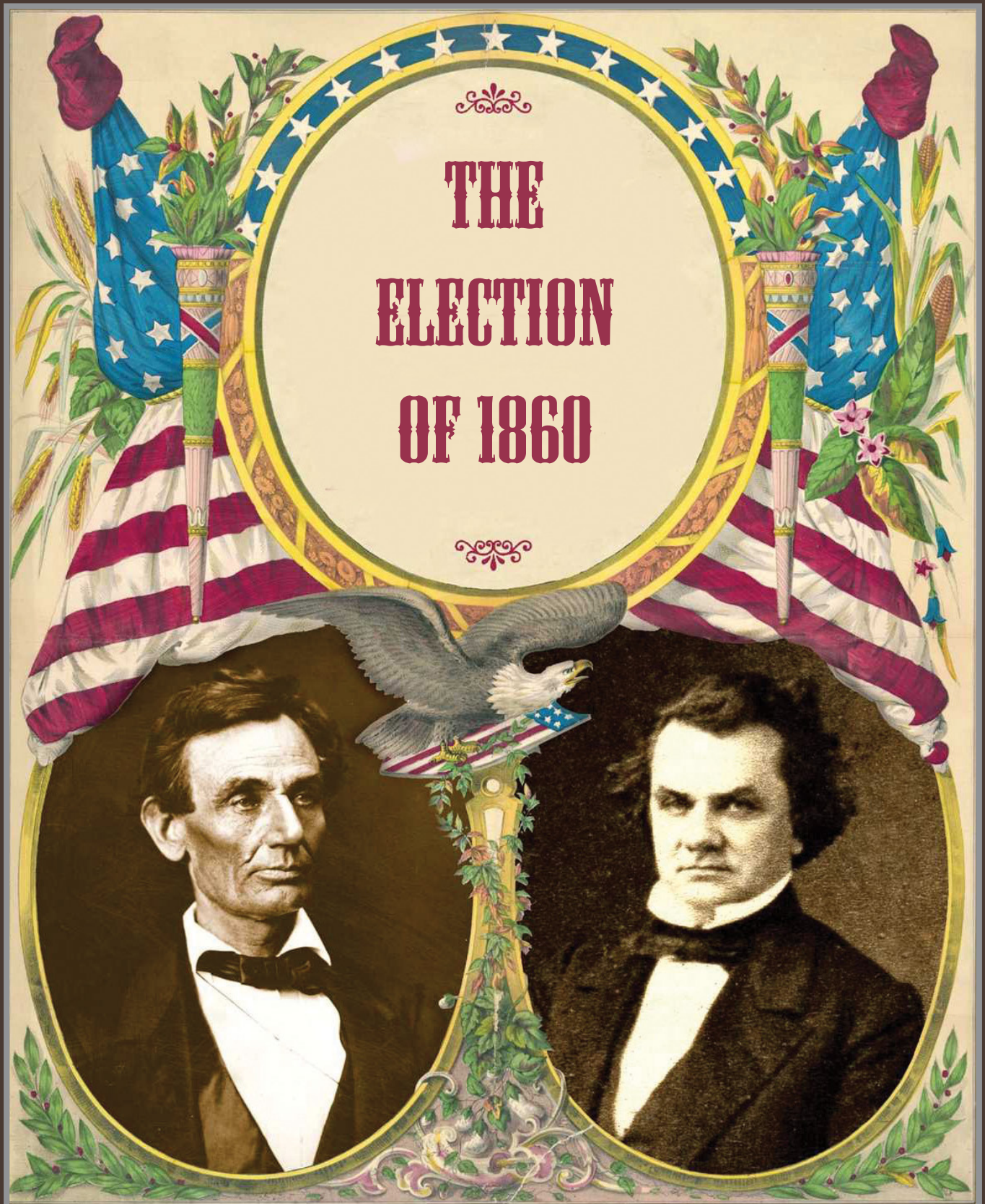


# THE OFFICER REVIEW

VOLUME 63 • NUMBER 3

MAY-JUNE 2024





## Now is the Time to Reflect on Change

*Change is fundamental to progress, which history proves will occur regardless of resistance. Our Nation, its society, government, economy, firms, businesses, and organizations (profit and non-profit) have transformed as they evolve to succeed and cope with the challenges experienced with modernization, changes in demography, social relationships, cultural shifts, and political reforms. Whether we realize it or not, change is constantly happening in time. Change forces us to adapt, learn, and grow to advance to a more enriched and fulfilling*

*future ultimately. Change is an inevitable part of life. We are all products of change.*

*Embracing change can be challenging, as it often requires us to step out of our comfort zone, take risks, and weigh what is right, ensuring prosperous growth moving into the future. Change allows us to shape the future by improving expected end results. Many innovative organizations have demonstrated that "those who continue doing the same thing continue to have the same result."*

*Since I have been a Companion of this Order, the need for change has been openly discussed, brought up year after year, and will continue to surface until change happens. Since our founding in 1919, we have considered and agreed to change. We have changed our name and membership. We are continually reflecting on change.*

*The upcoming National Convention at Valley Forge, PA, on 6–10 August 2024, is a crucial platform for deciding on significant changes. We will be deliberating on whether to expand membership to all veterans or only to Senior NCOs. We will present several MOWW Constitutional amendments (see [www.moww.org](http://www.moww.org) for full text) for our consideration. It's important to note that approving these changes will require three-fourths (¾) of the delegates present at the National Convention, per IAW MOWW Constitution Article VIII, "Amendments."*

*The Membership Ad Hoc Committee has presented its report and recommendation, which is now available for review on [www.moww.org](http://www.moww.org). Our request to you is to take the time to carefully review and discuss the report within your respective chapters. This will help us collectively prepare to make an important decision regarding the change in the membership composition for the Good of the Order. We appreciate your time and effort in this matter. The report's results, from a meticulous compilation of data and information, concludes that membership change is required. But then again, the decision will take place at the National Convention, voted on by delegates present. It is imperative that all Companions actively participate in the decision-making process to ensure maximum delegate attendance at the convention. Only then can we arrive at a more accurate decision, which will be crucial for the future of our Order.*

*As we examined membership, we have been studying the possibility of a name change. The Naming Ad hoc Committee has also presented its report, which was posted on our webpage. We encourage all Companions and leaders to read both reports and evaluate the pros and cons of change. No one will do it for us.*

*Now is the time to reflect on change. Let us decide "For the Good of the Order."*

BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Retired)  
Commander in Chief, MOWW & CEO, MOWW, Inc.

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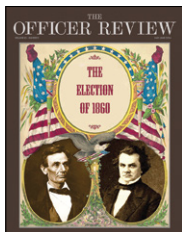
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### On the Cover

A debate poster between for two of the four Presidential candidates in the election of 1860.



# The Election of 1860

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

Arguably, the most important presidential election in the history of the United States occurred on 6 November 1860. This election set in motion forces that determined the course of history for the United States for the next 150-plus years. The eventual outcome of the interaction of those forces is not yet clear today.

To understand the significance of the election of 1860, a short review of the history of the United States up to that point is necessary. After the United States won independence from Great Britain in 1783, it comprised 13 independent states loosely held together by the Articles of Confederation. During the Revolutionary War, the threat of the British Army held the colonies together and forced them to cooperate with each other. When the war was over and the British threat removed, each colony began acting like an independent sovereign country, enacting laws, taxes, tariffs, etc., often at odds with and detrimental to their neighbors.

By 1788, it was clear that the Articles of Confederation were inadequate to govern the colonies and that the colonies could not function as thirteen independent countries. If they continued to act independently, it was only a matter of time

before Great Britain or some other European power would pick them off, one by one. The independence that they had fought so long and so hard for would be gone. Therefore, they decided in 1788 to hold another convention to amend and strengthen the Articles of Confederation. This convention met in Philadelphia, PA, beginning in early June of 1789.

After a few meetings, it became clear that the Articles of Confederation could not be amended and needed to be replaced with another document. A committee led by James Madison of Virginia was appointed to draft this document. This document, called the Constitution, established the government of the United States in its present form with three branches and delineated the powers of each. Over the summer of 1789, Madison's draft of the Constitution was heavily discussed and debated with intense feelings and opinions. One of the hotly contested issues was the issue of slavery. A group of delegates, mainly from the northern states, wished to have it banned. Still, the states of the south, especially Georgia and South Carolina, adamantly opposed any mention of banning slavery in the Constitution. In order to reach a consensus, it was decided to defer this issue to another day, and the ban on slavery was



*"Tragic Prelude," is a mural depicting radical abolitionist John Brown, as portrayed by John Stuart Curry. The mural is on the second floor of the state capitol building in Topeka, KS.*



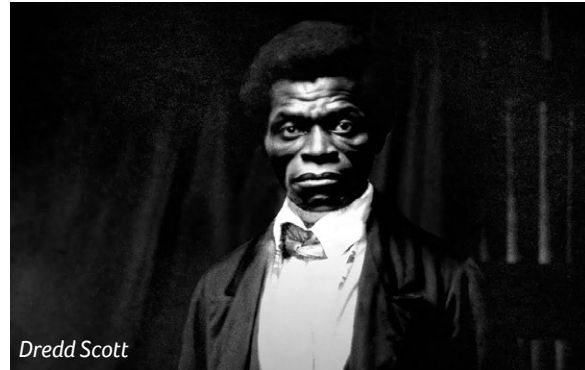
omitted from the Constitution. In this form, the Constitution was signed on 20 September 1789, and the United States was born.

It was hoped by many at that time that slavery would eventually become economically unsustainable and fade away. If the southern economy of the 1780s based on the harvest and sale of tobacco and rice had continued, that might possibly have happened. However, with the invention of the cotton gin in 1792 by Eli Whitney, cotton became an economically viable crop. At that time, the textile industry in Great Britain and New England were beginning to develop and the demand for cotton soared. A new southern economy based on cotton, harvested and processed by slave labor, developed and boomed.

This development of a southern economy based on the harvest of cotton by slave labor occurred at the same time as the development of a movement to abolish slavery on religious and moral grounds in the northern states. The clash of these two opposing forces determined the political milieu of the United States during the first 60 years of the 19th century.

During this time, statesmen like Congressman Henry Clay of Kentucky tried to keep this clash from getting out of control with political compromises such as the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850. These compromises dealt with the main issue of the time, the admission of newly settled territories to the Union as states. The primary concern of the southern states was that if new states were admitted to the Union that banned slavery, eventually, there would be enough anti-slavery representatives in Congress to vote to abolish slavery. This concern was addressed in these compromises by only admitting territories to the Union, which banned slavery if there was a corresponding territory seeking admission that allowed slavery. This system worked reasonably well for the first 50 years of the 19th century.

In the 1850s, however, two events occurred that destroyed this compromise system. In 1854, the Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The territory of Kansas at this time was seeking admission to the Union. The vast majority of its citizens were non-slaveholders and were planning

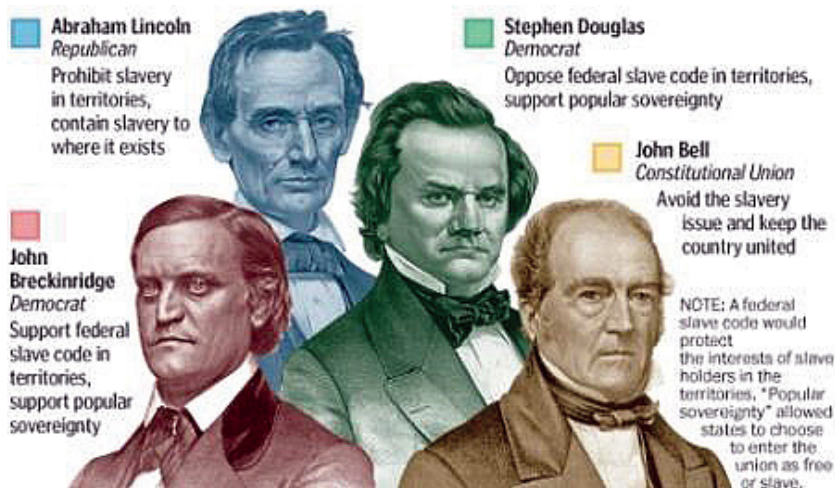


to apply for admission as a “free” state. There was no corresponding territory seeking admission as a “slave” state. The act passed by Congress allowed for the admission of Kansas based upon the vote of the majority of its citizens for or against slavery on the date that it applied for statehood. Since Kansas had not yet formally applied for statehood, this set off an influx of settlers from both “slave” and “free” states, each hoping to control the vote for or against slavery when it occurred. Over the next two years, opposing groups engaged in a series of guerrilla war-style clashes, earning the territory the nickname “Bleeding Kansas.” Eventually, the anti-slavery forces gained the upper hand, and Kansas was admitted to the Union as a “free” state in 1861.

The second event that occurred in the 1850s, which helped bring the issue of slavery to a boiling point, was the Dred Scott Decision by the United States Supreme Court. This decision ruled that a runaway slave who had escaped to a “free” state had to be returned to his master in a “slave” state no matter how long he had lived as a free man in the “free” state. This decision ignited significant anger among the members of the abolitionist movement in the northern states. In 1859, John Brown and a small group of followers attacked the US arsenal at Harper’s Ferry, Virginia. Although he was not a formal member of any abolitionist group, Brown was aligned with the abolitionist ideal. This attack was supposed to enable Brown to obtain enough weapons to be given to slaves to foment a slave uprising for their freedom. Unfortunately for Brown, his attack failed, and he was hanged shortly thereafter for insurrection against the United States.

All of these events brought slavery to the forefront in the election of 1860. In the south, the prevailing





IN THE ELECTION THAT FOLLOWED ON 6 NOVEMBER 1860, TEN SOUTHERN STATES, ALABAMA, ARKANSAS, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE AND TEXAS REFUSED TO ALLOW ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S NAME TO APPEAR ON THEIR BALLOTS.

feeling was that their economic future and way of life was on the line in this election. Like all people who feel that their existence was being threatened, emotions were running high and they were on a hair trigger. The slightest threat, actual or potential, would force them to take drastic action. In the north, opinion was more divided; there were people committed to the abolition of slavery, others who wanted only to prohibit slavery in the new territories of the US, and a third group who wanted to get back to the era of compromise, which produced the relative tranquility of the early decades of the century.

The political parties of the time reflected these divisions. In the early part of the 19th century, there were two major political parties, the Democratic Party and the Whig Party. Both had adherents in the north and the south. Philosophically, the Democrats supported slavery and the Whigs were willing to tolerate it. In 1854, a new party, the Republican Party, was formed. This party was dedicated to the eventual abolition of slavery.

In the late 1840s, another party was also formed. The Native American Party, later rebranded the American Party, was philosophically opposed to immigration, especially Catholic immigrants. They felt that these people were destroying the country and, in the case of Catholics, were loyal to a foreign entity: the Pope. These people were called the Know Nothings since they replied when questioned about their Party's philosophy, "I know nothing about that."

The rise of the Republicans and the Know Nothings led to the collapse of the Whig Party as a viable political force in the late 1850s.

On 16 May 1860, the Republican Party held its convention in Chicago, Illinois, and nominated Abraham Lincoln of Illinois for President and Hannibal Hamlin, a Senator from Maine, for Vice President. The central plank of their party platform was the limitation of the spread of slavery to the territories. They specifically stated that they would not interfere with slavery where it already existed. The Democratic Party held two conventions. The first convened on 23 April 1860 in Charleston, South Carolina. They held 57 ballots after which Stephen A. Douglas, Senator from Illinois held a lead but not a majority. At that point, 50 delegates from the southern states had had enough and walked out. The convention then adjourned without naming a candidate.

They tried again on 18 June 1860 in Baltimore, Maryland. When they convened, 110 delegates from the southern states boycotted the event and refused to appear at the convention. Nonetheless, the convention proceeded. They nominated Stephen A. Douglas, Senator from Illinois for President and Herschel V. Johnson, Governor of Georgia for Vice President.

The southern delegates who boycotted the Baltimore convention held their own convention in Richmond, Virginia, on 11 June 1860. There, they rebranded their party, the Southern Democratic Party, and nominated John Breckinridge, the

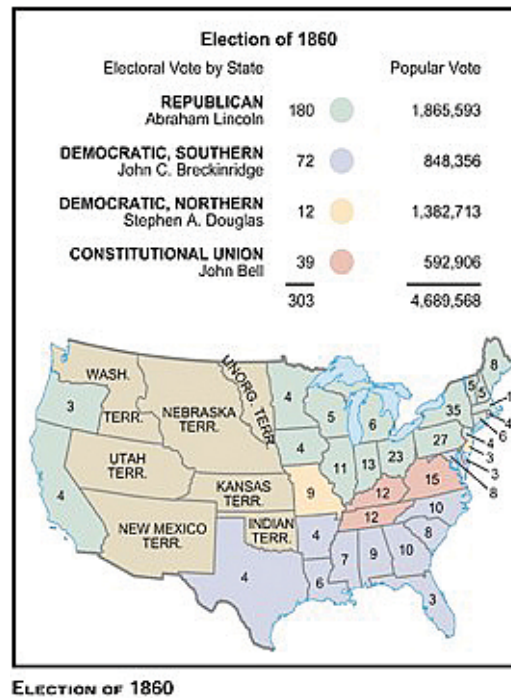


sitting Vice President, for President, and Joseph Lane, Senator from Oregon, for Vice President.

The remaining remnants of the Whig Party joined with the Know Nothings to form the Constitutional Union Party. They met in convention in Baltimore, Maryland, on 9 May 1860. There, they nominated John Bell, Senator from Tennessee, for President, and Edward Everett, Senator from Massachusetts, for Vice President.

In the election that followed on 6 November 1860, ten southern states, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas, refused to allow Abraham Lincoln's name to appear on their ballots. Nevertheless, Abraham Lincoln emerged as the winner despite receiving the second-lowest popular vote total in history, with 1,895,908 votes or 37.8% of the total. Lincoln, however, won 180 electoral votes or 59.4% of all of the electoral votes cast. Lincoln carried 18 states, all of the northern states, plus California and Oregon. Stephen A. Douglas finished second in the popular vote with 1,390,202 votes, or 29.5 % of the votes cast. Unfortunately, his support was scattered across the country, resulting in his winning only one state, Missouri, with four electoral votes, 1.3% of the total. John C. Breckinridge finished second in electoral votes with 72 or 23.7% of the electoral votes. He carried 11 states, all from the south. In the popular vote, he finished third with 840,019 votes, or 18.1% of the total. Finally, John Bell carried three states, Maryland, Virginia, and Kentucky, with 39 electoral votes, 12.8% of the total. In the popular vote, he received 590,901 votes or 12.6% of the popular votes cast.

When all of the votes were finally tallied, Abraham Lincoln won a plurality of the popular vote and a clear majority of the electoral votes to become



the 16th President of the United States and the first President from the Republican Party.

The historical impact of the election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States would be hard to overstate. His election served as the catalyst which spurred the slave states of the south to secede from the Union. They seceded despite the pledge of Lincoln to leave slavery in the south untouched. He stated that he would only work to restrict its spread to the territories that had not yet applied for statehood.

In the emotionally charged

atmosphere of the time, the southern states felt that they could not take that chance. Therefore, they took the drastic action of secession. Their actions ignited the Civil War, allowing Abraham Lincoln to grow into one of our greatest Presidents whose actions are remembered and whose words are quoted to this day. He guided the country through the bloodiest conflict in our history and ended slavery through the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, which he shepherded through Congress in 1865. Unfortunately, his assassination prevented him from mending the nation's wounds after the war, which, in retrospect, was a great tragedy for this country.

Nonetheless, the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and the historical forces it released shaped the history of the United States for the next 150-plus years. That election essentially created the United States in which we live today. It is a land of great power, promise, and internal strife whose final outcome is yet to be determined. Hopefully, in the words of Mr. Lincoln, "this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from this earth." ★



# Proposed Constitution & Bylaws Amendments

PCINCBGEN FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, USMC (RET)  
CHAIR, CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE

In keeping with the MOWW Constitution (Article VIII, Section 3) and MOWW Bylaws (Article 8, Section 3), the MOWW Constitution and Bylaws Committee presents the following proposed amendments for consideration by all Companions of the Order. The Committee recommends their adoption and expressly presents them for consideration by, and the vote of, the Delegates to the MOWW Convention to be held in Valley Forge, PA, in August 2024.

Due to the length of the Proposed Amendments submitted this year only a list of the proposed amendments is published here. The full text of all amendments submitted to the MOWW Constitution and Bylaws Committee is available online at the following website link: [https://moww.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/MOWW\\_Proposed\\_Constitution\\_\\_Bylaws\\_Amendments-25-Mar-2024.pdf](https://moww.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/MOWW_Proposed_Constitution__Bylaws_Amendments-25-Mar-2024.pdf)

The full text of all amendments will also be published in the MOWW Almanac.

## PROPOSED MOWW BYLAWS AMENDMENTS.

### 1. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 4, Section 1, General Staff Officers (GSO).

This amendment proposes administrative changes to this section to align with current MOWW practices.

### 2. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 4, Section 2, Promoting Activity and Cooperation Among Chapters.

This amendment proposes removing Section 2 from Article 4.

### 3. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 4, Section 3, General Staff Support of Region Commanders.

This amendment proposes removing Section 3 from Article 4.

### 4. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 4, Section 4, Replacement of Officers.

This amendment proposes removing Section 4 from Article 4.

### 5. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 5, Section 3, Presenting and Discussing Matters.

This amendment proposes removing Section 3 from Article 5.

### 6. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article 6, Section 5, Limits on National Committee Membership.

This amendment proposes clarifying and simplifying the language limiting membership on standing committees.

### 7. Proposed Bylaws Amendment to Article II, Section 9, Veteran-Membership.

This amendment proposes that a Chapter unable to meet the 75% veteran threshold may not increase non-military veteran membership until such time said Chapter meets the required threshold.

## PROPOSED MOWW CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS.

### 1. Proposed Constitution Amendment to Article V, Section 4, Statutory Delegates.

This amendment proposes adding "General Staff Appointed EXCOM Members (3)" to the list of Statutory Delegates.

### 2. Proposed Constitution Amendment to Article VI, Section 4, Emeritus Members.

This amendment proposes to amend and simplify the requirements for Emeritus status.





**3.a. Proposed Constitution Amendment to Article II, Section 1, Paragraph A. Regular Membership.**

This amendment and its supporting amendments propose making Senior Non-Commissioned Officers in the paygrades of E-7 through E-9, eligible for MOWW regular membership.

**3.b. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 1, Paragraph D.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 3.a. is approved.

**3.c. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 1, Paragraph F.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 3.a. is approved.

**3.d. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 3.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 3.a. is approved.

**4. Proposed Constitution Amendment to Article V, Section 5, Department Commander.**

This amendment adds the requirement for all region commanders to be elected by their subordinate chapters.

**5. Proposed MOWW Constitutional Amendment Article I, Section 2, Magazine Name.**

This amendment proposes to remove the MOWW Magazine Name, The Officer Review®, from the MOWW Constitution and include the name in the MOWW Policy Manual.

**AMENDMENTS CONSIDERED BUT NOT RECOMMENDED**

**6.a. Proposed Constitution Amendments to Article II, Membership.**

This amendment and its supporting amendments propose making all US veterans eligible for MOWW regular membership.

**6.b. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 1, Paragraph D.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 6.a. is approved.

**6.c. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 1, Paragraph F.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 6.a. is approved.

**6.d. Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article II, Section 3.**

This is an administrative amendment required if amendment 6.a. is approved.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee provided a detailed rationale for not recommending these amendments in *“Rebuttal to the Proposed MOWW Constitutional Amendment: Article II, Section 1, Paragraph A. Submitted by: Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill, III, USAF (Ret).”*

Please visit the [MOWW.ORG](https://www.moww.org) website to view and download the full text of all proposed amendments submitted to the MOWW Constitution and Bylaws Committee. A copy of the full text of all proposed amendments will also be published in the MOWW Almanac.



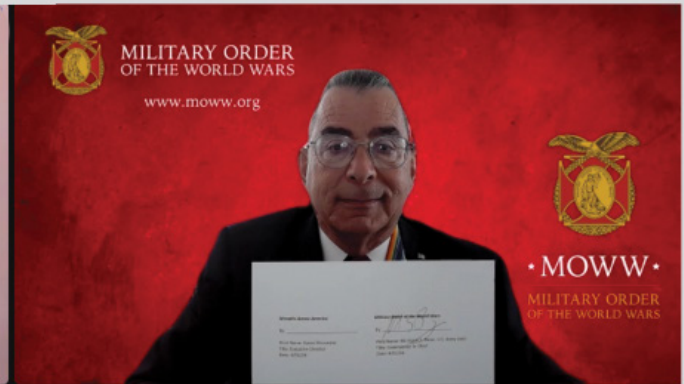


★ MOWW ★

MILITARY ORDER  
OF THE WORLD WARS



# PROUDLY ANNOUNCING OUR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP!

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE SIGNING OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA (WAA), AN ORGANIZATION RENOWNED FOR ITS DEDICATION TO HONORING VETERANS AND EDUCATING FUTURE GENERATIONS.

On 3 April 2024, CINC BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret), joined WAA Executive Director Karen Worcester on WAA Radio to sign the MOU and mark this significant alliance. This partnership aims to enhance MOWW's impact in communities nationwide by strengthening our respective missions, programs, services, and collaborative efforts.

Our partnership with WAA will accomplish the following:

- **Chapter Fundraising:** MOWW Chapters will have the opportunity to establish themselves as a WAA Sponsorship Group, and advance fundraising efforts within their local communities.
- **Increase MOWW's Visibility:** Monthly segments featuring MOWW Companions will broadcast on WAA Radio, providing a platform to share stories and showcase MOWW programs and activities.
- **Grow Local Engagement:** WAA will facilitate connections between MOWW Chapters and local WAA groups and volunteers, furthering community ties and bolstering our collective efforts.

Karen Worcester, Executive Director of Wreaths Across America, expressed her enthusiasm by stating, "The partnership between Wreaths Across America and the Military Order of the World Wars symbolizes a collective dedication to preserving the legacies of our nation's heroes. Together, we will continue to inspire patriotism and honor those who have served."

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LISTEN TO CINC PÉREZ'S  
INTERVIEW ON WAA RADIO!





# NYCS is Around the Corner

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

The first-ever MOWW National Youth Civics Summit will be held in Washington, DC, from 7-13 July 2024.

Our first cohort of 16 students is a testament to the diverse and dedicated youth of our nation. They represent a balanced mix of genders and hail from various regions across the United States. Each applicant has shown an unwavering commitment to public service, a commitment that shines through in their applications.

I believe that they have been influenced by their parents, teachers, and adult community leaders. However, each of them spoke highly of their YLC experiences.

In summary, MOWW has assembled an All-Star Team of YLC graduates. In July, we will step up to the plate...and swing for the fence!

It's a very ambitious schedule that includes planned educational field trips to George Washington's Mount Vernon and the battlefields of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

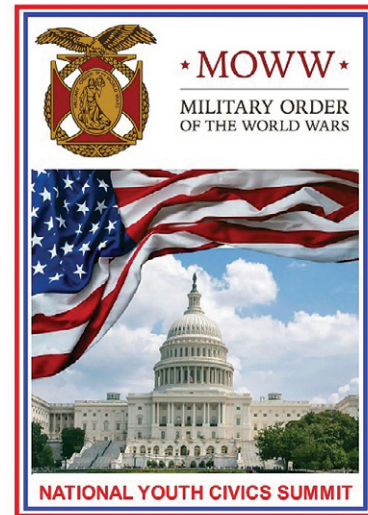
While on Capitol Hill, we've planned for the students to have an audience with members of the US Congress. We have scheduled visits with the Under Secretary of Commerce and the current Deputy Commandant at the National War College, who served as US Ambassador to Mozambique. We will even learn about international perspectives from the Assistant Attaché at the British Embassy.

Since the NYCS is planned to be conducted at no cost to the student, we still need your support. Please consider donating to this noble effort as we show America's best students that it truly is better to serve than to be served.

Mail your donation to the  
Youth Enrichment Foundation,  
216 Fox Ridge Drive,  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

Indicate that your donation is for the NYCS.

Thank you for supporting the NYCS.  
VCINC CAPT Ed Gantt, USN (Ret)



[MOWW.org/NYCS/](https://MOWW.org/NYCS/)



# The Call of the Eagle

COL ROBERT L. REESE, USA (RET)  
VICE COMMANDER AND ADJUTANT  
GEN RIDGWAY CHAPTER PA



COL Reese of the General Ridgway-Pittsburgh Chapter had the honor of presenting five Boy Scouts who were elevated to Eagle Scouts with Certificates of Recognition and Scout badges. LTC Charles Chasler, the Pittsburgh Chapter's scouting director, managed and coordinated the event. The Hamilton Presbyterian Church hosted the Eagle Court of Honor, which had about 150 attendees.

Since its establishment in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank has been a symbol of exceptional achievement in scouting. It is a distinction that only four percent of Scouts have earned, following a rigorous review process. Over 2.5 million youth have proudly earned this rank. The requirements are demanding, including the acquisition of at least 21 merit badges, 14 of which are mandatory for the award.

The Chapter proudly recognizes Paul Baronak, Bryce Clancy, Gavin Clancy, Edward Counihan,

and Nathan Stutzman as the newest members of this esteemed group. Troop 215, a proud contributor to this legacy since 1944, has produced 190 Eagle Scouts.

Every Scout must complete a service project in the community to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout after progressing through the six scouting ranks. Paul Baronak's project enhanced the outdoor South Park Theater by providing furniture for the stage, support for the backstage cast, and barriers to improve parking safety. Bryce Clancy's project involved the construction of a fire pit and enclosed gravel area for the Bible Chapel in Rostraver. Gavin Clancy's project involved designing and constructing four benches for the Bible Chapel in Rostraver. Edward Counihan's project was to refurbish a teaching room for the Habitat for Humanity organization. Nathan Stutzman's project helped bring recognition to Civil War soldiers buried in Mingo Creek Cemetery by verifying their names and raising funds to clean their gravestones.

Unique and much appreciated was the award of an MOWW Scout patch to each Scout by the Pittsburgh Chapter. ★



Top, COL Robert L. Reese, USA (Ret), displays the MOWW Scout patch and Certificate awarded to each of the Eagle Scouts. Above, Scouts listen to COL Reeses' address to family and guests.





# Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails

LTC GREGG GIESLER, USA (RET)  
CHAPTER COMMANDER  
MG MILES CHAPTER NM



*MG Miles Chapter Commander LTC Gregg Giesler USA (Ret) presents Girl Scouts USA Gold Award Certificates of Recognition to the ten 2023 recipients from the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails Council.*

For the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails, their community is strong and vision is clear: they are empowered to fulfill their potential and make the world a better place. The ultimate recognition is the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award. This award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn while in high school, recognizes individuals for their outstanding leadership, organizational skills, and dedication to creating meaningful, lasting change in their communities.

Requirements for earning the Gold Award include a minimum of 80 hours towards a service project that creates sustainable and measurable impact. The following projects showcase the ingenuity, resourcefulness, and passion of New Mexico's future leaders. Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails serves approximately 6,000 girls and adults all across central and northern New Mexico.

Examples of the service projects includes Girl Scout Fallon Setter of Albuquerque (St. Pius High School) who created the "Blowing Off Steam" room as a safe space for people to channel their grief and anger constructively. Partnering with The Grief Center of Albuquerque, she designed and developed the space, working with Elite

Building Systems to guarantee its safe installation. Additionally, Fallon filled the room with other soft objects like stuffed animals and pillows she made with a group of volunteers. The room has been well received and is used by people of all ages.

Girl Scout Raven Sillence of Rio Rancho (Homeschool) combined a passion for history and camp to develop a Gold Award project that focuses on the historical preservation of summer camps. Raven led a team of camp staff, alum, and volunteers in uncovering historical documents, reviving forgotten traditions, and creating a preservation guide that's been shared worldwide from New Mexico to Germany!

Keely Falardeau of Rio Rancho (Homeschool) focused her Gold Award project on addressing food insecurity in New Mexico. In partnership with Seed2Need, dedicated to reducing hunger by growing fresh fruits and vegetables and donating them to local food pantries, Keely led a team that created 162 tree identification signs to make tree maintenance and harvest protocol easier for volunteer field workers. The helpful identification markers have already increased fruit yield and, subsequently, donations to local food banks. ★



# Presentations to JROTC

BRIG GEN ARTHUR B. MORRILL III, USAF (RET)  
VIRGINIA PIEDMONT CHAPTER



On 7 December 2023, Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Ret), Virginia Piedmont Chapter member and the Commander, Region IV, spoke to approximately 100 Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program cadets, the “Montpelier Rifle Battalion,” at Orange County High School, VA.

He gave three presentations to roughly 100 cadets in three blocks of instruction. The first topic in each block addressed Pearl Harbor Day, exploring the events leading up to that day, the events of that day, and the resulting decisions and actions by the United States.

The second topic in each block covered the MOWW’s ROTC/JROTC Program (recognition and support), the Order’s Patriotic Education Program

(YLCs, YLSs, Phoenician Essay Contest, and Massing of Colors, and the National Youth Civic Seminar).

The third presentation in each of the three blocks of instruction was on leadership: Leadership Styles, Leadership Roles, and Purposeful Leadership; Leadership Drift; Followership Attributes; and Self-Leadership Attributes.

He took questions during and after each of the three blocks of instruction, and then closed with open Q&A on these topics, military service, and our Military Order. The three blocks lasted from 0700-1500. The cadets were highly energized, asked many questions, and shared their thoughts on a range of topics. They presented General Morrill with their unit coin, and their senior instructor, LTC Paul Fritz, USA (Ret), received a MOWW Coin in turn. ★



*Left, the Montpelier Rifle Battalion on the march.*

*Above, the Montpelier Rifle Battalion’s unit crest with the Latin motto “Optimis Dedicati.” Essentially, it means “Dedicated to the highest degree possible.” The horseshoe represents the “Knights of the Golden Horseshoe” who first explored Orange County. The flower, an American Dogwood, is the State flower of Virginia. The scroll represents their continuous stride toward “Academic Excellence.” The “Shield” displays their “Coat of Arms.” The colors of the “shield” are blue and orange, the school colors. A gold border surrounds the shield. The color orange represents fidelity, while blue symbolizes loyalty. Gold represents generosity and elevation of the mind.*



# Philadelphia Chapter YLS

LTC SUSANN M. KIRLIN, USA (RET)  
PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PA

On 18 November, 2023 the Philadelphia Chapter conducted a Youth Leadership Seminar at Williamstown High School in Williamstown, NJ.

The seminar was hosted by Lt Col Edward Dagney, USAF (Ret), the senior A JROTC instructor. Three schools participated with their cadets from the following high schools: Williamstown High School (AFJROTC), Clayton High School (AJROTC), and Deptford High School (NJROTC).

The seminar began with an invocation, advancing the Colors by the color guard of the host school and the Pledge of Allegiance. COL Joseph P. Kirlin, USA (Ret), Chapter Commander gave the welcome and introduction. Blocks of instruction included: Leadership, American Heritage, Patriotism & Leadership and the Free Enterprise System. All presentations were interactive.

A competitive Free Enterprise Challenge exercise was conducted. The schools worked in teams to create a business and product. Each team

presented their business and product to a group of “shark” judges (MOWW) who scored them on product purpose, target market, marketing, estimated cost, value and consumer interest. The team with the highest score was awarded a cash prize of \$125 and the runner-up team a prize of \$75. The cadets practiced public speaking, teamwork and problem solving while interacting with other cadets from other units/branches.

Certificates of Participation were given to the participant cadets. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Lt Col Edward Dagney (R) for hosting and to presenters MSG Bill Kaemmer (R) and LTC Russ Gallagher (R). A Certificate and an award of \$125 was presented to the Deptford Team #2, winner of the Free Enterprise Challenge. Their product titled “Timely & Tidy” was an innovative shoe shine gadget. Williamstown Team #2 was awarded \$75 as runner-up. MOWW coins were presented to the Williamstown high school Color Guard. ★



*A Certificate and an award of \$125 was presented to the Deptford Team, winner of the Free Enterprise Challenge.*







# 2024 MOWW NATIONAL CONVENTION

**““YOUTH LEADERSHIP - BUILDING THE NEXT GREATEST GENERATION”**

## **Tuesday, 6 August 2024 | Dress: Casual**

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	ATTENDEES
0800-1030	Pre-Convention EXCOM Breakfast	Wayne	EXCOM Members
<b>0800-1600</b>	<b>GOLF OUTING &amp; LUNCH - Waynesborough Country Club, Paoli, PA</b>		<b>ALL Golfers</b>
1600-1700	National Candidate Orientation	TBD	Candidates for National Office
1700-1830	HQs Membership Seminar	Independence	All Attendees

## **Wednesday, 7 August 2024 | Dress: Casual**

0730-0900	Council of Area Commanders (CAC)	Independence	CAC Members
<b>0845-1600</b>	<b>TOUR 1: FOUNDING FOWARD AT VALLEY FORGE, PA</b>		<b>ALL ATTENDEES</b>
1600-1700	Hann-Buswell Chapter Meeting	Independence	H-B Chap Members
1800-2100	CINC Welcome Buffet	Freedom IV - VI	All Attendees

## **Thursday, 8 August 2024 | Dress: Casual (Hann-Buswell Chapter Dinner: Mess Dress)**

0730-0930	Council of Past CINCs Breakfast	Radnor	CPC/CINC/SVCINC/CS
0800-0930	New Chapter Commanders Forum	Independence	All Attendees
<b>0815-1630</b>	<b>TOUR 2: HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA</b>		<b>ALL AVAILABLE</b>
0945-1030	Naming Ad Hoc Committee Brief	Independence	All Attendees
1045-1130	Membership Ad Hoc Committee Brief	Independence	All Attendees
<b>1130-1300</b>	<b>LUNCH AS DESIRED</b>		
1300-1500	Youth Leadership Panel	Independence	All Attendees
1530-1700	Commander's Call	Independence	All Attendees
1800-2100	Hann-Buswell Chapter Dinner	Freedom V & VI	H-B Chap Members
	<b>DINNER AS DESIRED</b>		

## **Friday, 9 August 2024 | Business Casual**

0730-0900	National Candidate Presentations	Independence	All Attendees
0930-1030	Teller Meeting	Wayne	Tellers
0900-1030	Nominating Committee Voting	Independence	Nom Cmte Del
1045-1115	Veterans Affairs Committee Seminar	Independence	All Available
1130-1330	<b>MOWW Awards Luncheon</b>	Freedom IV - VI	All Attendees
1400-1445	Patriotic Education Committee Mtg	Independence	All Available
1500-1730	<b>Convention   Business Session I</b>	Independence	All Available
	<b>DINNER AS DESIRED</b>		

## **Saturday, 10 August 2024 | Business Casual (CINC Banquet: Mess Dress/Tuxedo)**

0730-0830	MOWW Memorial Service	Freedom IV - VI	All Attendees
0900-1130	<b>Convention   Business Session II</b>	Freedom IV - VI	All Attendees
1130-1300	<b>LUNCH AS DESIRED</b>		
<b>0915-1600</b>	<b>TOUR 3: LONGWOOD GARDENS, KENNETT SQUARE, PA</b>		<b>ALL AVAILABLE</b>
1300-1345	Scouting Committee Seminar	Amphitheater	All Attendees
1400-1445	ROTC Committee Seminar	Amphitheater	All Attendees
1500-1545	PS/L&O Homeland & National Security Mtg	Amphitheater	All Attendees
1600-1645	Non-Denominational Worship Service	Amphitheater	All Attendees
1730-1800	National Officer Photos	Freedom Foyer	CPC/CINC/VCINCS/CS
1800-1850	CINC Reception	Freedom Foyer	All Attendees
1900-2100	CINC Banquet	Freedom IV - VI	All Attendees

## **Sunday, 11 August 2024 | Dress Casual**

0800-1030	Post-Convention EXCOM Breakfast	Wayne	EXCOM Members
0800-1030	EXCOM Spouse/Partner Breakfast	Radnor	Spouses/Partners





## Tour 1: Founding Forward

with Medal of Honor Grove & Valley Forge National Park

WEDNESDAY, 7 AUGUST 2024, 0845-1600

Tour the Founding Forward, which was founded in 1949 and is celebrating 75 years of promoting civic responsibility. After the tour, enjoy a brief guided tour through the Medal of Honor Grove, the nation's oldest living memorial to Medal of Honor recipients. Lunch will be provided on-site, followed by a short ride to the historic Valley Forge National Park. A two-hour guided motorcoach tour of the park includes stops at Washington's Headquarters, Muhlenberg's Brigade (reconstructed soldier's huts), and the gift shop.

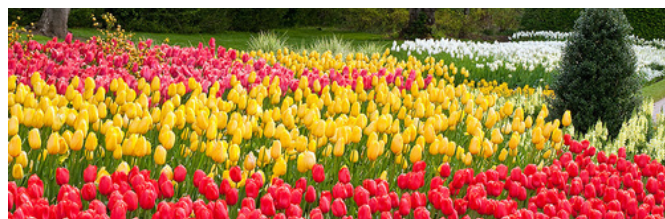


## Tour 2: Historic Philadelphia

THURSDAY, 8 AUGUST 2024, 0815-1630

Enjoy a tour of historic Philadelphia, the birthplace of America's freedom and the nation's sixth-largest city. The tour commences at Independence Historical Park, known as "America's most historic square mile." Visit the Liberty Bell Center and tour Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution were signed.

Other stops include a visit to Christ Church, a tour of the Museum of the American Revolution combined with a scrumptious box lunch, a trip to the National Constitution Center, and a brief stop at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where the Rocky steps are located. Handicap accessible van may be available upon request.



## Tour 3: Longwood Gardens

SATURDAY, 10 AUGUST 2024, 0915-1600

Explore the beauty of Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, with a self-guided walking tour. Featuring over 1,077 acres, it is one of the world's premier botanical gardens. The conservatory is one of the most extensive indoor gardens in the world, spanning over 4 acres with 20 gardens and 5,500 plants.

Dining on your own:  
Options in the garden include "The Café" or alfresco dining at the "Beer Garden" for light lunch fare. For fine dining, reserve a table at the "1906" in advance.

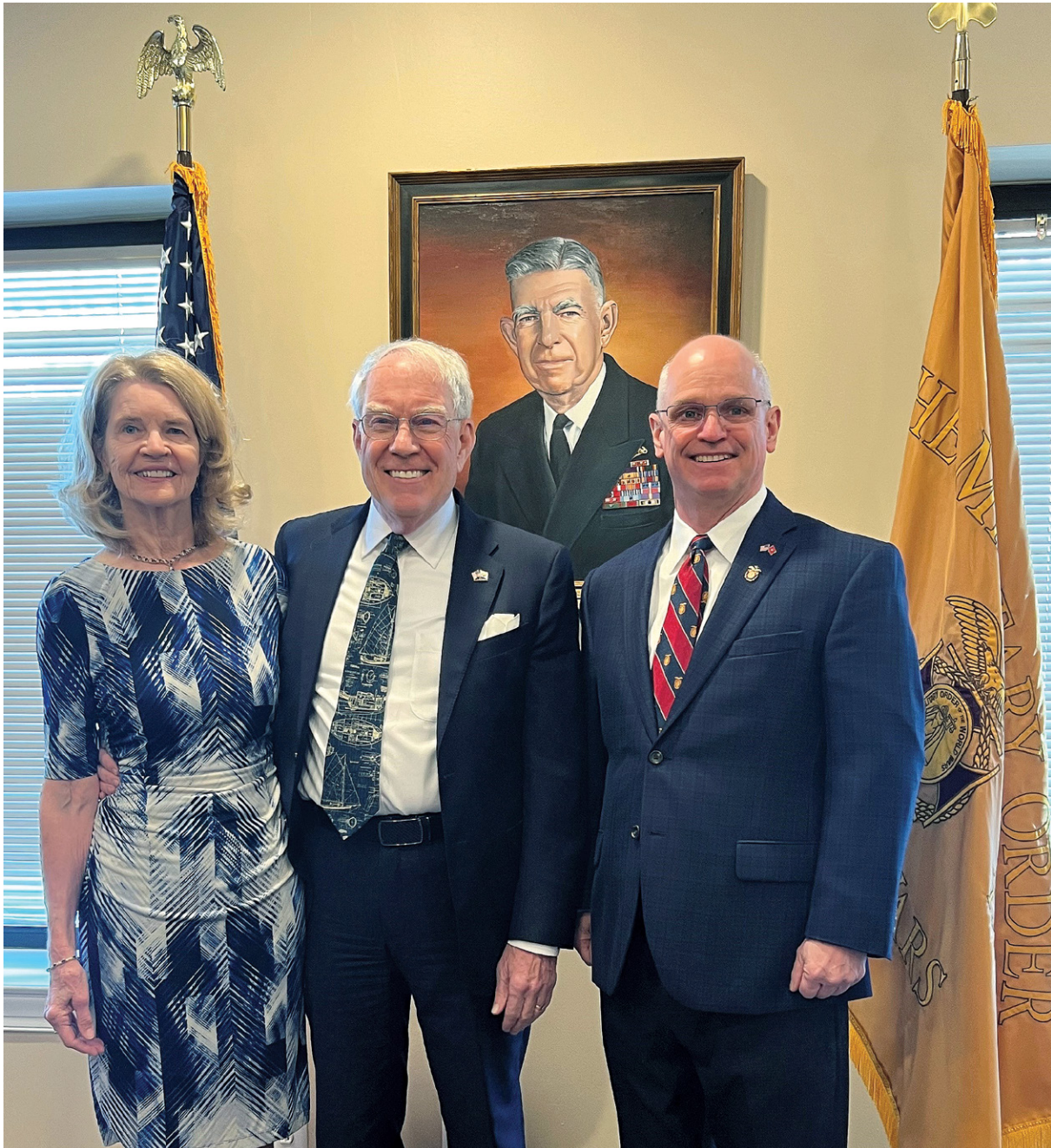


The Visitor Center has a Garden Shop and restrooms and also provides wheelchairs and mobility scooters on a first-come basis. Dining facilities are a 7-minute walk from the Visitor Center.





## A Gift Like No Other



The VADM George C. Dyer Trust made another generous donation to MOWW on 29 February 2024. CAPT Weston D. Burnett, JAGC, USN (Ret), and his wife, Barbara, presented a check for \$105,000 to the Chief of Staff, Military Order of the World Wars, in the VADM George C. Dyer Memorial Conference Room. CAPT Burnett is

VADM Dyer's Grandson. The contribution will be added to the VADM Dyer Memorial Executive Committee Discretionary Trust Fund. These funds will be allocated towards supporting selected projects and initiatives sanctioned by the Executive Committee of MOWW. ★



# Warriors Helping Warriors

LTC CARL WITTE, USA (RET)  
DELAWARE CHAPTER

IN MIDDLETOWN, DE, THERE IS A BUILDING THAT HOUSES THE BRIAN CONLEY VETERANS RESILIENCY CENTER.

*After fulfilling their service to our country, some veterans might find themselves in need of a helping hand.*

Companion MAJ Kevin Conley, USA (Ret), returned from Afghanistan severely wounded. After multiple surgeries, he was challenged, not just by his recovery but with the hurdles required to secure authorized and needed benefits. Through his associations, MAJ Conley realized that some fellow veterans were having difficulty thriving. They did not know what benefits were available or how to apply for them. Some individuals faced physical, emotional, and personal challenges, leading them to homelessness. To combat this, “Warriors Helping Warriors” was created.

Determined to assist fellow veterans, the Major, with his father, Companion LTC Bill Conley, USA (Ret), and his mother, Marsha, founded “Warriors Helping Warriors.” Soon, the mission expanded, intending to provide a transitional residence to help veterans develop the life skills needed to return to being productive citizens. In November 2016, the Conleys purchased a shell of a circa 1881 house. There were no interior walls, plumbing, electricity, or HVAC. They raised \$300,000 and completely refurbished the house with the help of many volunteers.

In April 2017, the Brian Conley Veterans Resiliency Center opened. The facility was named in honor of Conley’s son, Brian, who passed away from cancer. Brian was a popular high school teacher and college track coach. The facility is fully staffed with a team of dedicated individuals committed to providing the residents with the best possible care and support. The team includes



Standing (L-R): LTC Bill Conley, USA (Ret), LTC Carl Witte, USA (Ret), and LTC Joe Effinger, USA (Ret), present MOWW Certificates of Achievement to residents.

Kevin, who manages the facility’s day-to-day operations; Bill, who provides administrative support and oversees the maintenance of the premises; and Marsha, a case manager who works closely with the residents to ensure their needs are met.

In addition, the facility is fortunate to have two house managers responsible for the

residents’ well-being and ensuring that the facility runs smoothly. Further, a VA benefits consultant is available to advise and guide the residents on the benefits they are entitled to receive.

One staff member who deserves a special mention is Army veteran Dylan, Bill’s grandson. Dylan is a valued team member and provides additional support to the residents, drawing on his experience in the military to help them overcome the challenges they face.

Temporary housing is provided for homeless veterans. The team applies a holistic approach to address each veteran’s individual needs, including their families, when necessary. Services include educational resource assistance, medical care, financial counseling, recovery programs, job placement, and any other special needs required.

By January 2024, necessary services were provided to 145 veterans to help them achieve a productive life. It all started with the vision of a wounded warrior, Major Kevin Conley, and the support of his family and the selfless assistance of the community. Recently, a grant was received from the VA to pave the way for opening a second center.

Website <https://www.whwonline.org/> ★



# Louis R. De Steiguer

BOSTON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2021  
AND THE NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND

Rear Admiral Louis R. De Steiguer, USN  
NH 50558  
Naval History and  
Heritage Command



Even ships' captains and other senior officers serving under Admiral Louis R. de Steiguer's command did not simply approach him without first studying his mood—which was always bad, and most often terrible. His personal style was characterized by caustic remarks, extreme unpleasantness, intentional rudeness, torrents of invective and criticism. In his era of leadership Admiral de Steiguer may very well have set the standard for unpleasantness in the US Navy. A stern disciplinarian, Admiral de Steiguer is certainly a potential candidate for the dubious distinction of being named the most irascible member the Greater Boston Chapter has ever had in its century of existence.

He clearly was one of our least cordial companions. Credible testimony of his personality

came from Admiral Robert B. Carney, eventually Chief of Naval Operations and commander of the southern military forces of NATO, who, when Admiral de Steiguer commanded the United States Navy's battle Fleet in the 1920s, served as his



Rear Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN.  
Admiral R.B. Carney Collection

flag secretary for a tortured period of three years. As Admiral Carney later told the story, the abuse was so intense and so constant that he finally lost control, and bursting into Admiral de Steiguer's office blurted out: "Admiral, I just wanted to tell you that you are a goddamn rotten son of a bitch." Carney left at once, and de Steiguer sent a Marine orderly to fetch him back, but Carney refused to come. Realizing what he had done to a promising young officer, Admiral de Steiguer immediately went to Carney's cabin and said: "Sonny, you have been working too hard. You and I are going ashore." What de Steiguer meant, and what followed, was an extended drunken binge, and the restoration to some extent of the working relationship of the two officers.

Ultimately, Admiral Carney remarked that he had in fact learned a great deal during his tour with Admiral de Steiguer, but the pressure and abuse was so constant that he would not repeat the experience. Admiral de Steiguer joined the Greater Boston Chapter as a perpetual member in December of 1923 at the time he was commandant of the Portsmouth Navy Yard, and he was later advanced to the temporary grades of vice admiral and admiral when he was placed in command of the US Navy Battle Fleet. Following that assignment, he assumed command of the Brooklyn Navy Yard reverting to the grade of rear admiral.

He retired in 1932 and was not recalled for World War II service.

When Admiral de Steiguer passed away in 1947, it was learned that he had left two requests. He asked that Carney, his much-abused former flag

secretary, by then an Admiral, lead the funeral cortege to Arlington National Cemetery. He also asked that he be buried with his backside pointing in the direction of the Pentagon. Both requests were honored. ★



Admiral Louis Rodolph de Steiguer (March 18, 1867–April 20, 1947) was an officer in the US Navy. He was Commander of the US Battle Fleet from 1927 to 1928.

#### EARLY CAREER

Born in Athens, Ohio, on March 18, 1867, to Judge Rodolph de Steiguer and Mary Carpenter de Steiguer, he was descended from Judge Silvanus Ames, a prominent citizen of southern Ohio. He was appointed to the US Naval Academy from Ohio in 1885. Graduating in 1889, he served his naval cadet cruise aboard the new steel cruiser Atlanta, which sailed with the Squadron of Evolution to Europe, the Mediterranean and Brazil, before returning to New York in 1890. He was commissioned ensign on July 1, 1891, and served in various assignments ashore and afloat, including tours aboard the Vulcan and aboard the Montgomery during the Spanish–American War. Promoted to lieutenant commander in 1905, he was Supervisor of New York Harbor from 9 December 1905, to 30 August 1906; was in charge of the Fifth Lighthouse District in 1911; commanded the Panther through

1913; was acting commandant of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard from 25 September 1914, to 4 January 1915; and commanded the battleship Kearsarge in 1916.

#### LIEUTENANT LOUIS R. DE STEIGUER

During World War I he served as chief of staff of the Third Naval District before reporting as captain of the battleship Arkansas, which was stationed with the American dreadnought squadron operating with the British Grand Fleet. After the war, de Steiguer was Hydrographer of the Navy from July 1921 to December 1921. Promoted to rear admiral, he was commander of the First Naval District, including the Portsmouth Navy Yard, from June 1923 to 1925.

#### FLEET COMMAND

In June 1925, de Steiguer returned to sea as Commander Battleship Division Four (COMBATDIV 4), with flagship New Mexico, and the following summer he was promoted to temporary vice admiral as Commander Battleship Divisions, Battle Fleet (COMBATDIVS), with flagship West Virginia. On 10 September 1927, de Steiguer assumed the temporary rank of full admiral as Commander in Chief Battle Fleet, United States Fleet, with the flagship California.

Following his tour as Battle Fleet commander, de Steiguer “fleeted down” to his permanent rank of rear admiral and served as commandant, Brooklyn Navy Yard from 2 July 1928, to 18 March 1931. He retired in 1932.





## MEMBERSHIP MADNESS WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

*Our first attempt at drumming up new members during  
March Membership Madness brought in 45 new Companions!*

### MARCH MEMBERSHIP MADNESS BRACKET WINNERS!



#### LARGE CHAPTER

*TIED 4 New Companions*  
Dallas Chapter, TX - 69  
San Diego Chapter, CA - 100

#### MEDIUM CHAPTER

7 New Companions  
Prince George's County  
Chapter, MD - 163

#### SMALL CHAPTER

*TIED 2 New Companions*  
West Valley Chapter, AZ - 131  
MG Wheeler Chapter, AL - 202

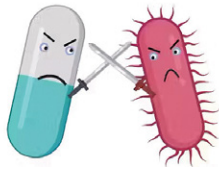
Regular and Perpetual MOWW memberships were available at a **20%** discount to all new Companions!  
*Thanks to all who participated!*

#### **Bracket Winners!**

The chapter that added the most new Companions during Membership Madness won a \$500 cash prize in the Large, Medium, and Small Chapter brackets.

There was a Tie in the Large and Small Chapter brackets, and each winner received a check for \$250.  
Prizes were donated by the BG Bultman Chapter Commander.





# Antibiotics

CPT ROBERT E. MALLIN, MD, USA (FMR)  
SURGEON GENERAL, MOWW

Antibiotics have a long and complex history. In just over 100 years, antibiotics have drastically changed modern medicine and extended the average human lifespan by 23 years. It all began with the discovery of mycophenolic acid in 1893, the first antibiotic found in nature. The first man-made antibacterial agent, arsphenamine (Salvarsan), was discovered by Paul Ehrlich in Germany and approved (to treat syphilis) in 1910.

In 1928, British scientist Alexander Fleming accidentally discovered penicillin when he noticed that a fungus, *Penicillium notatum*, had contaminated an uncovered culture of *Staphylococcus* bacteria. This discovery marked the beginning of today's antibiotic era. It took over a decade and WWII before penicillin became a treatment for bacterial infections. By the end of WWII, penicillin was named 'the wonder drug' and had saved countless lives. The word 'antibiotics' was first used by the Ukrainian-American inventor and microbiologist Selman Waksman, who discovered over 20 antibiotics in his lifetime.

Antibiotics, of one kind or another, have been used for millennia to treat infections. Various molds and plant extracts were used by some of the earliest civilizations—for example, ancient Egyptians applied moldy bread to infected wounds. Until the 20th century, infections that we now consider straightforward—such as pneumonia and diarrhea—were the number one causes of human death in the developed world.

How did they treat infections before antibiotics? Topical iodine, bromine, and mercury-containing compounds were used to treat infected wounds and gangrene during the Civil War. Additional treatments over the years have included bloodletting and drugs derived from herbs with emetic, purgative, diaphoretic, or narcotic properties, such as garlic, ginger, and honey.

According to the American Society for Microbiology, garlic possesses many active antimicrobial components. Since ancient times, honey has been used for its wound-healing activity and antimicrobial properties. The scientific community also recognizes ginger as a natural antibiotic. A 2019 review highlighted ginger's antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anticoagulant properties. Traditional healers have used echinacea for hundreds of years to treat infections and wounds.

Antibacterials are specifically designed to treat bacterial infections. In the pre-antibiotic era, people had no medicines against common germs, and 90% of children with bacterial meningitis died.

With the success of penicillin and due to its overuse, resistant strains of microbes developed. The race to find other and new antibiotics began. Today, doctors can choose from dozens of antibiotics on the market. New ways to improve on existing agents to combat resistance were developed. Beecham, a British pharmaceutical company, developed methicillin in 1959 as the first penicillinase-resistant  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic—additionally, penicillin's spectrum of activity and pharmacokinetics improved by the introduction of ampicillin in 1961.

Cephalosporins started to emerge in the 1960s. Bacterial  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors (co-administered with antimicrobials to prevent antimicrobial resistance) were first identified as a by-product in 1976. As the number of broad-spectrum antibiotics became more available, paradoxically, the incidence of resistant bacteria increased. Until the early 1980s, the treatment of pseudomonal infections required the use of intravenous antibiotics and hospital admission. Nalidixic acid was available for clinical use in 1967; Ciprofloxacin was introduced in the mid-1980s and became clinically available.

As time moved along, resistant Gram-positive infections such as MRSA and enterococci were proving increasingly more challenging to clinicians, and antibiotic development shifted attention towards these bacteria. Vancomycin, which has been used for more than 50 years, is still used as a first-line agent for these infections. Attention turned to the resistance in Gram-negative bacteria, characterized by a bacterial strain resistant to all current antibacterial agents. Treatment of infections caused by pan-resistant *Acinetobacter*, *Enterobacteriaceae*, and *Pseudomonas* was challenging for clinicians, particularly in the intensive care scenario. For a time, older drugs such as colistin, chloramphenicol, and minocycline were reconsidered, either alone or in combination with newer agents. The emergence of resistant strains leads to newer antibiotics—the fight continues. Be well / Bob. ★



# The Legacy of Words

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

*“The tongue has the power of life and death,  
and those who love it will eat its fruit.”*

—PSALMS 18:21 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

“It is nobler to serve than to be served.” Our Military Order of World Wars’ motto resonates with military leaders who understand the power of words. Psalms 18:21 reminds us that our tongues wield both life and death, and those who love their words will reap their fruit.

Just as military leaders understand the nobility of service, we, too, pledge to serve others rather than seeking to be served. Our rich history of military and leadership accomplishments, combined with our age and wisdom, positions us as guides and sources of hope for those who look up to us. Some of us have led 40 to 4,000 service members, our words matter. We can choose to uplift and encourage, even in challenging times.

As Companions, we serve a mighty God—one filled with hope, power, and love. Our commitment to service extends beyond ourselves; it encompasses others. Our rich history of military and leadership accomplishments, combined with our age and wisdom, positions us as guides, leaders, and beacons of hope. Amidst global

challenges—the Southern border crisis, Ukraine Conflict, Middle East conflicts, and social upheaval in Haiti—we have a responsibility to speak as leaders. We must stand on our faith in God.

God’s word calls us to build rather than destroy. Our unwavering faith in His providence proves He loves us and has never failed. Therefore, let our words be positive and uplifting. Proverbs 18:21 underscores the potency of language—it holds life and death within its grasp. We must use our words wisely, avoiding gossip and negativity. As public leaders, our utterances can shape destinies.

Consider the legacy of three biblical leaders: Moses, David, and Paul. Though sometimes leading to death, their words ultimately guided others to trust and obey God during unbearable circumstances. Our MOWW legacy lies not only in our actions but also in the words we choose. Let us study God’s word and use it to leave behind a legacy of encouragement, inspiration, and unwavering faith. ★

*“May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the LORD cause His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the Lord lift up His countenance toward you and give you peace.”*

—NUMBERS 6:24-26 NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE





Department of Texas

## GSUSA Simran Carl Awarded BPH

MAJ MICHAEL E. BELCHER, USA (RET)

On 14 April, MAJ Michael E. Belcher, USA (Ret), attended an award ceremony held by the Girl Scouts of Central Texas. Girl Scout Simran Carl, from Cedar Park, TX, was awarded the Bronze Patrick Henry Award for her project “Honoring the Missing Man.” Simran raised awareness of soldiers who are prisoners of war or missing in action by distributing self-made missing man kits to schools and community members. She collaborated with AFROTC Cadets from Leander High School and donated 19 kits to 14 schools, reaching more than 20,243 students.

(L-R): Department of Texas Commander Belcher and GSUSA Simran Carl



Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

## GSUSA Gold Award Presentations

BY COL ADALBERTO RIVERA, USAF (RET)

The Caribe Girl Scouts Council held its Girl Scout Gold Award presentations on 11 November 2023. The ceremony took place at the Wesleyan Church in Guaynabo. Maj Isabel Vazquez, USAF (Ret), PR Chapter Adjutant, attended the ceremony on behalf of the PR Chapter. During the event, she presented MOWW GSUSA Certificates to the Girl Scouts who were recognized for their outstanding achievements.



Colorado Springs, CO

## Chapter Welcomes DA Michael Allen

BY LTC MIKE BERENDT, USA (RET)

DA Michael Allen was the guest speaker at the Colorado Chapter membership meeting on 16 March 2024. DA Allen has served in the Colorado 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office since 2011 and was named the Homicide Prosecutor of the Year in 2015 and 2017. In January 2021, he was elected as District Attorney of the 4th Judicial District, serving over a million Colorado citizens. He shared insights into two significant cases he prosecuted over the past year, the murder of Gannon Stauch and the mass killing at Club Q. DA Allen secured life sentences without parole for both perpetrators.

(L-R): DA Michael Allen, wife Heidi, Chapter Commander Col Kerm Neal, USAF (Ret), and Colorado State Councilman and MOWW Companion Col Randy Helms, USAF (Ret).







COL Woolsey Chapter, CA

## Successful Membership Meeting

BY PCINC BGEN FREDERICK R. LOPEZ, USMCR (RET)

During the January 2024 meeting, the chapter inducted two Perpetual Members (*pictured*): LTC Pablo Paredes, USA (Ret), and LTC Sara Villacorta, USA (Ret). In addition, Companions welcomed new MOWW Patriot Members: Mr. Gary Simpson, USCG (Fmr); Mrs. Susan Cavilli, Mr. David Cavilli, Dr. Barney Melekian, USCG (Ret) (former Chief of Police for Pasadena, CA), and Dr. John W.I. Lee (Professor of History, University of California at Santa Barbara.) The keynote speaker, Ms. Anikka Abbott, the Chief Weather Forecaster for three local TV channels, gave a presentation on “Weather Forecasting On The Coast.” For her informative talk, BGen Lopez presented Ms. Abbott with a MOWW Certificate of Appreciation.



Puget Sound Chapter, WA

## Outstanding Students Awarded BPH

BY PCINC COL DAVID B. GIBSON, USAF (RET)

The Puget Sound Chapter proudly recognized 13 exceptional students on St. Patrick's Day. Each student was awarded the MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry Medal for Patriotic Achievement and Certificate. The ceremony was held on March 17 at Steilacoom Town Hall, WA. This annual event highlights teens who have made significant contributions to the community. Pictured are four of the 13 recipients.



Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

## SPH to Lynchburg Commonwealth's Attorney Bethany Harrison

BY HPM MR. CHARLES W. BENNETT, JR.

Mrs. Bethany Harrison is a highly experienced attorney, having served as the Deputy and Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney. In 2018, she became Lynchburg's first female Commonwealth Attorney. Mrs. Harrison is an active member of several boards and volunteers as a guest lecturer on various topics. Recently, the Virginia Piedmont Chapter honored her with the Silver Patrick Henry Medal for her outstanding service.



Sun City Center Chapter, FL

## Chapter Hosts CINC on its 31st Anniversary

BY LTC CHARLES R. CONOVER, JR., USA (RET)

On February 15, 2024, the Chapter organized their Annual Dining Out event. The guest of honor was CINC BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret). The current Chapter Commander, LTC Charles R. Conover Jr., USA (Ret), introduced CINC Pérez. The Chapter celebrated its 31st anniversary, and all current and past commanders in attendance participated in a ceremonial cake cutting. After the CINC's speech, LTC Conover presented him with a Civil War replica sword letter opener as a memento.

(L-R): Chapter Commander LTC Charles R. Conover Jr., USA (Ret), and CINC BG Victor Pérez, USA (Ret) at the festivities.



Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

## Advocate for Veterans and their Families.

BY COL VINCENTE C. OGILVIE, USA (RET)

Recently, COL Vince Ogilvie, Commander, Northern Virginia Chapter, addressed the members of the Veterans Committee of the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

(L-R): COL V. Ogilvie, NOVA Chapter Commander; HPM Roberta Yourtee, NOVA Chapter Adjutant; Mr. Michael Whitlock, Chairman, Veterans Committee of the Prince William County (PWC) Chamber of Commerce; Mr. D. Burum, Vice Chair Veterans Committee, PWC Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. Dennis Gill, of Voices of Freedom Project - AMERICANS in WARTIME Experience



LTG Middleton Chapter

## Chapter Awards First Responder

BY PCINC COL CLAY LE GRANDE, JR., USA (RET)

Companions of the LTG Middleton Chapter were briefed on the operational status and new developments in the Navy ROTC programs at Louisiana State University and Southern University by CAPT Mark Nieswiadomy, Professor of Naval Science at Southern University. Following the presentation, Chapter Commander COL Clay Le Grande had the honor of presenting its prestigious 2023 First Responder of the Year Award to Mr. Scott Mills, Assistant Shift Supervisor, East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Medical Services. The EBRP EMS provides emergency medical service, including ambulance service, to the citizens of the entire parish, including the City of Baton Rouge.







Greater El Paso Chapter, TX

## Forming JROTC and SROTC Liaisons

BY CPT PAULA MITCHELL, ED.D., USAR (FMR)

The Chapter is actively engaging with local JROTC units this year. There are 30 high schools in the El Paso area with JROTC programs. Chapter JROTC Liaison, MAJ Bill Tarpley, USA (Ret), is visiting each JROTC unit and planning to personally present the Award of Merit Medals to cadets at their Annual Awards Ceremonies. Bill is also taking the initiative to foster closer interaction with the local SROTC programs at the University of Texas at El Paso, New Mexico State University, and New Mexico Military Institute.

*Certificates were presented to NJROTC Cadets from two schools who attended the Chapter meeting and shared information about their activities.*



Dallas Chapter, TX

## Helicopter Passengers Vietnam

BY CPT ALLEN B. CLARK, JR., USA (RET)

During the Dallas Chapter luncheon meeting on 2 April 2024, CPT Milan Omar Georgia, Jr., USA (Fmr), spoke on his firsthand experiences as a helicopter gunship pilot in Vietnam. No other attendees piloted helicopters in the Vietnam War, but all who were passengers in helicopters assembled at the front to be pictured with the speaker!

*(L-R): CPT Allen B. Clark, Jr., USA (Ret), Mr. Pat Nugent, LTC Don Munson, USA (Ret), CPT John H. Wagner II, USA (Fmr), LTC Kenneth W. Boatman, USA (Ret), LTC King Moss II, USAR (Ret), COL Ronald P. Forest, USA (Ret), CPT Donald Fleischman, USA (Fmr), CPT Milan Georgia, Jr., MAJ Douglas J. Gagliano, USA (Ret), Mr. George Grimsley, COL Paul Reed, USA (Ret), Mr. Marvin Thedford, CPT Ira F. Archer, III, USA (Fmr), CPT Dennis J. Sheridan, USA (Fmr), Lt Col Robert T. Douglass, USAF (Ret).*



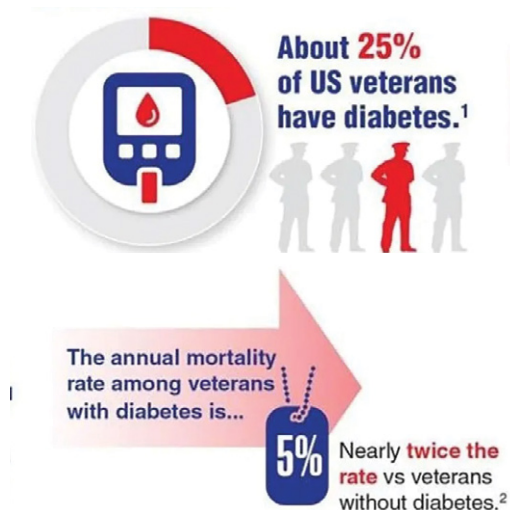


## June is PTSD Month. PTSD Coach

The PTSD Coach app can help you learn about and manage symptoms that often occur after trauma. Features include:

- Reliable information on PTSD and treatments that work
- Tools for screening and tracking your symptoms
- Convenient, easy-to-use tools to help you handle stress symptoms
- Direct links to support and help
- Always with you when you need it

Follow link to view application options:  
[https://www.ptsd.va.gov/appvid/mobile/ptsdcoach\\_app.asp](https://www.ptsd.va.gov/appvid/mobile/ptsdcoach_app.asp)



One in four veterans live with Type 2 diabetes, more than double that of other Americans.

Diabetes is not just about high blood sugar levels.

It's a complex metabolic disorder with serious consequences if not managed properly. Type 2 diabetes used to be known as adult-onset diabetes, and there is no cure. Losing weight, eating well and exercising can help manage the disease. If diet and exercise aren't enough to control blood sugar, diabetes medications or insulin therapy may be recommended.

Veterans often face unique challenges in managing their diabetes because of other service-related disabilities and mental health issues.

"I've witnessed firsthand the overwhelming impact that maintaining proper blood sugar levels can have on the health and well-being of our veteran population," said Dr. Avian Milton, clinical pharmacy provider at the North Texas VA.

Education and proactive health management are key for veterans of all demographics.

Many veterans who are diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes end up with other complications, including neuropathy, retinopathy, cardiovascular disease and kidney failure. For veterans already coping with service-related injuries or illnesses, the added burden of poorly managed diabetes can greatly worsen existing health issues and diminish their overall quality of life.

"One misconception is that diabetes can be controlled," Milton said. "It can't be controlled, but it can be managed. Diabetes is a complex condition with many dimensions. It can be affected by diet, physical activity, medication, stress, illnesses, pain, hormonal changes, dehydration and not adhering to prescribed medications."

VA clinicians like Milton support veterans on their diabetic journey. They provide counseling, access to specialized health care services and community resources to help veterans navigate their diabetic experiences and take a stand against the risks of long-term complications.

"It's important that our patients have an accurate expectation of diabetes self-management to achieve the best outcomes. It's not just about feeling good today. It's about ensuring a better tomorrow," Milton added.







# Reveille

**RANK/NAME (SERVICE)**

**NEW MEMBER**

*Sponsor*

*\*Denotes PM/HPM*

*\*\*Denotes RM/HRM*

DATA FROM 1 FEB 24–31 MAR 24

## BG BULTMAN CHAPTER (AT LARGE)

MAJ JASON T. BARNES, USMC\*

*Col Michael Farrell, USMC (Ret)*

## CAPT DILWORTH CHAPTER TX

MAJ DUSTIN J. HAMMIT, USMC\*\*

*COL Daniel G. Foust, USA (Ret)*

## CHICAGO CHAPTER IL

CPL LEONARDO T. JOHNSON, MIANG\*

*CW4 Richard E. Johnson, USA (Ret)*

CPL RICHARD A. JOHNSON, MIANG\*

*CW4 Richard E. Johnson, USA (Ret)*

## COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER CO

COL MICHAEL TALBOTT, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL Stephen A. Shambach, USA (Ret)*

LT COL DEREK A. JEFFRIES, USAF (RET)\*\*

*Col Kermit D. Neal, USAF (Ret)*

## DALLAS CHAPTER TX

CPT MILAN OMAR GEORGIA, USA (FMR)\*\*

*2LT Natan Ton-That, USA (Fmr)*

MS LINDA G. VRECENAR\*\*

*Ms. Sharon M. Sexton*

## FORT WALTON BEACH CHAPTER FL

MAJ ARNALDO FONSECA, USAF (RET)\*

*Col Adalberto Rivera, Jr., USAF (Ret)*

## GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER MA

CPT JOSEPH HYNES REYNOLDS, MAARNG\*\*

*LTC Frederick J. Maguire, Jr., USA (Ret)*

CW4 WILLIAM H. ROGERS, USAR (RET)\*\*

*LTC Frederick J. Maguire, Jr., USA (Ret)*

## HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER VA

MAJ CHARMONIA D. ODOM, USA\*

*Col William E. Townsley, USAF (Ret)*

## HANN-BUSWELL MEM CHAPTER (AT LARGE)

CAPT MICHAEL P. GOLDEN, USMC\*

*LTC Paul F. Farinella, USA (Ret)*

## HQ REGION VIII CHAPTER TX

MS PATRICIA E. WILLIAMS\*

*Maj Robert J. Williams, USAF (Ret)*

## NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER FL

LTC ROBERT EDWIN GORDON, USA (RET)\*

*COL Robert F. Schlegel, Jr., USA (Ret)*

## NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER VA

LTCOL KIRK ALAN JOHNSON, USMC\*\*

*Ms. Roberta L. Yourtee*

COL RODNEY EDWARD WILLIS, USA (RET)\*\*

*COL Vicente C. Ogilvie, USA (Ret)*

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAPTER MD

MAJ LOIS DAVIS, USAF (RET)\*\*

*MAJ Clement I. Goodwine, Jr., USA (Ret)*

2LT VICTORIA E. BURNETTE, USAR\*\*

*LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret)*

CPT ALEXIS L. SMITH, USA\*\*

*LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret)*

CPT BROOKE A. BURNETTE, USA\*\*

*LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret)*

MRS MICHELLE M. CAMERON\*

*CPT Dan L. Cameron, Jr., USA (Fmr)*

## SAN DIEGO CHAPTER CA

COL JOSEPH R. BOSCACCI, USA (RET)\*\*

*CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)*

LTC MARK ANTHONY GUANGA AYSON, USA\*\*

*COL Timothy J. Swann, USA (Ret)*

LT COL MARTIN J. BROWN, USAF (RET)\*\*

*CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)*

LCDR PETER A. FIELD, USN (RET)\*

*COL Timothy J. Swann, USA (Ret)*

2LT MILDRED J. CHIN, USA (FMR)\*

*CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)*

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER CA

SGT PHILIP HURD ARNOLD, JR., USAF (FMR)\*\*

*LTC Christian D. Taddeo, USA (Ret)*

1LT WILLIAM F. FINNEGAN, USA (FMR)\*\*

*LTC Christian D. Taddeo, USA (Ret)*

## SUN CITY CENTER CHAPTER FL

LTC MICHAEL M. SMALL, JR., USA (RET)\*\*

*LTC Charles R. Conover, Jr., USA (Ret)*

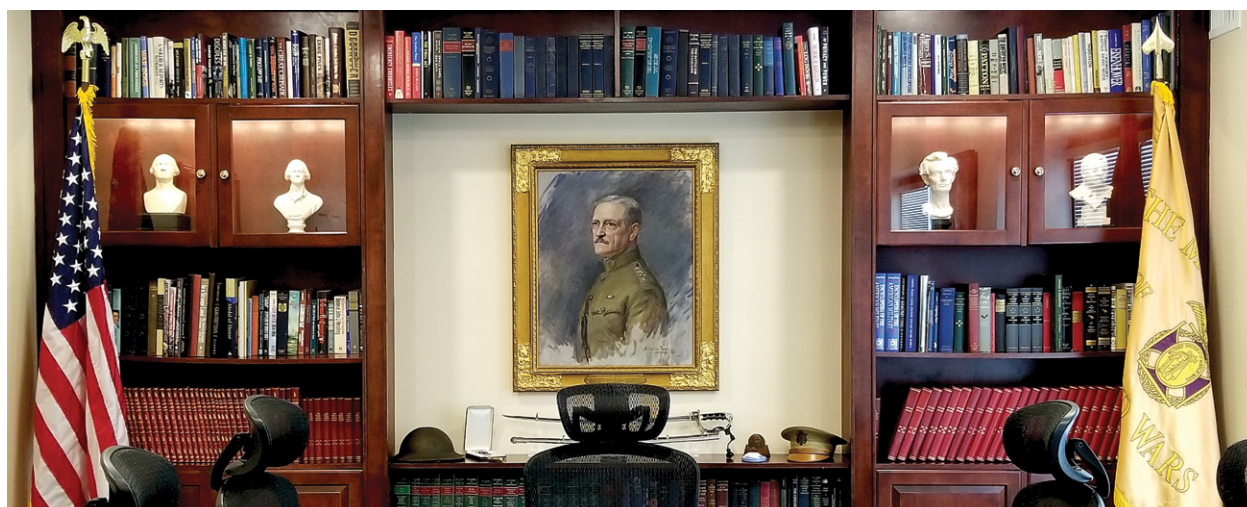
## WEST VALLEY CHAPTER AZ

MAJ EDWARD EUGENE WILLIAMS, USAF (RET)\*\*

*CPT Linda R. Howry, USA (Fmr)*

CAPT CARYL HILL WILLIAMS, USAF (FMR)\*\*

*CPT Linda R. Howry, USA (Fmr)*







# Taps

RANK/NAME (SERVICE)

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

DATA FROM 1 FEB 24–31 MAR 24

## BG BULTMAN CHAPTER (AT LARGE)

LT COL DONALD O. LAHRMAN, USAF (RET)\*  
COL JOHN M. THOMSON, USA (RET)\*  
COL DAVID C. MUNTZ, USA (RET)\*  
COL THOMAS L. MOORE, USAF (RET)\*

## CHICAGO CHAPTER IL

CWO4 CASIMIR C. MROZ, USMC (RET)\*\*  
LTC FRANCIS G. SCANLAN, ILARNG (RET)\*\*

## COL WOODS-OKLAHOMA CITY CHAPTER OK

LTC EDWARD L. POOLE, USA (RET)\*

## COLORADO SPRINGS CHAPTER CO

MAJ WILLIAM L. FRIER, USAF (RET)\*  
COL WATT G. HILL, JR., USAF (RET)\*

## FORT KNOX CHAPTER KY

COL ALBAN LIANG, USAR\*

## FORT WORTH CHAPTER TX

LT COL THOMAS J. BRADSHAW III, USAF (RET)\*

## GENERAL MEADE CHAPTER MD

LTC RAY J. KENDALL, USA (RET)\*

## HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER TX

MAJ LEE B. ROBINSON, USAFR (RET)\*\*

## HOUSTON CHAPTER TX

MR GERALD J. MARTIN III\*

## MAJGEN PENDLETON CHAPTER CA

CAPT RAYMOND L. KUNKLE, USMC (RET)\*

## MG BUTLER CHAPTER KY

PCINC 1LT A. EARL LUETGE, USA (FMR)\*

## MG WHEELER CHAPTER AL

COL MICHAEL A. RODDY III, USA (RET)\*

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PA

LTJG RICHARD A. HENDERSON, USN (FMR)\*  
COL JOSEPH P. KIRLIN, JR., USA\*

## PHOENIX CHAPTER AZ

LT COL RICHARD L. NELSON, USAF (RET)\*

## PUERTO RICO CHAPTER PR

LTC JOSE G. RIVERA RIVERA, USA (RET)\*

## SAN DIEGO CHAPTER CA

MR JOHN K. BAILEY\*  
COL EMIL P. HOUBEN, USA (RET)\*

## SPACE COAST-INDIAN RIVER CHAPTER FL

RADM G. ROBERT MERRILEES, USCGR\*





"IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED"

**OFFICER  
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# MEMORIAL DAY 2024

★ ★ ★

## HONOR THE SACRIFICE



U.S. Army photo by Elizabeth Fraser /  
Arlington National Cemetery