

Colorado Springs Chapter CO - #151

4 December 2019

**Commander’s Comments:**

Greetings, Companions!

Thanksgiving is now behind us, and we are now in full swing preparing for Christmas and the New Year. I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends. Colorado weather continued its unpredictability with snowstorms over the holidays. In fact, we decided to postpone the MOWW Luncheon originally scheduled for October 30th due to the snow and treacherous driving conditions. That event is now re-scheduled for Thursday, January 23rd at the El Paso Club. Even with that, those who can enjoy skiing will certainly appreciate the snowfall.

Our MOWW Chapter is planning activities for 2020. We have coordinated with Patty Jewett Golf Course to host regular monthly meetings for the second Thursday of every month, starting in February. (We are already committed to the El Paso Club for our January luncheon.) Based on your feedback from a questionnaire I sent out, a Thursday seemed like the best day of the month to hold meetings. We will alternate between luncheons and dinner meetings/speakers to accommodate both working members who cannot get away for lunch and members who prefer to drive in daylight hours. So, mark your calendars now, and I will send out a schedule for 2020 shortly.

Our major Chapter activity is the annual Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference. This year, the Conference will be held at Colorado State University, Pueblo, from Monday, 22 June to Friday, 26 June. Planning for this major activity has already begun. Many of you have received a request for donations to support this conference. Costs have increased, and we would like to continue providing scholarships to each of the 100 attendees. We are also looking for volunteers who would like to assist in the preparation, planning and/or conduct of the Conference. Please contact me if you would like to get more information to see how you can become involved. I would particularly encourage our Pueblo members to get involved this year, since we will be in your back yard!

We are still involved in presenting awards to outstanding ROTC/JROTC cadets at UCCS and many high schools in the Colorado Springs/Pueblo/Canyon City area. We also recognize Eagle Scouts and Gold Star Girl Scouts. In addition, I will be exploring ways to increase our support for and cooperation with Homeland Security, Law Enforcement and First Responders, and other relevant sectors we can support under the MOWW banner. Also, I will need your help to better publicize and promote MOWW to increase our visibility in the community and to expand our outreach to not only support other organizations consistent with our mission but also to seek new sources of support by adding Companions and increasing our fund raising to support our activities.

Finally, our Order depends on recruiting and sustaining new members. Please consider bringing a guest and any potential recruits you may know to this next event. Our Chapter membership has declined this year as we lost 10 Companions and only gained 2 new ones. That is not sustainable. I need your help to bring in more Companions of the Order. In addition, our current officers have been serving for quite some time, and we need you to volunteer to help out the Chapter by contributing your talents to occupy key staff positions. Our immediate need is for a Senior Vice Commander and Junior Vice Commander. Also, we are looking for an Adjutant to replace Col Rich Rima when his tour ends this year. We will also need to train up a Treasurer to assist Col Jim Taylor.

I’m looking forward to seeing you all on 23 January for a good meal, an interesting talk, and a renewal of our fellowship. Everyone bring a guest and potential new member!

For the Good of the Order.

Respectfully,

Steve Shambach, COL, USA (Ret)

Commander

**Next Chapter Meeting: Thursday, 23 January 2020**

**When:** Social time at 1100; Call to Order at 1120; Lunch at 1135; Adjourn at 1300

**Where:** El Paso Club, 30 E Platte Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 (kitty-corner from Acacia Park at the corner of Platte and Tejon http://elpasoclub.com/)

**Speaker:** COL George Reed, USA (Ret) (see bio and talk summary below)

**Reservations Required:** Please RSVP no later than **16 January 2020** to

**Col Jim Taylor, USAF (Ret) at 719-488-1317 or jimtaylor59@comcast.net**

Our Meal will be as follows: Buffet Lunch featuring House Salad with choice of two dressings, Chicken Piccata, Pork Tenderloin, Wild Rice Pilaf, Vegetable, Rolls and Butter, Cookies and Brownies, Coffee, Tea or Soda

(Attendees with special dietary requirements need only inform the wait staff.)

**Cost:** $27 per person, cash or check only please

**Attire:** Business Casual for men; comparable for women. Wear your MOWW nametag and paraphernalia!

**Speaker Bio:** While on active duty, George Reed served as a military police officer, CID supervisor, and professor at the US Army War College.  George is now the Dean of the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. In his talk, he will discuss the intersection of the American racist extremist subculture and the US military, including the case of a hate crime that substantially changed Department of Defense policy on extremism.

**Parking:**  The El Paso Club has a private gated lot one block north on Boulder St. The gate will open for the luncheon guests. The Club also has an agreement with the American Legion to use their lot at the intersection of Cascade and Platte. You may use either of these which will provide ample parking spaces.

Questions? CONTACT: Stephen Shambach 719-447-5505 shambachsm@msn.com

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