



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

IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED

"Serving Youth, Community and Nation"

"The Scuttlebutt"

Command Staff 2022 - 2023

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Commander: | LtCol Buck Hamilton |
| Sr. Vice Cmdr: | CPT David Thackston |
| Adjutant: | CPT Paula Mitchell |
| Treasurer: | LTC Jesus Beltran |
| Chaplain: | Ms Laura Beltran |
| Marshall: | Mr Kevin Lassiter |
| Newsletter Editor | LtCol Buck Hamilton |
| Webmaster | LtCol Buck Hamilton |
| Historian | LTC John Hamilton |

To Contact a member of the Staff please email them at gep.moww@gmail.com

Fund Raiser Grand Prize

Time is running out for a chance at winning this lovely quilt donated by the Garibays. Any donation made to the Chapter's Fund Raiser enters you in the drawing. Donate as many times as you want. Donate on-line at:

www.elpasomoww.org



Investiture of the New Chapter Commander



Life Saving Award Presented to Officer Daniel T. Cardenas



April Commander's Comments

On 18 March, I reluctantly took over the reins of our Chapter with the resignation of CPT Bob Melson. I wish to thank him for his service and the achievements of his tenure. Most successful was the first Massing of the Colors in several years. Thank you for your service, Bob.

The first order of business is to wish CPT David Thackston a speedy recovery from his recent surgery. Get well quick, David!

Our second order is the distribution and approval of the new version of our by-laws. Every couple of years we need to update the by-laws to incorporate changes that have taken place in the way we do business. Most of these changes are minor, but several effect the way we are currently conducting business:

- a. Changes the Chapter's name to the Greater El Paso Chapter
- b. Removes the Chaplain, Historian, Jr. Vice Commander, and Marshall as elected position sand makes them appointed positions.
- c. Authorizes elections of officers by electronic ballot in addition to secret written ballot when there is more than one person running for the office.
- d. Authorizes officers to serve beyond the normal one-year term if they so agree to serve.
- e. Authorizes virtual meetings or hybrid meetings for the Staff as well as regular chapter meetings.

All the changes are now posted in the Document section of the website in the Organizational Documents section (<http://www.elpasomoww.org/organizational-documents/>). Please review them at your leisure. The vote on these measures will be conducted by electronic ballot the last week of April via Survey Monkey. Those companions who have not provided the Adjutant with their email address may mail their response to: Greater El Paso Chapter, PO Box 640475, El Paso, TX 79904 or email their response to gep.moww@gmail.com.

The Staff and I recommend approval of all changes.

The staff will next meet on 4 April via Zoom and the Chapter will meet on Saturday 14 April. Please try and attend as our attendance has been poor.



For the Good of the Order

C. F. Hamilton

LtCol CF "Buck" Hamilton
USMC Retired

February 18 Meeting

Our February meeting honored two young men who did the right thing at the right time. Seeing a WWII veteran laying in the street, they turned their car around and rendered assistance. They assisted the vet to his home, called 911 and waiting until first responders arrived. Cristian Lug and Tyler Cooper were both awarded the MOWW Youth Merit Medal and certificates for their selfless deed.

During the meeting, current Chapter commander CPT Bob Melson tendered his resignation as commander effective at the adjournment of the meeting.

As our main speaker, Chapter Historian LTC John Hamilton spoke on the development of the operating documents for the Order. It seems it took our organization a few decades to put our operating procedures down on paper. After committee reports, the meeting was adjourned.

**March 18 Meeting**

Law and Order was the theme of our March meeting. Due to the limited number of nominations for the various awards on the Chapter's Life Saving Award was presented. El Paso Sheriff's Office Detention Officer Daniel Cardenas was presented the award by LtCol Hamilton for his actions on 19 Jun 2022. While off-duty, Officer Cardenas notice a burning building. He entered the burning trailer and assisted several people who were reluctant to leave out of the building. He then returned to retrieve several religious items of great value to the family. His actions brought him the Sheriff's Office Life Saving medal as well as the Chapter's award.

The Chapter had planned to posthumously award EPPD Chief Greg Allen the Law Officer of the Year Award, but in consultation with the Chief's family, the award was not presented. The Chapter is considering naming our Law Officer of the Year after Chief Allen. This will be announced at a later time.

The final event of the meeting was the investiture of LtCol CF "Buck" Hamilton with his badge of office by Department Commander LTC Jesus Beltran.

Pictures and minutes from both the February and March meetings can be found on the Chapter's website under the Documents tab. Minutes are posted after approval by the staff at the next staff meeting.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Bruce Gramlich | 23 Mar |
| Maria Holland | 28 Mar |
| Donald Williams | 29 Mar |

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Kenneth Rubenstein | 5 Feb |
|--------------------|-------|

**Membership Anniversaries****March**

| | | | |
|------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Kaitlyn Scarboro | 1986 | William Woodward | 1990 |
| Connie Nicholson | 1994 | Raymond Chavez | 1997 |
| Raul Garibay | 1998 | Tomas Garibay | 1998 |
| Mariah Ritchie | 1998 | Buck Hamilton | 2016 |

April

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Stanley Murrell | 1981 | Forest Davis | 1985 |
| Matthew Holland | 1998 | Maria Holland | 1998 |
| Scott Gerber | 2005 | Michael Moor | 2005 |
| Paula Mitchell | 2006 | Benny Steagall | 2008 |
| Bradley Gavle | 2008 | Marie Morency | 2017 |
| Samuel Morgan | 2017 | Laura Beltran | 2019 |

HOMELAND SECURITY MINUTE

As of April, I will have only two more security minutes to write. I have been the Homeland Security Chair for over ten years and I feel my words are beginning to become a little stale. We need new blood to take over the committee – which is a committee of one – as the chapter fights for relevance in this post-covid era.

My duties as committee chair consists of writing a Homeland Security Minute once a month (though this is no requirement) and the submission of the HS Award submission once a year. I also speak about a security topic at each monthly meeting though this is not a requirement either. Anyone can do this, even if you do not live in the immediate area.

Over the years we have had a very successful program. From what I have in my files:

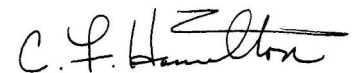
Homeland Security First Place Large Chapter 2012 – 2013
National Security First Place Large Chapter 2012 – 2013
Homeland Security Second Place Large Chapter 2019 -2020
National Security Third Place Large Chapter 2019 -2020
Homeland Security First Place Large Chapter 2021-2022

I know there have been other awards but that's all I have in my files.

The bottom line is someone needs to step up and take the baton from me.

Another program that will soon need a new head is the Chapter's website. I have been running the website since its inception. As the webmaster, you control the content of the various pages, adding and subtracting items as necessary. Does this require technical expertise? No, it does not. If you can edit a word document and post .pdf documents, you can be the webmaster. Again, you do not have to be living in El Paso to handle this task.

Please, someone step up to the plate and continue these two programs for the Chapter.



LtCol CF "Buck" Hamilton USMC (Ret)

Honors For Feb & Mar

Youth Medals of Merit

CRISTIAN LUGO
TYLER COOPER

MOWW Life Saving Award

EPSO DETENTION OFFICER DANIEL CARDENAS

Certificate of Appreciation

LTC JOHN HAMILTON

Veterans Notes

The El Paso Veterans community hosts many veteran oriented events around El Paso. You can learn about these events by checking the Chapter's Website under the calendar section. It will be easier to find what's up with the El Paso Veteran's community in our calendar rather than in the news section.

MOWW will advertise any VSO event on our website and our newsletter as appropriate. Send your event to: gep.moww@gmail.com

HISTORY NOTE 4

How long was it before the MOWW leadership produced a handbook, or standard operating procedure? Aside from the organizational constitution and bylaws, any national organization of the complexity of the Military Order of the World War needed a how-to book or pamphlet. The MOWW needed a field guide for its operations. Chapter commanders needed to know how to “form new chapters” to begin with. Chapters needed a “ritual for the installation of officers,” a “ritual for the massing of the colors,” a “suggested sample bylaws for new chapters,” and a detailed guide of duties for regional, departmental, and local chapter officers. The guidebook also needed a “burial ritual,” to provide final funeral rites for deceased members. One very important rule was to establish a requirement that chapter commanders pledge to attend regional, departmental, and national conventions. The pledge laid out was explicit:

“I further pledge myself to accept the standard of the Military Order, which is that attendance at the next (regional) (departmental) and national convention is an essential part of my duty.”

So how many years passed from the time MOWW was organized until the production of a handbook? The answer is 40 years! Thirty years after the founding of the Order, Lt. Cdr. Charles Mills, US Naval Reserve and commander in chief of the Order from 1939 to 1940, tried to put together a manual. However, there were not enough funds to publish the book. For that reason, the MOWW Adjutant General saw no need to use scarce funds to produce a book.

Twenty years after that, the serving Commander in Chief, Maj. Gen. (retired) Willard W. Irvine and the MOWW Judge Advocate General, Col. (retired) Henry G. Simmonite resolved to produce a handbook. With the contributions of others in the leadership between 1959 and 1960, the handbook was published and distributed. All the above-mentioned issues were covered, with much more. The MOWW constitution was included in the handbook, and even items for sale were included such as flags, neck ribbons, palms, lapel buttons, and more.

The handbook has gone through several changes since its original publication, with specific guidance on operating a chapter. It stands today as a well-written book and is useful in conducting MOWW business.

LTC John Hamilton USA (Ret)
Chapter Historian

Up Coming Chapter Events

| | | |
|---|-------------|---------------------|
| April Staff Mtg via Zoom | 1900 - 2030 | Tuesday 4 April |
| San Elizario HS ROTC Awards | 1700 - 1900 | Thursday 13 April |
| April Hybrid Luncheon - | 1130 - 1330 | Saturday 15 April |
| NMSU ROTC Pass in Review | 1300 - 1500 | Thursday 27 April |
| May Staff Mtg via Zoom | 1900 - 2030 | Tuesday 2 May |
| UTEP ROTC Awards | TBD | Wednesday 3 May |
| Massing of the Colors - EPCC Auditorium | 1300 - 1530 | Saturday 14 October |