be hard to overstate. It had both long and short-term effects. In the short term, it did three things. First, it demonstrated to the colonists that they could act together to overturn an act of the British Government, which at the time was the most powerful in the world.

Second, it led to the formation of Committees of Correspondence, which allowed colonial leaders to coordinate with each other when joint action was needed. Third, it caused the formation of the "Sons of Liberty," which became the direct action arm of the colonists in their struggle with the British before the revolution. It was they who organized and carried out the famous Boston Tea Party on 16 December 1773, igniting a spirit of change and courage that led to the American Revolution.

In terms of long-term effects, the Stamp Act was the catalyst that led to the American Revolution. The American Revolution led to the creation of the United States of America. The United States is the most unique and successful country in history.

It is the only country not created on an ethnic basis but upon the principles of individual liberty and freedom. This has allowed it to grow over the centuries into a world superpower whose people are free to create and prosper. This freedom has created a people of unprecedented wealth and prosperity. This wealth and power has led the United States to become a world leader. The true source of the United States' standing in the world is its belief in the founding principles of individual liberty and freedom.

Thus, the Stamp Act truly changed the course of history. It led to the creation of the most unique nation in the history of mankind. This nation has shaped the history of the world for the past two and a half centuries. Its principles have given its people unmatched freedom and led it to its position as the world's leading power. Because of its founding principles, most people aspire to be Americans. Whether the United States will retain its position as a world leader depends on whether it can be faithful to the principles upon which it was founded. The future of the world depends on it. The Stamp Act of 1765 set in motion the forces that created the United States, which created the world of today. ★



The Sons of Liberty disguised as Indians, Boston Tea Party, 16 December 1773. Hand-colored lithograph by Nathaniel Currier, 1846. Springfield Museums, Springfield, MA.



Assist Your Chapter by Submitting a Grant Request

PCINC CAPT JOHN M. HAYES, USAF (FMR)
HANN BUSWELL CHAPTER COMMANDER

Traditionally, the Hann Buswell Chapter has funded grant requests submitted by Companions targeting the goals of the Order; for example, to provide extra funds not available in the budgets of component chapters, to recruit new members, to initiate attempts to rescue failing chapters, and to fund other innovative ideas to stimulate interest in the Order.

The Hann Buswell Grants Committee reviews grant requests. The Committee meets annually to discuss the merits of each submission. It forwards its recommendations to approve, as requested, to modify or deny the submission to the chapter companions at their annual meeting during the National Convention. Chapter Companions will discuss the recommendations of the committee, hear additional oral arguments from submitters and then vote to approve, modify, or deny each grant submission. The discussion and vote will consider the total chapter funds available for distribution.

Requesters should understand that the funds available for grants are limited each year. Grants are funded only with the annual earnings from the chapter's principal investments, which vary with general economic conditions in the nation. Such earnings are the only source of grant funds. An invasion of the investment corpus is never permitted. Requesters should be prepared to seek other sources of funds in addition to grants if required for their projects.

Grants are funded for one year only with no automatic renewals. Additional grants may be requested in a subsequent year(s).

The Hann Buswell chapter requires all grant requests to be submitted no later than **JUNE 1ST** of each fiscal year.

The request must be specific and include the following parameters stated clearly and concisely:

1. The duration of your project
2. How the project will advance the goals of the Order
3. The time frame from implementation to completion
4. Projected overall cost of the project
5. Additional sources of funding you intend to seek beyond the grant
6. A stated commitment to return any unused funds to the Hann Buswell Chapter if completion of the project is unattainable.

For 2025, all grant requests should be submitted in PDF format to chapter Adjutant, LTC William Rapp, at email: williamrapp@mac.com.

Recommendations for further improvement are always welcomed. ★





Celebrating The Services Who Secured 250 Years Of Independence

VCINC CAPT ED GANTT, USN (RET)
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAPTER MD

I have represented the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) for the past two years as a Homecoming 250 Navy-Marine Corps planning committee member. Under the chairmanship of George S. Leone, we've met quarterly to prepare a celebration appropriate for the birthdays of both services and at Philadelphia, where both services trace their respective beginnings nearly 250 years ago. Chairman Leone, who previously served as a judge in the New Jersey Superior Court in Camden, is the son of a WWII Navy veteran.

The Navy & Marine Corps 250th Celebration will begin on 9 October with a week of activities. This will be the grand opening of our nation's Semiquincentennial, which will be the largest event honoring our veterans and military. On 10 November, we will conclude with special events on the Marine Corps' 250th birthday.

The Navy recognizes 13 October 1775 as our Navy Birthday when, at the urging of General George Washington, the Second Continental Congress created the Continental Navy. In Philadelphia, the Congress commissioned the first Naval officers, including John Barry, regarded as the Father of the U.S. Navy, and John Paul Jones, who went on to fame by raiding the coasts of Britain itself.



Less than a month after the Navy was created, the Second Continental Congress saw the need for Marines. On 10 November 1775, the Second Continental Congress at Independence Hall passed a resolution, drafted in Tun Tavern near the Delaware River, to raise two battalions of Marines.

As Americans prepare to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence – the Semiquincentennial – we should also commemorate the founding of the military services that gained our independence and have defended us for 250 years.

Tun Tavern Celebrations

Homecoming 250's partner, The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation, will recreate The Tun as a permanent, operating tavern!!

Homecoming 250 is planning spectacular celebrations for the Navy and Marine Corps' 250th!

- An unprecedented display of Navy ships from the American Revolution to today, including ships important to the Marine Corps.
- A ceremony outside its Independence Hall birthplace and an area-wide flyover by the Blue Angels.
- The 100th Marine Corps Birthday Ball in the same Philadelphia ballroom where General Lejeune held the 1st Marine Corps Birthday Ball 100 years before.
- Commemorations near Independence Hall and Congress Hall where the Navy and Marine Corps were created, and host parades, concerts, demonstrations, exhibits, reenactments, veterans' gatherings, and other great events to give the Navy and Marine Corps the 250th celebration they deserve!

Homecoming 250 Navy Marine Corps is the charity created to host the main celebrations of the Navy and the Marine Corps 250th birthdays in their birthplace—Philadelphia and the Delaware River.

The Homecoming 250 Committee invites you to get involved, donate, attend or volunteer, and help us to give our Navy, Marines, and Veterans a once-in-a-lifetime 250th celebration. For more information about the planned events and opportunities to get involved, please visit the Homecoming 250 website at www.homecoming250.org





MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS



AMERICA
250



Tues-Sat | 5-9 August, 2025
Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson, AZ

MOWW.org/Convention





Support for the Philippines

COL JAMES T. ROBERTS, SR., USA (RET)

BG BULTMAN CHAPTER, VA

On 8 November, Philippine President Marcos signed two legislatively approved laws that gave him more power to push back against the People's Republic of China's (PRC) land and sea grab of Philippine maritime territory. The Maritime Zones and the Archipelagic Acts upgrade the protection of fishing rights, undersea energy resources, underwater biodiversity, and physical ownership of all territory within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone (EEZ), extending 200 miles outward from the coastline.

Based on the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the laws permit "innocent passage" of foreign shipping and flight through the Philippines EEZ. They clarify that there is no right to pose a threat to national security within that area. The Acts grant sovereign rights over the EEZ to take action to safeguard against intrusion by any foreign nation. This includes all PRC built artificial islands within the EEZ.

PRC has refused to abide by the International Court's decision that, under the UNCLOS treaty, the 1949 PRC Nine Dash Line Map was invalid. The 2016 ruling indicated that the PRC had no standing in its claims of ownership of the South China Sea and its above and below water assets. However, the PRC's Coast Guard and Maritime Militia fishing boats continue daily physical confrontations with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) at the Mischief Reef and the Scarborough Shoals. The PRC has committed its large coast guard cutters (some over 541 feet long) from its fleet of over 150 vessels to the area.

The Philippine Coast Guard patrol vessel fleet comprises 15 multi-role response vessels, 1 off-shore patrol vessel, four search and rescue vessels, one fast patrol boat and 39 patrol craft. On 6 November 2024, France announced it would provide the PCG 40 patrol boats similar to the Parola Clase multi-role response vessels at a cost of \$438 million. Japan will deliver 5 patrol vessels between 2027 and 2028. The most common

armament for the PCG are .30 and .50 caliber machine guns used for law enforcement purposes. Approximately 13 vessels are ocean capable.

The PRC also continues to construct artificial islands on top of shoals and reefs it seizes to build military facilities. The focus is on intelligence gathering and airfields to support air denial and sea lane control of the South China Sea. A Chatham House report published on 17 October indicated that satellite imagery showed the PRC was building a counter-stealth radar system platform and anti-ship missile battery facility on Triton Island between the PRC's Island of Hainan and Vietnam. The facility is similar to the radar station on Subi Reef in the Spratly Islands south of the Paracels. When completed, the PRC will have a counter-stealth radar defense line covering the South China Sea from China to the Philippines.

To defend Philippine sovereignty, the Marcos government is in negotiations with Israel to purchase 15 more Acero-class, Shaldag Mark V missile/attack boats (only 4 will have missiles) for the Navy. Nine have been commissioned from an earlier purchase. These boats will be used for the protection required by the 2 laws cited above and for internal waterways protection between the 7,107 islands that make up the country. The Navy has approximately 60 vessels. Combat vessels include 2 guided missile frigates, 1 corvette, 6 off-shore patrol vessels, 3 littoral warfare vessels, 9 Acero class missile/attack boats, 2 coastal patrol boats, and 22 Andrada class coastal patrol craft. It is envisioned that many of these small craft will provide reconnaissance and intelligence gathering for littoral operations. However, the Navy does not have the types of ships needed to challenge the PRC Navy (PLAN) or PRC Coast Guard.

Under the 1951 US-Philippines Mutual Defense Act, the Philippine government authorized US Air Force reception detachments to be stationed at Philippine airbases, increased the number of multi-service exercises, and permitted on-ground orientation by US military units. The US





Left: China's coastguard fired water cannons at Philippine ships in disputed waters of the South China Sea.



Right: The same vessel is later sideswiped by the much larger PRC coast guard.

Marine Corps is the lead partner working with the Philippine Department of Defense to flesh out the doctrine on littoral warfare for both countries.

The 3rd Marine Littoral Regiment (MLR), the test bed unit, just completed a 70-day summer rotational deployment in the Philippines during which its small unit leaders were able to conduct on-site terrain analysis of the islands north of Luzan and toward Taiwan, exercise amphibious "shoot and scoot" MLRS tactics, and join with the Philippines Marine brigade in a joint live fire exercise to deny an "enemy" attempt to gain a beachhead. The latter exercise used drones to provide logistical support.

The 3rd MLR's artillery battalion will get the Navy/Marine Expeditionary Ship Interdiction System (NMESIS), which mounts the Navy's radar-evading strike missile system on USMC vehicles. The 3rd Littoral Anti-Air Battalion will receive the Marine Air Defense Integrated System focusing on enemy drone tracking and destruction. In 2025 the battalion will receive the US version of the Iron Dome missile defense system.

The Littoral Regiment continues analyzing how best to implement littoral "shoot and scoot" tactics. As the above weapons become available, the unit will include them in its quick action maneuvers to identify how best to use them and how many are required to protect the fighting element. The goal is to keep each combatant team as small as possible to minimize the time the unit is in its firing position. Fast insert, fast firing, fast extraction are a must if the unit is to survive enemy counterfire.

The US Army is starting to exercise littoral doctrine. In October, the Army announced that

elements of the 75th Ranger Regiment conducted an airfield capture exercise on the Island of Palau east of the Philippines in the second Island chain. The unit parachuted onto the Island's Roman Tmetuchl international airport to secure it for a follow-on air force C-17 aircraft landing of a HIMARS weapon system. Once in place, US Space Force communicators fed satellite data to the 17th Field Artillery Brigade crewmen who fired 6 rockets during the "shoot and scoot" mission. The crewmen then moved their vehicles back into the C-17 and returned to Hawaii. The Rangers were similarly extracted to their base.

On 18 November, Secretary of Defense Austin and Philippine Secretary of National Defense Teodoro signed an agreement to activate a Combined Coordination Center at Camp Aguinaldo (HQ of the Philippines Armed Forces). It will provide joint intelligence development, expedite the exchange of defense technologies and information sharing, coordinate in-country Army and Marine MQ-9A Reaper drone missions, and receive real-time information from the Navy's P-8A Poseidon missions. One example: US Army drones were used to observe PRC harassment of resupply missions to the Philippines Marine detachment on the BRP Sierra Madre outpost to expedite defensive actions.

It looks like the Philippines is again becoming a linchpin to the future success of US operations in the southern portion of its Indo-Pacific battlespace. ★

Multiple open-source research and analysis reflect the opinion of the author. Tom Roberts, President, Starboard Focus Continuity Planners, 912-898-9284.

DISCLAIMER: Opinions or points of view expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policies of the Military Order of the World Wars.



A GOLETA, CA, POST OFFICE RENAMED

In Honor of PCINC BGen Frederick Lopez

SUBMITTED BY THE
COL WOOLSEY CHAPTER, CA

“In honor of Veterans Day, today I announced my effort to rename the Post Office in Goleta in honor of Brigadier General Frederick Lopez! A decorated Marine Corps veteran and Santa Barbara County native, General Lopez’s service will inspire others for generations to come.”

With these opening remarks, Congressman Salud Carbajal (CA-24) unveiled a new legislative effort to rename a Central Coast post office in Goleta for Frederick Lopez, a retired Brigadier General in the US Marine Corps with a 30-year career of distinguished service.

Congressman Carbajal, a Marine Corps veteran, joined General Lopez, his family and friends, and representatives from Central Coast veterans organizations at the Santa Barbara Veterans’ Memorial Building to announce the effort. “General Lopez embodies the service that we honor

with nationwide commemorations like Veterans Day,” said Rep. Carbajal. “He also deserves to have his three decades of service acknowledged by his own communities in a way that will inspire others. If putting his name on this federal building inspires one new person to learn more about him and be inspired to service themselves – that will be a validation of this effort. And I have no doubt that that will happen.”

“I am deeply honored and sincerely humbled by the introduction of this bill in the United States House of Representatives by Congressman and fellow Marine Salud Carbajal,” said BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret). “What have I done to rate this honor? It appears the answer is simple in theory but very hard in execution... to honorably and proudly serve my country in the best way possible and treat those around me with respect and gratitude.”

Earlier this year, Congressman Carbajal formally



(L-R): Lt John Blankenship; Congressman Salud Carbajal; BGen Frederick Lopez; Goleta City Councilman James Kyriaco, and Santa Barbara City Councilman Eric Friedman. The event was held at the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building, Santa Barbara, CA. Rebecca Caraway / Noozhawk photo

filed legislation to rename the US Post Office on Patterson Avenue in Goleta for General Lopez. Two-thirds of California's Congressional delegation already backed the measure introduced by Congressman Carbajal. It must pass both chambers of Congress and be signed by the President to become law.

General Lopez, a Santa Barbara County native, joined the US Marine Corps in 1967 following his graduation from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. His service as a platoon commander during the Vietnam War earned him a Bronze Star and Combat Action Ribbon.

Over his three decades as a Marine, General Lopez also earned a Distinguished Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and other medals prior to his retirement in 1998.

In retirement, General Lopez has continued to advocate for his fellow veterans as an active member of the Military Order Of The World Wars—including as its Commander in Chief—and other veterans groups.

"Knowing Brigadier General Frederick Lopez for the past twenty years and having him on our board, I can without hesitation say Fred represents all of the finest qualities of 'The Few, The Proud, The Marines,' Lieutenant John W. Blankenship, US Navy (Ret) said. 'I am honored to be a part of this recognition of Santa Barbara's most outstanding veteran.'"

A separate ceremony will be held for the ribbon-cutting event. ★

The full event can be viewed here:
<https://carbajal.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=3072>

Membership Satisfaction **SURVEY**

**The survey will be available from:
January 20 to January 31, 2025**



*Your Voice Matters! Take advantage of
this opportunity to share your feedback.*

← **SCAN THE QR CODE TO COMPLETE THE
MOWW MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY.**



Diminish a Chapter or Make It Grow

LTC DONALD E WILLHOUSE, USA (RET)
PAST COMMANDER CAPT DILWORTH CHAPTER, TX
PAST COMMANDER REGION VIII

How to diminish a chapter or make it grow. Adapting is essential for our survival.

The world has changed rapidly. That affects how we do business, or we no longer exist. Let's embrace the challenge together as we strive to thrive in this evolving landscape.

We risk going out of business if we continue to do things the same way. Leadership has not changed since I wore diapers. There are no fresh ideas, and we need to engage more effectively with our audience. To attract new members, we need to enhance our offerings by incorporating more activities and inviting outside speakers. This would significantly increase our appeal and make our group more engaging. Instead of offering compelling reasons to join, we merely lead with our organization's name.

Additionally, we consistently meet at the same location and time without considering the preferences of our members regarding any proposed changes. Chapter meetings and activities are scheduled in a way that is inconvenient for the new members we aim to attract.

So, what to do, what to do?

- Leadership should change every couple of years to keep from becoming static.
- Schedule meetings at times and places that will attract new members. Working people often do not have time during a workday. In large areas, ZOOM or Teams can share the meeting electronically.
- Communicating our mission and how potential members can contribute to the community is crucial. From awarding medals to ROTC/JROTC to recognizing the highest ranks in Scouting (Boys and Girls), every contribution is significant and valued.
- Advertise activities in the newspaper or a flyer. Wear branded shirts and hats. I get into a lot of conversations this way and have recruited.

- Visit organizations you want to support and establish relationships.

No chapter is perfect, but this is what the CAPT Dilworth Chapter is doing.

- We meet on a Saturday morning at the VFW, a convenient time and place for many. Our inclusive approach has welcomed new members from various veteran organizations, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose.
- We invite nonmembers to come and listen to our interesting guest speakers who often share valuable insights and experiences. This is an excellent opportunity for potential members to learn and connect with our community. We also organize field trips to places of interest, adding a fun and educational element to our activities.
- We have two dinner meetings each year (JAN and JUN) featuring awards and guest speakers.
- Activities are submitted to the local paper with a picture, a description of the photograph, a short article describing the activity, and a contact point. Award a Silver Patrick Henry to an outstanding public servant who significantly impacts the community. That includes volunteers in other organizations, first responders, or recognizing long-term service to Scouting, ROTC/JROTC/CAP, YLC (tell what they do and have a schedule from a prior year as an example), and others. Additionally, submit these nominations for national recognition to the national MOWW headquarters.
- Award the Bronze Patrick Henry to new Eagle Scouts whose project supports the community at large or veterans.
- Don't forget awards to Companions, like the Silver Patrick Henry, the Outreach Medal, and the Outstanding Service Medal. Oak leaf clusters can be used for outreach and outstanding service recognition, and the hourglass for years of membership can be used for the membership medal.

Remember: It is better to serve than be served! ★



OUTREACH

WHAT IS PS/L&O OUTREACH?

Below are four PS/L&O outreach activity categories that your chapter should consider to support the Chapter Action Plan to implement the MOWW Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

PARTICIPATION

- By agencies during YLC/YLS & MOC
- Agency events, especially for youngsters stressing comradery within MOWW

PRESENTATION include publicity

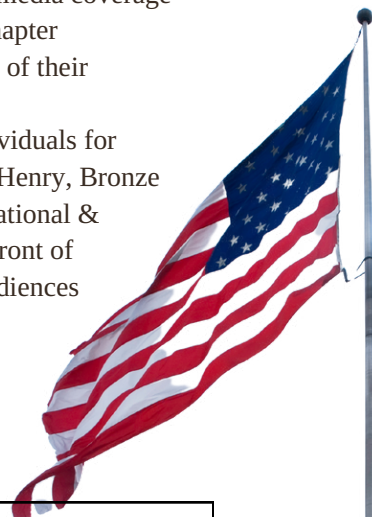
- Chapter meetings discussing current PS/L&O issue
- Agency events; especially for youngsters stressing MOWW & Veteran service

PROMOTION include media coverage

- MOWW membership to Reserve & NG members within PS/L&O organizations
- National Recognition Days/ Weeks

RECOGNITION include media coverage

- PS/L&O Agency to Chapter recognition for support of their activities
- Chapter to agency/individuals for service; Silver Patrick Henry, Bronze Patrick Henry Organizational & National Awards – in front of agency/government audiences



PUBLIC SAFETY/ LAW & ORDER RECOGNITION DAYS

The following is a list of recognition days or weeks for the various public safety and law & order professions during this OY. These are opportune times to invite speakers, commend an organization, or recognize excellence in unit or individual performance.

- 9 January - NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY
- 2nd week April – NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK
- 1st Sunday May – NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER'S DAY/WEEK
- 4 May – INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTER'S DAY/WEEK
- 1st day of 3rd week May – EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE DAY/WEEK
- 15 May – PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY
- 2 July – NATIONAL WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER DAY
- 14-20 July 2024 – PRETRIAL PROBATION PAROLE SUPERVISION WEEK
- 11 September – PATRIOT DAY
- 1st weekend October – NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' MEMORIAL WEEKEND
- 7-12 October 2024 - National Fire Prevention Week
- 28 October 2024 – NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS DAY



The Order Needs You!

CAPT EDWARD J. MURPHY, USAF (FMR)
COMMANDER, PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

“Our Chapter thrives because we have new blood and good people doing great things for outreach programs in our community.”

—LT COL DICK MURI, USAF (RET)

It was like Old Home Week or a reunion of the Doolittle Raiders. *But no*, it was 64 Companions and guests gathered on 14 January 2024 for a meeting of the Puget Sound Chapter at Steilacoom, WA.

It was a special meeting for several reasons: Chapter Companions were present along with Army JROTC Cadets and parents from Steilacoom High School, as well as our own Chief of Staff, Col Michael Farrell, USMC (Ret). Each contributed to the buzz in the room. It was the perfect setting for the induction of six new members into our Chapter.

The effort to bring more members into our ranks has been (and continues to be) led by Lt Col Dick Muri, USAF (Ret), who heads our membership committee and who brought in four of these new members himself. Dick has brought in 20 for the year so far. His philosophy, “Our Chapter thrives because we have new blood and good people doing great things for outreach programs in our community.”

Bringing good Companions into the Chapter is where it all begins. Dick is not alone. The entire Chapter is beating the bushes seeking reinforcements and the effects are clear—25 new Companions through January 2024.

An example of this shared effort is the January induction ceremony where Maj Keith Warren, USAF (Ret), and Lt Col Annette Mummery, USAF (Ret), helped to induct new members that each had personally recruited, highlighting what can happen when we all get busy.

All this has quickened our step, added a degree of pride, and encouraged us to think of the outreach opportunities new members make possible. Back to Dick Muri’s philosophy, “You must ask each potential new member, get them to a meeting, and close the deal.” ★

Capt Ed Murphy may be reached by email at Santos8@comcast.net.



Six new Companions (five are pictured), inducted into the Puget Sound Chapter.



JROTC Drill Competition

MAJ EARL JOHNSON, USAF (RET)
HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER, VA

The Hampton Roads Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW), along with Military Scholars Youth Development Services (MSYDS) organizations, sponsored a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (JROTC) high school drill competition at Christopher Newport University on 26 October 2024 in Newport News, VA.

Approximately 26 military volunteers from Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis Army Post served as evaluators for the nine participating schools.

The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) high school drill competition assessed participants on their military uniform appearance, drill abilities, and administrative knowledge across all services. Additionally, the schools contributed 893 pounds of food, which provided 744 healthy meals to community members facing food insecurity.

Smithfield High School garnered the most awards and was recognized as a first-place winner for its overall best performance. Hargrave Military Academy collected the most food items and was awarded the Major Earl Johnson Community Service Award. Langley Air Force Base Honor Guard presented and retrieved the colors, adding pride and professionalism to the drill competition. The Coast Guard and Air Force Drill Teams performed during half-time, allowing the cadets and visitors to approach and ask questions about their profession.

The high school drill competition received positive feedback, leading to requests for it to be held again next year. ★

Three of the nine participating units at the high school drill competition at Christopher Newport University on 26 October 2024 in Newport News, VA.



Taking Charge of Your Health in 2025

A Guide to Mental, Physical and Cardiovascular Wellness

CPT DAN L. CAMERON, JR., USA (FMR)

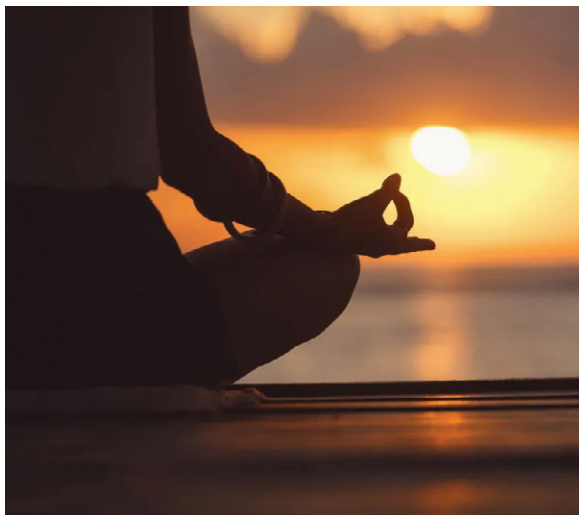
SURGEON GENERAL, MOWW

Hello, my fellow Companions and cherished family members. Happy New Year! Your presence makes all the difference in our journey together. As we move into 2025, taking charge of your health has never been more critical. The rapid pace of modern life, environmental changes, and technological advancements mean we have more resources at our disposal but also face new health risks. Monitoring your mental, physical and cardiovascular health is essential for maintaining a balanced and healthy life. This guide will provide insights into each area, the warning signs of potential health concerns, and an understanding of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention methods.

Mental Health: Prioritizing Emotional and Psychological Wellness

Importance of Mental Health Checks

Mental health is fundamental to overall well-being, affecting how we think, feel, and interact with the world. Checking on your mental health includes recognizing signs of stress, anxiety, depression, and burnout. Prioritize regular mental health evaluations through self-assessment tools, discussions with a trusted support system, or professional counseling.



Warning Symptoms to Watch For

Be mindful of symptoms such as persistent sadness, mood swings, extreme anxiety, loss of interest in activities, and physical symptoms of headaches and digestive issues, which can often indicate underlying mental health concerns. Additionally, social withdrawal and difficulty focusing are signals that mental health needs attention.

Prevention Strategies

1. Primary Prevention: Engage in regular self-care practices, including adequate sleep, exercise, and mindfulness activities to maintain good mental health.
2. Secondary Prevention: Attend routine screening with mental health professionals.

Physical Health: Building Strength and Resilience

Annual Physical Exam

A comprehensive physical check-up should be the cornerstone of starting the year. This area typically includes assessments of blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose levels and body mass index (BMI). Early detection of potential health issues allows for proactive management. For those needing



follow-up, advancements in at-home health devices, like wearable monitors, provide real-time insights into these markers, making it easier than ever to stay focused.

Actions to Take

1. Schedule comprehensive physical exams.
2. Adopt an active lifestyle.

Cardiovascular Health: Keep the Heart Strong

Cardiovascular health remains a primary health concern globally, with heart disease being a leading cause of death. In 2025, individuals are encouraged to closely monitor their heart health and understand their risk factors such as family history, diet and activity levels.

Actions to Take

1. Know your numbers; regularly check your blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar levels. These indicators provide valuable insight into heart health.
2. Focus on a heart-healthy diet. A diet low in saturated fats, added sugars, and processed foods but high in vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins supports cardiovascular health.

Preventative Health: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention

Preventative health focuses on addressing potential health issues before they become severe, with three levels of prevention offering a comprehensive approach.

1. Primary Prevention: Aimed at preventing disease from occurring in the first place, including



vaccinations, a balanced diet and physical activity.

2. Secondary Prevention: Focuses on early detection and treatment of diseases. Regular screening and monitoring can catch conditions in their initial stages, allowing for timely intervention.

3. Tertiary Prevention: Addresses managing long-term health issues, helps prevent complications and supports a better quality of life. Examples include rehabilitation programs for heart disease and diabetic management.

Actions to Take

1. Stay current with screenings.
2. Work with your healthcare provider to determine a schedule for screening like mammograms, colonoscopies, or blood sugars.
3. Prioritize Vaccinations: Ensure vaccinations, including the flu shot, COVID boosters, and others recommended for you.

Conclusion

In 2025, health encompasses more than simply avoiding illness. It involves building resilience, fostering balance, and developing habits that improve overall quality of life. A great way to start the year is with a comprehensive health check-up, followed by mindful adjustments to enhance well-being. People can set themselves up for a year of vitality and well-being by taking small but consistent steps such as routine screenings, adopting a balanced diet, prioritizing mental health, and staying active, which can make a significant difference in achieving lasting health for years to come. ★



A New Year, A New President

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

Fellow Companions,
As you read this newsletter, the selection of our new 47th president is in the books. This election year has been unlike any other in our nation's history. Still, one thing remains constant: we are all Americans and all MOWW Companions with the privilege and responsibility to vote.

A variety of important national and domestic issues characterized this election season. These concerns included the rising food prices at the commissary, immigration, inflation, and women's rights. On the global stage, there are growing tensions with Russia and North Korea, issues related to Taiwan and the Philippines with China, and the ongoing discussion about climate change. These topics made the election overwhelming at times. I encourage you to consider something beyond the noise. I urge you to take this moment to reflect on Godly thoughts and to let them take root in your heart and mind.

Consider Matthew 7:15-20, which reads, "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruits (LOVE); but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit (HATE). A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit; neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

The next four years under the leadership of our new president, and as we look toward the continued work of Congress and our state governments, let us stay rooted in the principles that have made this country great. Let us remember that America is One Nation Under God, and as we enter this new chapter, we must remain steadfast in serving our nation with

honor and faith, just as military veterans have done for generations. We are the Companions of the Military Order of World Wars, called not only to defend our country but to do so with an unwavering commitment to serving under God's guidance and grace.

In this context, I encourage you to hold firm to the



"The Prayer at Valley Forge" by Arnold Friberg (1975),

words of Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds."

In our daily lives, we can show love to our fellow Americans and the world through simple yet impactful actions:

Listen Actively: Take the time to truly listen to others, showing empathy and understanding.

Be Kind: Small acts of kindness, like a smile or a helping hand, can make a big difference.

Respect Differences: Embrace and respect the diversity of opinions, cultures, and backgrounds.

Volunteer: Offer your time and skills to help those in need within your community.

Express Gratitude: Show appreciation for the people around you and the positive things in your life.

Stay Informed: Educate yourself about issues affecting others and advocate for positive change.

These actions, rooted in the values of love and service, will help us continue to foster a more united, peaceful, and God-centered nation.

May You Be a Good Tree. God bless you all, and may He continue to bless America. ★



2024 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY



In a solemn ceremony, MOWW CINC Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret) (*above left*), and SVCINC Lt Col Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret), presented a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery. This act of tribute honors the sacrifices of those who served and embodies the profound respect and gratitude we hold for the nation's fallen heroes.



PERSHING MEMORIAL SERVICE, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Since 1981, MOWW Companions have gathered at Arlington National Cemetery on November 11th at the gravesite of General of the Armies John J. Pershing. Maryland's General Meade Chapter organized the event on a beautiful autumn day this year.

The US Army Band, "Pershing's Own," provided music, and a Joint Color Guard presented the colors. CINC LTC David Worley, USAF (Ret), welcomed attendees, followed by the keynote address from Colonel Thibaud Thomas, the Military Attaché at the French Embassy.

After the memorial ceremony, wreaths were laid at General Pershing's grave by various chapters and representatives from Australia, France, Great Britain, New Zealand, and Portugal. The General Meade Chapter also laid a wreath at the grave of Corporal Frank Buckles, "The Last Doughboy." The ceremony concluded with the haunting notes of "Taps."





WWI MEMORIAL BELLS OF PEACE CEREMONY

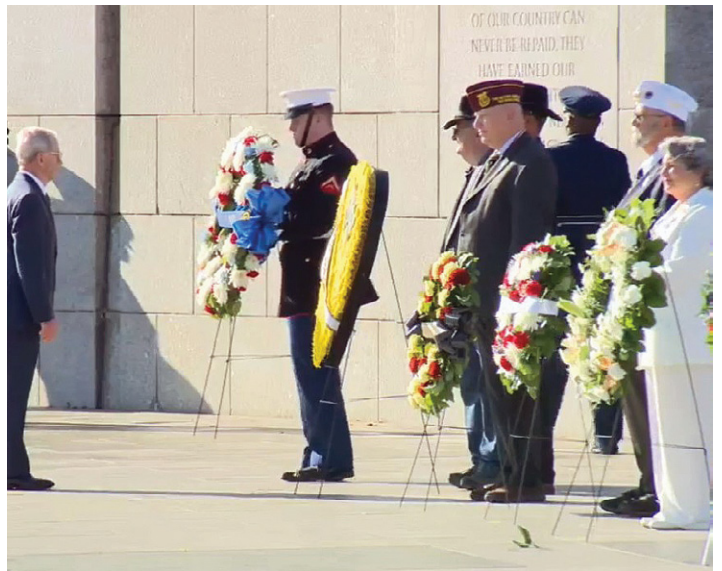
MOWW VCINC CAPT Edward W. Gantt, USN (Ret), presented a MOWW wreath to honor the memory of our fallen heroes during the “Bells of Peace” ceremony on Veterans Day 2024 at the National World War One Memorial in Washington, D.C.



WWII MEMORIAL VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCES

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial and the National Park Service paid tribute and laid wreaths in honor of all the men and women who served with the US Armed Forces during World War II.

MOWW's COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret), represented the Order by presenting a wreath during the Veterans Day observances at the WWII Memorial.



Roanoke Chapter, VA

GEN Dennis Via, USA (Ret), Honored

BY LTC DAVID R. KING, USA (RET)

On 1 November 2024, the Roanoke Chapter honored GEN Dennis Via, USA (Ret), with the MOWW Silver Patrick Henry Medallion for Patriotism at Bassett High School in Virginia. A native of Henry County and a Virginia State University graduate, General Via is the first Signal Corps officer since General Henry H. Arnold to achieve four-star rank. He often speaks to students about motivation and reaching their potential. Cadet McKenzie Williams presented the Medallion. She previously attended the Youth Leadership Conference in Yorktown, VA. The assembly also featured CW3 Curtis Millner, a mentor of General Via since his lieutenant days, and 1SG Lonnie Corley, (Ret), at Bassett High School.

(L-R): SFC Anthony Melton, USA (Ret), Bassett High School US Army Instructor; Cadet McKenzie Williams JROTC; General Via, and 1SG Lonnie Corley, (Ret), Senior Army Instructor Bassett High School JROTC.



Col George C. Woolsey Chapter, CA

Chapter Supports Law & Order

BY PCINC BGEN FREDERICK LOPEZ, USMCR (RET)

Pictured left, California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officer Ronald Hensic received the Chapter's First Place Outstanding Public Safety/Law & Order Performance (Individual) Award. The award ceremony occurred on 19 August 2024 at the Santa Barbara Area CHP Headquarters in Goleta, CA.

(L-R): Chapter Vice Commander LTC Dieter Dupont, USA (Ret); Chapter Commander Brig Gen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret); Officer Ronald Hensic, CHP, and Commander, Santa Barbara Area CHP Captain Michael Logie.

Above, right, Fire Captain Jason Martinez (Santa Barbara County Fire Department) was awarded the Military Order of the World Wars First Place Exceptional Public Safety/Law & Order Service Award at a ceremony on 12 September 2024 at the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Headquarters in Santa Barbara, CA.

(L-R): Chapter Commander Brig Gen Frederick R. Lopez, USMCR (Ret); Fire Captain Jason Martinez; Mrs. Courtney Martinez; SBCFD Fire Chief Mark Hartwig; Chapter Vice Commander LTC Dieter Dupont, USA (Ret).





Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

The 39th Annual Medal of Valor Dinner

BY LT COL RICH PETERS, USAF (RET)

The Chapter participated in the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) Annual Medal of Valor Dinner on 2 October 2024. This event, organized by the Police Foundation of Colorado Springs, honors the bravery and sacrifices of law enforcement officers who uphold their commitment to protect and serve the community. At the 39th annual banquet, 33 officers received 36 medals for their work. Sponsoring a table at the dinner reflects the MOWW's dedication to supporting public safety and law enforcement organizations.

(L-R): COL Stephen A. Shambach, USA (Ret); Lt Col Rich Peters, USAF (Ret); Colorado Springs Council Member Nancy Henjum; Colorado Springs Council Member and Companion Col Randy Helms, USAF (Ret); Lt Col Jon K. Wisham, USAF (Ret), and Col Kerm Neal, USAF (Ret).



Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

Honoring Those who Served in the Gulf War and the Global War on Terror

BY HPM MR. CHARLES W. BENNETT, JR.

On this Veterans Day, 11 November 2024, Lynchburg honored the men and women who sacrificed so much for our country. Veterans who fought and died in the Gulf War and the Global War on Terrorism now have a permanent memorial at Monument Terrace in Lynchburg, VA. Beginning with the Spanish-American War, Monument Terrace displays memorials to those who gave their lives in WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and now the Gulf War and the War on Terrorism.



The new plaque was unveiled during a morning ceremony on Veterans Day in a partnership between MOWW's Piedmont Chapter and the Lynchburg Area Veterans Council. The plaque recognizes the conflicts and honors fallen military personnel who have given their lives in the Gulf War and the Global War on Terror. "It's crucial to recognize the veterans who gave everything," said Peter Bryan, Past Chapter Commander of MOWW's Piedmont Chapter.

(L-R): Virginia Piedmont Chapter Commander COL Charles "Buddy" Faulconer, USA (Ret); Past Chapter Commander Virginia Piedmont Chapter LT Peter H. Bryan, USN, (Ret); Memorial Committee Steve Bozeman, and Virginia Piedmont Chapter Patriot President, Military Order of the Purple Heart, #1607; Tom Current President, Lynchburg Area Veterans Council; and the Honorable Chris Faraldi, Vice Mayor/ Ward IV Councilmember City Of Lynchburg.



Breathe Easier: COPD Awareness for Veterans

COPD is about managing your health before symptoms worsen. Imagine feeling winded after taking just a few steps. For many veterans with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), this is an everyday reality. COPD affects millions of Americans.

Veterans can face unique risks for the disease due to military exposures to dust, fumes and chemicals during service. Currently, COPD is one of more than two dozen presumed conditions related to the PACT Act.

It's important to remember that COPD isn't just about difficulty breathing. It's about managing your health before symptoms worsen.
<https://news.va.gov/136882/breathe-easier-copd-awareness-for-veterans/>



Comprehensive Care for Chronic Pain

Columbia (South Carolina) VA's Outpatient Interdisciplinary Pain Program (OIPP) offers a holistic approach to managing chronic pain, addressing not only the physical aspects but also the emotional and psychological factors.

This innovative program offers veterans the tools and knowledge they need to manage their pain and improve their quality of life. At Columbia VA Health Care System, the health care teams are deeply experienced and guided by the needs of veterans, their families, and caregivers. Find a health facility near you and manage your health online. Sign up for community events and updates.

Location:

Wm. Jennings Bryan Dorn Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
 6439 Garners Ferry Road
 Columbia, SC 29209-1638

Main phone: 803-776-4000

VA health connect: 855-679-0214

VA health connect Mental health care:

803-776-4000, ext. 56325

<https://news.va.gov/136886/comprehensive-care-for-chronic-pain/>



The VA Podcast Network

Learning new things while staying entertained has never been easier for America's veterans. The VA Podcasts Network offers a diverse selection of top-quality podcasts made with a veteran community in mind. Each podcast specializes on a different topic and covers gripping content that no veteran should want to miss out on. Just click on the podcast and listen to the wealth of knowledge that awaits to be heard.

<https://news.va.gov/va-podcast-network/>



Disaster Assistance and Resources for Veterans

In the wake of a disaster, here are some resources available to veterans. It's important for veterans and their families to know that the VA is here to help. For the latest updates and information visit VA's Disaster Help website:

<https://www.va.gov/resources/disaster-help/>



Bringing Them Home

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) mission is to lead the national effort to account for Department of Defense (DoD) personnel who remain unaccounted for from designated past conflicts and to provide the primary next of kin and family members the available information about the loss incident, past and present search and recovery efforts of the remains, and current accounting status of unaccounted for personnel. DPAA's Vision, Mission, and Values can be found at: <https://www.dpaa.mil/About/Vision-Mission-Values/>.

If you are interested in learning more about DPAA's mission and how the Agency operates, the DPAA Year in Review is available here: <https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/Year-In-Review/>. This publication documents the Agency's worldwide efforts to ensure the most comprehensive accounting for our missing personnel, bringing closure to their families and the nation.



PCINC CAPT Rollin M. “Rollie” Stevens II, US NAVY RETIRED

PCINC CAPT Rollin “Rollie” M. Stevens II, USN (Ret), of Dallas, TX, passed away on 25 October 2024. He was 89 years old, one month shy of his 90th birthday. PCINC CAPT Stevens was born in Des Moines, IA, to parents Rollin and Cora Mae. He graduated from East High School in Des Moines in 1953 and went to the University of Iowa, where he graduated with a B.S. in Science in 1957. On 17 May 1958, he married Jean Ann Olson of Kanawha, IA, and they remained married for 66 years.



PCINC CAPT Rollin “Rollie” M. Stevens II, USN (Ret)
25 November 1934–25 October 2024

MOWW Commander-in-Chief
2002–2003

Rollie joined the Navy in 1957 and was on active duty for seven years, deploying on the USS Ticonderoga aircraft carrier. He remained in the Navy for more than 30 years in the Navy Reserves, spending a weekend each month and two weeks each year on various duty details.

After his active duty in the Navy, Rollie began his career in sales with American Hospital Supply Corporation, which Baxter later acquired. His expertise was in the hospital clinical laboratory, where he sold instruments and their supplies.

After retiring from Baxter, Rollie actively engaged in civic duties. He became a Companion of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) in August 1986 and was elected by the Order to serve as the National Commander-in-Chief in 2002. Over the years, he participated in MOWW’s Youth Leadership Conferences, positively impacting

hundreds of high school students.

He was a member of his homeowners’ association, where he was president, and a volunteer at Medical City Denton Hospital, helping rehabilitation patients.

Throughout his life, he was always a member of his church choir and loved to sing, making many life-long friends. He enjoyed early morning coffees with Jean on his back porch overlooking Lewisville Lake, declaring, “A Navy

man lives by the water.” He also loved his favorite sports teams, including the Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers, Iowa Hawkeyes, and the local Lake Highlands High School, where all his children graduated.

He is survived by Jean, his wife; his daughter Kyle Vandeven (John); son Jeff Stevens (Stanna); daughter Kim Stevens; three grandchildren, Andrea Stevens, Samantha Stevens, and Joshua Stevens; and two sisters, Nan Keith and Shari DeCook of Iowa.

Rollie was laid to rest after a committal service with military honors at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. A memorial service took place on 23 November 2024.

To leave an online condolence to the family, please visit www.teddickeywestfuneral.com



Reveille

RANK/NAME (SERVICE)

NEW MEMBER

Sponsor

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

NOTE: Primary Memberships Only

DATA FROM 1 OCT–30 NOV 2024

ATLANTA AREA CHAPTER GA

LTC JOHN C. MOYSE, JR., USA (RET)**

Ms. Linda Ariff

BG BULTMAN CHAPTER (AT LARGE)

MAJ FRANCES L. CLADER, USA (RET)**

CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)

MR HANS J. KLOTZBACH*

2LT Frank M. Spano III, PAARNG

LCDR LEWIS H. MOTION, USCG (RET)*

CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret)

MRS MISTY L. MOTION*

CAPT Deborah A. Dombeck, USCG (Ret)

BRIG GEN SCOTT CHAPTER GA

COL WILLIAM M. HALE, USA (RET)**

Maj Robert M. Komlo, USAF (Ret)

CHICAGO CHAPTER IL

CSM THOMAS S. BUCHANAN, USA**

COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret)

MCPO MICHAEL J. KORMAN, USN (RET)**

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

MSG ALLEN J. LYNCH, USA (RET)**

COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret)

CWO4 THEODORE F. ROCK, USN**

COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret)

COL ELMER CHAPTER AR

GYSGT CHARLES RAGSDALE, USMC (RET)**

LTC Shaun B. McGarry, USA (Ret)

COL ROOSEVELT CHAPTER NY

MSGT HOWARD R. ANDERSEN, USAF (RET)**

LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)

CPT BRYAN A. CARBONE, USA (FMR)**

LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)

GYSGT ERIK J. TJORNHOM, JR., USMCR*

Capt Michael P. Golden, USMC

COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER CO

SFC KEITH L MCKIM, USA (RET)*

COL Lee A. Van Arsdale, USA (Ret)

MRS KIMBERLY J. NEAL*

Col Kermit D. Neal, USAF (Ret)

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Col Kermit D. Neal, USAF (Ret)

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