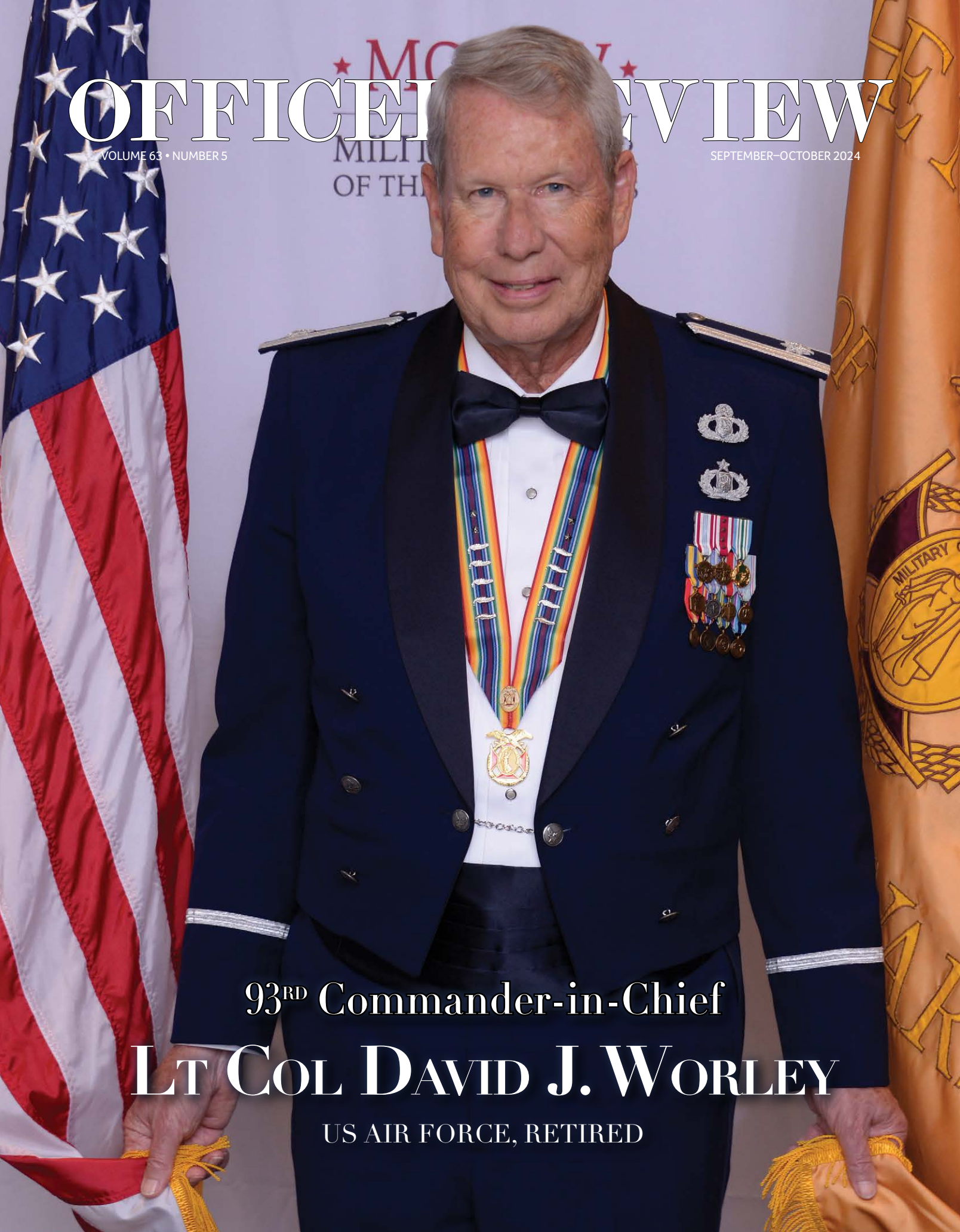


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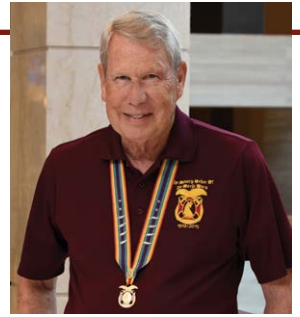
SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2024



93RD Commander-in-Chief

LT COL DAVID J. WORLEY

US AIR FORCE, RETIRED



Commander-in-Chief's Intent (OY 2024)

As the 93rd Commander-in-Chief (CINC) of the Order, my intent is to continue modernizing our Order and establish ourselves as an attractive Veterans Service Organization (VSO) with a clearly defined public image that we are "Serving Youth, Community, and Nation." Our efforts need to be centered around five essential priorities that are critical to our modernizing effort:

a. Our Order's Preamble: The Preamble to the MOWW Constitution not only is the cornerstone of our Order but artfully articulates the Order's core values, values that are reflected in the efforts of all our Companions who collectively emulate our motto that "It Is Nobler to Serve Than To Be Served." The Preamble needs to be central in every Companion's effort: we need to know it, embrace it, articulate it, and promote it. This critical focus by each and every one of us will attract new members who believe in what we stand for, in turn resulting in their better understanding and the embracing of our Order's rich heritage, which serves as a backdrop to our community outreach efforts.

b. The Order's Financial Health: A top-to-bottom review of our financial models is required if our Order is to maintain long-term sustainability. Deficit spending coupled with the need for required short and long-term financial investments to modernize the Order (and thus extend our community outreach footprint) requires a thorough analysis of the Order's overall financial strategy. A synergistic approach between the EXCOM, Finance Committee, the MOWW Foundation, and the Board of Trustees is essential to this review.

c. MOWW 2023-2028 Strategic Plan: Our plan outlines the Order's short and long-term goals and associated objectives. As the plan states, "Every component at every level of the Order is expected to make these goals the focus of its core agenda." Annex B of the plan identifies metrics that not only measure goal attainment but provide a detailed roadmap for all echelons of the Order to follow as we continue to move our Order forward and, in turn, ensure viable and sustainable Community Outreach programs for generations to come. Each VCINC, each Region Commander, each Committee Chair, each Department Commander, and each Chapter Commander is being asked to make our strategic plan an operational priority and to craft short-term and long-term accountable action plans that will move our order forward, built upon a mindset of "Making Things Happen" in the spirit of those in the Order that have gone before us over the last 105 years of our rich heritage.

d. Patriotic Education. "To promote and further Patriotic Education in our nation ..." Our Order's Patriotic Education program sets us apart from all other VSOs and needs to be our flagship community outreach program. The program as it currently exists requires a thorough top-to-bottom review as we search for additional ways to reach out to our youth beyond Youth Leadership Conferences and Seminars, recognizing top ROTC/JROTC cadets, and those who have excelled in Scouting. Character development programs and resources, enhanced civics education, as well as increased mentoring opportunities, and sponsoring of youth service projects, all need to become an integral part of a comprehensive program.

e. America250. "America250 is a national, nonpartisan initiative working to engage every American in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our country." The embracing by our Order of the America250 initiative parallels the efforts of the America250 co-chairs who are "charged with ensuring recognition of the sacrifice of our service members and their families. To honor their contributions, these co-chairs center our discussion on the value of service, as well as supporting the families of the larger military and American community." MOWW is a perfect fit to become part of America250, and in turn, America250 can serve as a catalyst for each of our Companions' efforts within our communities. Additionally, a MOWW *America250 Ad Hoc Committee* will have a two-year charter to conduct a review and study of our Order's overall structure and programs, working hand-in-hand with our Strategic Growth and Strategic Planning Committees as we continue our modernization efforts, and will make recommendations as appropriate to the EXCOM. The ad hoc committee members will comprise a team of dedicated Companions throughout the Order, including Companions serving at the Chapter, Region, and National levels. 2. In 2021, the Order embarked on what has been a steep three-year vertical climb towards modernization and brand recognition, resulting in an expanded community outreach footprint: over the coming years, we must continue these efforts if the Order is to grow and thrive in our communities for decades to come. In short, we must continue to look at "What Are We Doing and Why Are We Doing It?" and "What Aren't We Doing and Why Aren't We Doing It?" I believe our glass is "Half-Full" and not "Half-Empty," and I am confident that with the assistance of all Companions working together as a team, these positive efforts will continue to move our Order forward.

Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Retired)
Commander in Chief and CEO, MOWW, Inc.

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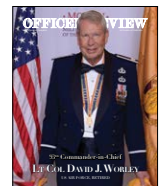
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The Order elected Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret), (GA Bradley-COL Hanson Chapter CA) as the Order's 93rd Commander-in-Chief.



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The CINC's Incoming Remarks

LT COL DAVID J. WORLEY, USAF (RET)
COMMANDER IN CHIEF, MOWW, INC.

2024 CINC's BANQUET 93rd COMMANDER IN CHIEF REMARKS

My Fellow Companions, I would like to start off by saying that as your 93rd Commander In Chief of the Order, I pledge to continue modernizing our Order and establishing ourselves as an attractive Veterans Service Organization (VSO) with a clearly defined public image that we are “Serving Youth, Community and Nation.”

In this, the 105th year of the Order, we pause to reflect upon our rich heritage dating back to World War I. After the “Great War” was over, General John J. “Blackjack” Pershing, in a personal letter to his soldiers, stated: “In leaving the scenes of your victories, may I ask that you carry home your high ideals and continue to live as you have served—in honor to the principles for which you fought and to the fallen comrades you leave behind.” In 1919, the American Officers of the World War was founded by those who served under General Pershing. This organization changed its name to the Military Order of the World War and, after World War II,

to the name of our Order as we know it today. Our Order has proudly bestowed the title of Honorary Commander In Chief 13 times on leaders such as General Pershing, General George C. Marshall, Jr., and General Omar N. Bradley, and no less than five US Presidents to include Dwight D. Eisenhower, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush. Our Order has more than a legacy; it is a respected Veterans Service Organization that is recognized at national events and one of the few that is chartered by Congress; consequently, it is the duty of each and every Companion to preserve our Order's legacy, and make that legacy a central theme that binds us together.

Which brings me to our beloved Preamble to the Constitution of the Military Order of the World Wars, and the author of that Preamble, a World War I veteran, Captain Francis “Frank” Bartholomew Grevemberg, Jr. Captain Grevemberg served in the 312th Regiment of Engineers, 87th Division, stationed at Camp Pike, Arkansas, in September 1917. After extensive training, the 312th Engineers arrived in France on September 12, 1918,



two months before the signing of the Armistice. Two years later, in September of 1920, Captain Grevenberg had two days of train travel en route to the first convention of the American Officers of the Great War, and it was during this train ride that Captain Grevenberg authored the Preamble, the same Preamble we recite today.

So that brings me to the first of five essential priorities that our efforts need to center around, which are critical to our modernizing effort:

1. Our Order's Preamble: Our Preamble is not only the cornerstone of our Order, but Captain Grevenberg artfully defined the Order's Core Values. These values are reflected in the efforts of all our Companions who collectively emulate our motto that "It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served." The Preamble needs to be central in each and every Companion's effort: we need to know it, embrace it, articulate it, and promote it. This critical focus will attract new members who believe in what we stand for, in turn resulting in their better understanding and the embracing of our Order's rich heritage which serves as a backdrop to our community outreach efforts.
2. The Order's Financial Health: Second, a top-to-bottom review of our financial models is required if our Order is to maintain long-term sustainability. Deficit spending, coupled with the need for required short and long-term financial

investments to modernize the Order (and thus extend our community outreach footprint), requires a thorough analysis of the Order's overall financial strategy. A synergistic approach between the EXCOM, Finance Committee, the MOWW Foundation, and the Board of Trustees is essential to this review.

3. MOWW 2023-2028 Strategic Plan: Our MOWW 2023-2028 Strategic Plan outlines the Order's short and long-term goals and associated objectives. As the plan states, "Every Companion at every level of the Order is expected to make these goals the focus of its core agenda." Annex B of the plan identifies metrics that not only measure goal attainment but provide a detailed roadmap for all echelons of the Order to follow as we continue to move our Order forward and, in turn, ensure viable and sustainable community outreach programs for generations to come. Every VCINC, Region Commander, Committee Chair, Department Commander, and Chapter Commander is expected to prioritize our strategic plan and develop specific short and long-term action plans. These plans should be accountable and aimed at advancing our Order. Our approach should be rooted in the mindset of "making things happen" to pay homage to the legacy of those who have paved the way over the past 105 years.

4. Patriotic Education. This brings me to my fourth priority, my passion, our Patriotic Education



(L-R): CINC Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret); DSA GEN Carter F. Ham, USA (Ret), and IPCINC BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret).



Program, specifically as stated in our Preamble: “To promote and further Patriotic Education in our Nation.” Our Order’s Patriotic Education Program sets us apart from all other VSOs and absolutely needs to be our flagship community outreach program.

Shortly after the tragic events of 9-11, our 43rd President, George W. Bush, sent our then 71st Commander-in-Chief, First Lieutenant Donald G. Allen. This letter is posted at our Headquarters Building in Alexandria, Virginia. Please allow me to read from the letter:

“As we engage in our current campaign to fight the forces of terror on the global battlefield, I commend the Military Order of the World Wars and your mission to help our nation’s young people better understand the value of freedom.

America’s young people should have the opportunity to learn from the men and women who have been on the

front lines, who have stood firm in the face of combat, and pressed on against the odds to achieve victory for liberty’s sake. Our young people need to appreciate the meaning of our founding documents. They must be confident in the words of our Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, and they should know why 25 million living veterans are willing to give the last full measure of devotion to preserve our American way of life.

The Military Order of the World Wars helps strengthen our nation by teaching our young men and women that patriotism is a virtue and that America is a land made richer by our Patriots’ noble sacrifices.”

I cannot say it any better than that. Tonight, I am asking our Patriotic Education Committee to conduct a thorough top-to-bottom review as we search for additional ways to reach out to our youth well beyond our effective youth leadership conferences and seminars, recognizing top ROTC and JROTC cadets and



During the MOWW National Convention, VCINC CAPT Edward W. Gantt, USN (Ret), was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for his tireless work bringing 16 exceptional students to the 2024 National Youth Civics Summit in Washington, DC.

honoring those who have excelled in Scouting. Character development programs and resources, enhanced civics education, increased mentoring opportunities, and the sponsorship of youth service projects must become an integral part of a comprehensive program. It is essential that our Order's Patriotic Education Program also promotes existing youth programs, such as the Medal of Honor Character Development Program and the Wreaths Across America Youth Service Project, as well as partnering with those organizations that sponsor and promote Youth Leadership and Character Development Programs throughout their communities, many of whom we heard from during this convention. This is the community outreach focus, in addition to supporting and recognizing our fellow veterans past and present, that will give our Order a clearly defined outreach focus and an established Veterans Service Organization identity. In the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We are just one generation away from extinction ..." and we need to continue carrying the torch of Patriotic Education to ensure that our youth understand their role in the future of our great nation.

Tonight, I dedicate our Patriotic Education efforts to a great man, one who inspired me and to whom I looked up, Sergeant Jimmy Weldon. A true friend, Jimmy, passed away last year just two months short of his 100th birthday. During World War Two, Sergeant Weldon distinguished himself as a combat engineer for the Third Army under the direction of General George S. Patton, Jr., constructing key pontoon bridges and clearing enemy minefields following the Allied invasion of Normandy in June 1944. After serving in the Battle of the Bulge, Sergeant Weldon's squad then liberated the Buchenwald Concentration Camp. In recent decades, through his project, The Center for Youth Patriotism, Sergeant Jimmy Weldon instilled in California's youth a sense of civic, nonpartisan pride and a better understanding of our shared heritage through the use of audio/visual programs and personal presentations. Nobody loved the American flag more than Jimmy, and his rendition of what the American flag represents, entitled *I Am The Flag*, can be viewed on YouTube. I encourage every one of you to view that video, a video that needs to be shown to our youth by local chapters and at YLCs and YLSs throughout the country. We all need to carry the torch of Patriotic Education as Jimmy did and in the spirit,

as General Pershing and Captain Grevemberg intended.

5. America250. Last but certainly not least, we are approaching the 250th anniversary celebration of our country, the signing of our treasured Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

"America250 is a national, nonpartisan initiative working to engage every American in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our country..." The Order's adoption of the America250 initiative mirrors the efforts of the America250 co-chairs, retired Army Major General Alfred Valenzuela and retired Army Major General Peggy Combs, representing the Veterans, Military, and Family Members Advisory Council. These two outstanding leaders are "charged with ensuring recognition of the sacrifice of our service members and their families. To honor their contributions ... these co-chairs center (the national) discussion on the value of service and supporting the families of the larger Military and American community." Furthermore, the goals of the co-chairs include empowering and energizing VSOs currently serving across the country: MOWW is a perfect fit to become part of America250, and in turn, America250 can serve as a catalyst for each of our Companions' efforts within our communities.

Additionally, the MOWW America250 *Ad Hoc* Committee will have a two-year charter to conduct a comprehensive review and study of our Order's overall structure and programs, working hand-in-hand with our Strategic Growth and Strategic Planning Committees as we continue our modernization efforts, and will make recommendations as appropriate to the EXCOM. The ad hoc committee members will consist of a team of dedicated Companions throughout the Order to include Companions serving at the Chapter, Region, and National levels.

America250 will also be the theme of next year's MOWW convention in Tucson, AZ. We must actively promote the Order's engagement in America250--online, across all our social media platforms, national and chapter websites, as well as during chapter meetings and in national publications. Chapter Action Plans should reflect America250 initiatives paralleling their overall operations effort and be part of a mindset of not only a celebration of our nation's heritage but of the recognition and promotion of our Order's



heritage of Companions' service to our country both during and after military service.

On November 19, 1863, our 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, gave his famous 267-word address at the site of one of the bloodiest yet decisive battles of the Civil War. The purpose of the Gettysburg Address was to dedicate the battlefield to the fallen and serve as a catalyst for the national cemetery system we have today. It is fitting that at each of these 155 national cemeteries, you will find posted Abraham Lincoln's entire Gettysburg Address; it will be equally fitting that in line with what's stated in our Preamble to "Encourage and assist in the establishing of memorials of the World Wars" that there should be a MOWW monument at each of these cemeteries, and as part of our America250 initiative we embark on a five-year plan to fulfill this mission, to include use of our Gist Blair Fund that was established as a testamentary trust fund to finance certain limited and specified historical purposes for the benefit of the Order.

To conclude, in 2021, the Order embarked on what has been a steep three-year vertical climb towards modernization and brand recognition, resulting in an expanded community outreach footprint: over the coming years we must continue these efforts if the Order is to grow and thrive in our communities for decades to come. I believe our glass is "half-full" and not "half-empty," and

I am confident that with the assistance of all Companions working together as a team, these positive efforts will continue to move our Order forward. And let us not forget how vital it is to take advantage of the membership reform we agreed to yesterday, voting to allow those in the paygrades of E-7, E-8, and E-9 to become Companions of the Order: make that reform work for us at all levels of the Order, Grow The Order, and continue to nurture our precious resource, our fellow Companions.

Remember the words stated by Abraham Lincoln in 1863: "... that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Along those lines, I would like to close with these thoughts: as we look upon the American Flag, please remember that the Star Spangled Banner, which many of our comrades died for, speaks to us each and every day: "I am the flag that stands for the greatest nation on earth. I am no more than what you believe me to be, and I am all that you believe I can be. I am what you make me and nothing more. And as long as men cherish liberty more than life itself, I shall continue to be the enduring banner of the United States of America."

Ladies and gentlemen, look at our Flag with renewed allegiance, continue to honor her, always respect her, and as those of us in this room and our fallen comrades have done, defend her! ★



MOWW Makes History

THE DELEGATES TO THE 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION VOTED TO INCLUDE SENIOR NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE GRADES OF E-7 THROUGH E-9 AS ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OF MOWW. THIS HISTORIC EXPANSION DEMONSTRATES THE ORDER'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO RECOGNIZING THE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALL MILITARY LEADERS IN SUPPORTING THE DEFENSE OF OUR NATION.

"The decision to open our doors to Senior Non-Commissioned Officers is a testament to their leadership, dedication, and service. These individuals are the backbone of our armed forces, and their inclusion will only strengthen our ability to fulfill our motto: 'It is nobler to serve than to be served.' We are excited to welcome them into our ranks and look forward to the diverse perspectives and experiences they will bring."

—LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID J. WORLEY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF MOWW



(L-R): Philadelphia Chapter Commander COL Joseph Kirlin inducts the first two Senior Enlisted Companions into the Order during the MOWW National Convention: MSG David J. Gillespie, USA (Ret), and MSG William J. Kaemmer, USA (Ret).





DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The MOWW Constitution and Bylaws established the Distinguished Service Award of the Military Order of the World Wars. This award is presented at the National Convention to recognize an American citizen who has made extraordinary contributions to the preservation of our constitutional liberties, and who selflessly promotes a strong national defense. It is the most prestigious award of the Order.

RECIPIENT:

GEN Carter F. Ham, USA, (Ret)
(BG Bultman Chapter, MD)



NATIONAL COMMANDER AWARD

The Commander-in-Chief is authorized to present the National Commander Award to the individual who, in his or her opinion, has made an outstanding contribution to the Order and has done the most in assisting the Commander-in-Chief in fulfilling their responsibilities.

RECIPIENT:

Lt Col David J. Worley, USAF (Ret)
(GA Bradley-COL Hanson Chapter, CA)

General of the Armies John J. Pershing CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Chapter of the Year Awards are presented to those chapters who have actively fulfilled the ideals and principles of The Military Order of the World Wars as set forth in the Preamble. They are also awarded to chapters which are a positive patriotic force within their communities, and that have grown in stature by performing good deeds for "The Good of the Order." The First Place recipients are presented a check for \$500 to support chapter programs.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- 1ST PLACE: Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- 2ND PLACE: Clearwater Chapter, FL
- 3RD PLACE: North Central Florida Chapter, FL

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- 1ST PLACE: Atlanta Area Chapter, GA
- 2ND PLACE: Northern Virginia Chapter, VA
- 3RD PLACE: Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

LARGE CHAPTER:

- 1ST PLACE: Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- 2ND PLACE: Puerto Rico Chapter, PR
- 3RD PLACE: Dallas Chapter, TX

Gold Medal Patrick Henry Recipients

The Commander-in-Chief (CINC), Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief (SVCINC), the four Vice Commanders-in-Chief (VCINC) and the Immediate Past Commander-in-Chief (IPCINC) award Gold Patrick Henry Medals to Companions.

PRESENTER: CINC BG PÉREZ

COL Robert F. Schlegel, Jr., USA (Ret)
North Central Florida Chapter, VA (Region VI)

CPT (Dr) Robert E. Mallin, USA (Fmr)
Denver Chapter, CO (Region XIII)

COL Vicente C. Ogilvie, USA (Ret)
Northern Virginia Chapter, VA (Region IV)

PRESENTER: IPCINC LTC (DR) OKIN

HPM Charles W. Bennett, Jr.
Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA (Region IV)

PRESENTER: SVCINC LT WORLEY

Lt Col Richard W. Muri, USAF (Ret)
Puget Sound Chapter, WA (Region XIV)

PRESENTER: VCINC CAPT GANTT

COL Quin E. Herlik, USA (Ret)
Augusta Chapter, GA (Region V)

PRESENTER: VCINC CAPT DOMBECK

Col Adolfo Menendez, USAF, (Ret)
Puerto Rico Chapter, PR (Region VI)

PRESENTER: VCINC COL RUIZ

COL James M. Tobin, USA (Ret)
Greater Kansas City Chapter, MO (Region VIII)

PRESENTER: VCINC COL WEEKS

LTC David A. Anderson, USA (Ret)
Worcester Chapter, MA (Region I)





RECRUITING AWARDS

Chapter Recruiting Excellence Award

The Recruiting Excellence Award is presented to the top three chapters who achieved the most significant net new member increases in living veteran and hereditary Perpetual and Regular member categories. The recipient is awarded a streamer, is listed on the MOWW Recruiting Honor Role on the MOWW website, and is presented a check to be applied to support chapter programs.

• **1ST PLACE:** Presented to the chapter that recruits at least six (6) new members AND achieves a ten percent or greater ($\geq 10\%$) net increase in membership. The recipient is presented a check for \$2,000 to be applied to support chapter programs.

RECIPIENT: Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

• **2ND PLACE:** Presented to the chapter that recruits at least four (4) new members AND achieves an 8.0- 9.9 percent net increase in membership. The recipient is presented a check for \$1,200 to be applied to support chapter programs.

RECIPIENT: Green Mountain Chapter, VT

• **3RD PLACE:** Presented to the chapter that recruits at least two (2) new members AND achieves a 7.0 - 7.9 percent net increase in membership. The recipient is presented a check for \$750 to be applied to support chapter programs.

RECIPIENT: Northeast Florida Chapter, FL

Chapter Recruiting Merit Awards

Certificates of Recruiting Merit honor two chapters with strong recruiting programs during the operating year.

• **WINNER:** Presented to the chapter that recruits the most new members.

RECIPIENT: Puget Sound Chapter, WA

• **WINNER:** Presented to the chapter with the greatest net chapter growth

RECIPIENT: Northern Virginia Chapter, VA

Top Recruiter Award

The MOWW Top Recruiting Citation is presented to the single Companion who personally recruited the greatest number of new members of all membership categories.

RECIPIENT (19 NEW MEMBERS):

Lt Col Richard W. Muri, USAF (Ret)
(Puget Sound Chapter, WA)

Individual Recruiting Citations

Individual Recruiting Citations honor Companions who personally recruited at least 4 or more new members.

• **CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING MERIT:**

ELEVEN NEW MEMBERS:

COL Vicente C. Ogilvie, USA (Ret)
(Northern Virginia Chapter, VA)

TEN NEW MEMBERS:

COL Lonnie D. Vona, USA (Ret)
(Sun City Center Chapter, FL)

NINE NEW MEMBERS:

Brig Gen Daniel H. Pemberton, USAF (Ret)
(Conejo Valley Chapter, CA)

COL Joseph P. Kirilin III, USA (Ret)
(Philadelphia Chapter, PA)

EIGHT NEW MEMBERS:

CPT Allen B. Clark, Jr., USA (Ret)
(Dallas Chapter, TX)

SIX NEW MEMBERS:

CINC BG Victor S. Pérez, USA (Ret)
(Puerto Rico Chapter, PR)

COL Michael P. Peck, USA (Ret)
(Chicago Chapter, IL)

LTC Christian D. Taddeo, USA (Ret)
(San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, CA)

FIVE NEW MEMBERS:

CDR George T. Parsons, USN (Ret)
(San Diego Chapter, CA)

FOUR NEW MEMBERS:

Col Adolfo Menendez, USAF (Ret)
(Puerto Rico Chapter, PR)

COL Lawrence A. Willwerth III, USA (Ret)
(Greater Boston Chapter, MA)

CS Col Michael Farrell, USMC (Ret)
(BG Bultman Chapter)

Col William E. Townsley, USAF (Ret)
(Hampton Roads Chapter, VA)

VCINC Lt Col Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret)
(Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ)

CW4 Gary L. Smith, Sr., USA (Ret)
(Northeast Florida Chapter, FL)

LTC Victor W. Burnette, USA (Ret)
(Northern Virginia Chapter, VA)

Ms. Linda Ariff
(Atlanta Chapter, GA)



OY 2023 MOWW Award Recipients



PROGRAM AWARDS

Patriotic Education Program Awards

The Chapter Patriotic Education Program Award is bestowed on the chapter conducting the best patriotic education program for the preceding year. The purpose of this competition is to encourage chapters to develop programs that will provide the youth of our country with a knowledge and appreciation for this nation's institutions and government.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** MG Wheeler Chapter, AL
- **2ND PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **3RD PLACE:** Narragansett Bay Chapter, MA

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **2ND PLACE:** Hampton Roads Chapter, VA
- **3RD PLACE:** Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2ND PLACE:** Philadelphia Chapter, PA
- **3RD PLACE:** Sun City Center Chapter, FL

ROTC Awards

The ROTC Annual Award is presented to the chapters providing the best support of ROTC units.

CATEGORY 1:

SUPPORTING 1-17 ROTC UNITS

- **1ST PLACE:** Greater Kansas City Chapter, MO
- **2ND PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR
- **3RD PLACE:** Col Woolsey Chapter, CA

CATEGORY 2:

SUPPORTING 18-20 ROTC UNITS:

- **1ST PLACE:** San Diego Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** Hampton Roads Chapter, VA

CATEGORY 3:

SUPPORTING 21-27 ROTC UNITS:

- **1ST PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **2ND PLACE:** Capt Dillingham Mem. Chapter, HI
- **3RD PLACE:** Denver Chapter, CO

CATEGORY 4:

SUPPORTING 28-34 ROTC UNITS:

- **1ST PLACE:** Northern Virginia Chapter, VA
- **2ND PLACE:** Phoenix Chapter, AZ
- **3RD PLACE:** Hill Country Chapter, TX

CATEGORY 5:

SUPPORTING 35-60 ROTC UNITS:

- **1ST PLACE:** San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Chicago Chapter, IL
- **3RD PLACE:** Fort Worth Chapter, TX

CATEGORY 6:

SUPPORTING 61+ ROTC UNITS:

- **1ST PLACE:** Philadelphia Chapter, PA
- **2ND PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **3RD PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA

Scouting Program Award

For excellence in supporting the goals and objectives of the Military Order's Resolutions of Cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** MG Chamberlain Chapter, ME
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** Denver Chapter, CO

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA
- **2ND PLACE:** Houston Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** MG Miles Chapter, NM

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR
- **2ND PLACE:** Philadelphia Chapter, PA
- **3RD PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA

Veterans Affairs Program Award

This award honors excellence in program outreach and community support, in keeping with the MOWW motto, "It is nobler to serve than to be served."

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** MG Wheeler Chapter, AL
- **2ND PLACE:** Atlanta Area Chapter, GA
- **3RD PLACE:** MG Chamberlain Chapter, ME

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Phoenix Chapter, AZ
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Knox Chapter, KY
- **3RD PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Chicago Chapter, IL
- **2ND PLACE:** San Diego Chapter, CA
- **3RD PLACE:** Puerto Rico Chapter, PR



OY 2023 MOWW Award Recipients



Public Safety/Law & Order Chapter Program Awards

The Law & Order Award, which has chapter and individual categories, was instituted to honor exceptional chapters supporting the following Preamble tenant: "Ever to maintain law and order, and to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States."

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **2ND PLACE:** Pinson Memorial Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** MG Chamberlain Chapter, ME

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Knox Chapter, KY
- **3RD PLACE:** Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Greater El Paso Chapter, TX

Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Exceptional Service Award

The National Law & Order Exceptional Service Award was created to recognize the distinguished service of a law enforcement or criminal justice official.

- **1ST PLACE:** Fire Captain Jason Martinez (Santa Barbara City Fire Department, CA)
Sponsor: COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Officer Andrew Hammett (Irving Police Department, TX)
Sponsor: Pinson Memorial Chapter, TX

Note: These awards are presented at local ceremonies by the sponsoring chapter.

Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Outstanding Performance Service Award

The Individual Public Safety/Law & Order Outstanding Performance Service Award recognizes outstanding performance for heroic actions.

- **1ST PLACE:** Officer Ronald Hensic, Jr. (California Highway Patrol)
Sponsor: COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Officer Lorenzo Olivas (El Paso Police Department, TX)
Sponsor: Greater El Paso Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** Trooper Gilberto Herrera, (VA State Police) and Officer Eric Velez, (Lynchburg PD, VA)
Sponsor: Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA

Note: These awards are presented at local ceremonies by the sponsoring chapter.

National Security Program Awards

The National Security Awards are given annually to the chapters demonstrating the most effective local programs in support of the resolutions pertaining to national security passed by the Order in the National Convention.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **3RD PLACE:** MG Miles Chapter, NM

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Dallas Chapter, TX
- **2ND PLACE:** Augusta Chapter, GA
- **3RD PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA

Homeland Security Program Awards

The Homeland Security Award recognizes excellence in supporting the MOWW Homeland Security Program.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **2ND PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** COL Woolsey Chapter, CA
- **2ND PLACE:** Virginia Piedmont Chapter, VA
- **3RD PLACE:** Fort Knox Chapter, KY

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Greater El Paso Chapter, TX



OY 2023 MOWW Award Recipients



PROGRAM AWARDS

Information & Publicity Awards

The Information & Publicity Award is conferred annually to the chapter with the most effective public relations program for the operating year within the chapter, the community and at a national level. It includes published items [except for items published in the *Officer Review*®], as well as electronic media [television, radio and the internet].

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Northeast Florida Chapter, FL
- **2ND PLACE:** MG Chamberlain Chapter, ME
- **3RD PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Phoenix Chapter, AZ
- **2ND PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **3RD PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2ND PLACE:** Greater El Paso Chapter, TX
- **3RD PLACE:** Dallas Chapter, TX

Chapter Newsletter Awards

The Chapter Newsletter Award is presented to the chapter with the most comprehensive newsletter.

SMALL CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX
- **2ND PLACE:** North Central Florida Chapter, FL
- **3RD PLACE:** Fort Hood Chapter, TX

MEDIUM CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Colorado Springs Chapter, CO
- **2ND PLACE:** Santa Cruz Valley Chapter, AZ
- **3RD PLACE:** North Central Florida Chapter, FL

LARGE CHAPTER:

- **1ST PLACE:** Puget Sound Chapter, WA
- **2ND PLACE:** San Diego Chapter, CA
- **3RD PLACE:** General Meade Chapter, MD

BG Horace W. Port Award

For being the Region with the highest percentage of its National Staff Officers registered and in attendance at the annual National Convention.

- **WINNER:** Region IV

Chapter Commanders' & Adjutants' Award

For being the Region with the highest percentage of its chapter commanders and adjutants registered, and in attendance at, the annual National Convention.

- **WINNER:** Region IV

VADM Dyer Writing Excellence Awards

The Vice Admiral George C. Dyer Awards for Writing Excellence in MOWW's magazine, *The Officer Review*®, are made possible by the VADM Dyer Memorial Magazine Trust Fund.

WRITING PRIZES

• 1ST PRIZE AWARD (\$2,000):

BGen Paul K. Lebidine, USMCR (Ret)
"Afghanistan—Why Did the Mission Not Succeed?"
(OR, May-Jun 23)
BG Holland Chapter, CA

• 2ND PRIZE AWARD (\$1,000):

LTC Edward H. McGehee, Jr., USA (Ret)
"America's Greatest 20th Century Combat General? The remarkable story of LTG Troy Middleton,"
(OR, Mar-Apr 23)
LTG Middleton Chapter, LA

• HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):

COL Robert L. Reese, USA (Ret)
"Lincoln's Unconventional Cabinet,"
(OR, Mar-Apr 23)
GEN Ridgway Chapter, PA

• HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):

BG Raymond E. Bell, Jr., Ph.D., USA (Ret)
"Beyond The Invasion,"
(OR, Jul-Aug 23)
BG Bultman Chapter

• HONORABLE MENTION (\$500):

LTC William F. Pennock-Roman, USA (Ret)
"Priority Support to Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) in Vietnam,"
(OR, Nov-Dec 23)
Puerto Rico Chapter





Together, United in Companionship



Building a Memorial That Honors All

Michael Rodríguez is many things. He is a former Green Beret, a Somalia, Haiti, Global War on Terrorism veteran, an artist working with metal, a military father, and the President and CEO of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Memorial Foundation, the nonprofit organization designated by Congress to plan, fund, and build the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial.

“Leading the construction of a Memorial that will honor all who served and sacrificed in this conflict is an undeserved honor and my life’s mission,” says Rodríguez. “We are well underway in the process of constructing the most inclusive war Memorial in history.”

After retiring from the US military due to injuries sustained in combat, Rodríguez was passionate about honoring the service of all who have participated in the Global War on Terrorism—uniformed and non-uniformed personnel, as well as their families. In 2016, he was invited to serve on the board of directors of the GWOT Memorial Foundation. He supported the 1-year-old Foundation alongside a passionate group of like-minded veterans, military spouses, and supportive Americans.

Says Rodríguez: “Given the incredibly complex and difficult-to-define war’s significance to American history in the 21st century, it is our shared duty to provide the millions of veterans and their families a place on the National Mall in Washington, DC, to honor, heal, be empowered, and unite around those still serving.”

It may come as a surprise to many Americans, including veterans, that such an effort is underway. However, since its formation in 2015, the Foundation has continued to achieve steady progress toward a ribbon cutting. The journey is not without obstacles. Constructing a Memorial on the National Mall requires navigating a federally mandated 24-step process, including authorizations from Congress and multiple federal agencies.

“After we received our initial authorization to build the GWOT Memorial from Congress in 2017, I stepped into the leadership position and inquired about building our Memorial on the National Mall in the Reserve. This location has not seen any new authorizations since 2003. Nearly everyone told me that it was impossible and it’d never happen,” says Rodríguez. “But we kept working on what we knew was right, approaching our mission with the sanctity and reverence it deserves. In 2021, after years of effort, we secured bipartisan congressional approval for the Memorial to be in the Reserve portion of the National Mall—alongside America’s other War Memorials. Now we are in steps 13-19 of the process!”

Crucially, says Rodríguez, Americans must remember that the Global War on Terrorism carries on, and Americans continue to answer the call of duty to fight terrorism to this day. “Although this multigenerational war is unlikely to be the top story on your evening news, thousands of our country’s men and women are protecting our security and freedom from terrorism every day. We must not forget them.”

In September 2023, the Foundation unveiled the “Help Design History” campaign, upholding its commitment to ensuring that the Memorial’s design encompasses diverse experiences from the Global War on Terrorism.

This nationwide survey gave those with personal experiences and those who supported them in the Global War on Terrorism a voice in the Memorial’s design. People from all 50 states, members of every military branch, and veterans of every war since World War II completed the survey. The Foundation has also established a [Design Advisory Council](#) comprising Gold Star family members, veterans, and active-duty service members. They will be crucial in influencing the design.

“This first-of-its-kind approach ensures the Memorial reflects the range of service and the volume of sacrifices in the Global War on Terrorism, thereby telling the story of the countless Americans who have stepped forward to serve us all,” says Rodríguez.

You can track the Foundation’s progress by visiting the website gwotmf.org, signing up for the [newsletter](#), and following it on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [LinkedIn](#).



Motivation and Service

JENNA TOMAS

OUTREACH PROGRAM MANAGER, MOWW



The Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) hosted its inaugural National Youth Civics Summit (NYCS) from July 7 to July 13, 2024, at American University in Washington, DC.

This groundbreaking event brought together 16 exceptional high school students from across the country.

The students, who had all previously attended an MOWW Youth Leadership Conference, were selected by their respective MOWW Regions to participate in this one-week program focused on civic education with an emphasis on government, history, and the responsibilities of citizenship. MOWW, in partnership with the newly established MOWW Foundation, covered all student travel, room, and board.

One student reflected, "This trip was more than just a success—it has motivated me to improve as a person like never before."



MOWW extends its appreciation to the following Chapters and Companions for their generous support of the National Youth Civics Summit. Their contributions were essential to the success of the NYCS.

CHAPTER DONORS

★★ **PLATINUM** ★★
(\$2,000)

Clearwater Chapter

General Meade Chapter

LTG Middleton Chapter

Augusta Chapter

Hill Country Chapter

Hampton Roads Chapter

Region III : NJ, DE, NY and PA Chapters

★ **GOLD** ★ (\$1,000)

CAPT Dilworth Chapter

SILVER (\$500)

Northern Virginia Chapter

Brig Gen Scott Chapter

COL Woolsey Chapter

BRONZE (\$250)

Virginia Piedmont Chapter

COL Roosevelt Chapter



Throughout the week, the students engaged in a variety of activities aimed to deepen their understanding of civic duty and government. The week began with an exploration of the three branches of government and discussions on recent Supreme Court rulings. The group toured the US Capitol, visited the Supreme Court, including meetings with the Marshal of the Supreme Court, COL Gail Curley, USA, Under Secretary of Commerce Dr. Richard W. Spinrad, and Congressman Keith Self.

Midweek, attendees explored George Washington's Mount Vernon and met with distinguished officials, including Ambassador Dennis W. Hearne and Colonel Alcuin Johnson.

An interactive lesson on the Battle of Gettysburg followed by a guided tour of Gettysburg allowed students to better understand its historical significance.

A formal dinner event featured an impactful speech on leadership and service from Michael Rodriguez, CEO and President of the Global War on Terrorism, leaving a strong impression on the attendees.



Another student added, "It has pushed me towards success in a way that no other experience has. Captain Ed Gantt and the other chaperones were outstanding. I wish I could relive every second. Thank you so much."



The summit concluded with visits to Arlington National Cemetery, monuments on the National Mall, and the National Pentagon 9/11 Memorial.

On the final night, NYCS attendees had an unforgettable experience at the USMC Sunset, where they had the honor of meeting the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Carlos Del Toro; the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen Eric M. Smith, USMC; and the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, SMMC Carlos A. Ruiz, USMC.

Through student evaluations, it's evident that the NYCS profoundly impacted participants, with many expressing that the summit significantly influenced their career aspirations in government service. ★



COMPANION DONORS

★★ **PLATINUM** ★★
(\$1,000)

VCINC CAPT Deborah A. Dombek, USCG (Ret), and CDR Ralph D. Lewis, USCG (Ret) (\$2,745)

LTC Reginald Brown, USA (Ret) (\$2,000)

Col William E. Townsley, USAF (Ret)

HPM Mr. Charles W. Bennett, Jr.

Col Adolfo Menéndez, USAF (Ret)

PCINC LTC Gary O. Engen, USA (Ret), and Mrs. Glenda Engen

PCINC LTC (DR) Michael A. Okin, USA (Ret), and Mrs. Deborah Okin

★ **GOLD** ★ (\$500)

Mr. Daniel Harris

SILVER (\$250)

Gus Bates Financial Services

COL Maryetta Beck, USA (Ret)

CWO4 David A. McCuiston, USN (Ret), and OTA2 Vicki S. McCuiston

Col Mike Farrell, USMC (Ret) Chief of Staff, & COO, MOWW, Inc.

BRONZE (\$100)

Col Jerry E. Knotts, USAF (Ret), Treasurer General & CFO, MOWW, Inc.

Brig Gen Daniel H. Pemberton, USAF (Ret), and Mrs. Rose Pemberton

PCINC CAPT Russel I C. Vowinkel, USN (Ret), and Mrs. Beverly A. Vowinkel

Betty Morgan Rev. Trust (Cooper)

Lt Col Mary Lou Blacharski, USAF (Ret)

LTC Dennis V. Christo, USA (Ret), and Mrs. Dorothy Christo

Col Phillip J. Conran, USAF (Ret), and Mrs. Margaret Conran





Components of Health

CPT DAN L. CAMERON, JR., MD, USA (FMR)
SURGEON GENERAL, MOWW

As your Surgeon General, I am honored to speak on a topic at the heart of our nation's well-being: Health. Health is a multifaceted concept encompassing several key dimensions: mental, physical, spiritual, financial, nutrition, and medicine. Each aspect is crucial to our overall quality of life, influencing not only our daily functioning but also our long-term happiness and fulfillment. Understanding the interplay between these dimensions can help us create a balanced and healthier lifestyle.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is an essential part of our overall well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act in our daily lives. Managing stress through mindfulness or therapy can improve mental clarity and reduce the risk of anxiety and depression. Mental health also impacts our relationships and productivity. Addressing issues like burnout and emotional distress is vital. I encourage everyone to seek support when needed and to practice self-care regularly.

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Physical health is the foundation of well-being. It involves the proper functioning of the body through nutrition, exercise and preventative care. Regular physical activity can improve cardiovascular health, reduce the risk of chronic diseases like diabetes, and enhance our energy levels. Proper nutrition, including a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, supports bodily functions and can prevent obesity and related health issues. Preventative care, such as vaccinations and regular checkups, is essential to maintaining physical health.

SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Spiritual health involves a sense of purpose and meaning in life. It is often associated with religious beliefs or personal values. Engaging in regular spiritual practices such as meditation or prayer can enhance a sense of peace and connectiveness, promoting overall well-being. Spiritual health helps individuals navigate life's challenges with a stronger sense of purpose and inner strengthening. It is important to find practices that resonate with you and incorporate them into your daily life.

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Financial health is another critical dimension of overall well-being. It influences our ability to afford necessary resources and maintain a stable lifestyle. Financial stress can have profound effects on physical and mental health, leading to issues like anxiety, depression, and high blood pressure.

Creating a budget, saving for emergencies, and managing debt can alleviate financial stress and contribute to a more secure and stable life. Financial well-being allows individuals to focus on other aspects of health without the constant worry of monetary concerns.

NUTRITION

Nutrition plays a pivotal role in our health. A balanced diet rich in essential nutrients supports bodily functions, boosts the immune system, and helps maintain a healthy weight. It is important to consume a variety of food, including fruits, vegetables, lean proteins and whole grains. Proper nutrition prevents colonic diseases and improves overall health. I urge everyone to make informed food choices and develop healthy eating habits.

MEDICINE

Medicine is an integral part of maintaining health. It includes the uses of pharmaceuticals, treatments, and preventative measures to manage and cure illnesses. It is essential to take medications as prescribed and to follow your healthcare provider's recommendations. Medicine not only treats existing conditions but also plays a significant role in preventing diseases through vaccinations and regular screenings. Staying informed about your medical advancements and adhering to medical advice can greatly enhance our quality of life.

In conclusion, mental, physical, spiritual, financial health, nutrition, and medicine are interconnected dimensions that collectively determine our overall well-being. By nurturing each aspect, we can lead healthier, more balanced lives. Understanding and addressing these components can empower us to make informed decisions that enhance our quality of life and foster long-term happiness. My fellow Companions, I encourage you to take proactive steps in these areas and seek support when needed. Thank you for your attention and commitment to your health. Together, we can build a healthier and happier nation. ★



Don't Drown in Shallow Waters

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

The following is from this year's MOWW Non-Denominational Worship Service Convention.

The scripture is Acts, Chapter 27: 42-44: *The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from conducting their plan*

Do you ever feel like you are struggling with something you should be able to manage? Do you feel you are close but can't quite cross the finish line? Paul offers insight into how to perceive and tackle the inevitable trials in our lives. We often get hung up on the illusion that everything would be fine if God were with us. The truth, however, is that the presence of storms does not "indicate the absence of God." It is during these storms that God has his angels surrounding us and is with us.



when you enter a storm, you might encounter various combined storms: physical, financial, and emotional. What is our storm in MOWW? If you attended the current MOWW Chief of Staff briefing, you learned about a massive storm that is brewing and about to hit land. What personal storms are we experiencing as Chapters or as Companions?

Point Two: God resides in Trouble. God did not promise to make you

comfortable in your storm. Just because you are in the presence of the storm, the storm does not negate the presence of God, nor does it indicate the absence of God. In fact, if you really want to see God do his best work—get in trouble. Anytime God promises you something, get ready for trouble.

It can be hard to see in a storm—your trial may seem like a torrential downpour—but rather than focusing on what you can or cannot see, focus on your faith. The New Testament reminds us that “God is that “help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help during trouble.” Today, we are grappling with numerous challenges in our personal lives, government, youth, and the increasing disregard for societal norms.

In 1952, Florence Chadwick attempted to swim the channel between the coast of California and the island of Catalina. The distance is twenty-six miles. At the 15-hour mark, a thick fog enveloped her, obscuring the shoreline and her intended direction. With her goal out of sight, she also lost her way as the mist clouded her judgment. After covering twenty-five miles, she decided to quit and boarded her safety boat just one mile short of her goal. When we think we do not see God, we give up. God is always with us through the storm and fog.

When we face trouble or difficulties, we can turn to God for help. He is our refuge and strength, always present and ready to provide the help we need. In times of hardship, we can find comfort and strength in knowing that God is with us, offering His assistance and support.

Point one: Don't mistake the storm's presence for the absence of God. Consider that sometimes,

Companions, what can we do to show others our relationship and faith with God and that we will not drown in shallow water! ★



Companions, the
2024 photos of
MOWW's National
Convention are
available at
moww.org on the
convention page
link

To order your own prints from KRR Photography, please go to the following link and use the login information below.:
<https://www.enjoyphotos.com/gallery/Login.aspx>
username: 24084 password: 3141

Or, Convention Photos can be viewed from the MOWW SharePoint site as they were all made available to MOWW HQ.

If interested in gaining access to the MOWW SharePoint folder, please email the Chief of Staff for a link.

KRR is an outstanding creative studio that has been the recipient of numerous awards. These accolades include both local and global recognition in various photographic contests. They have been honored as the "Best Photographer in Annapolis," and have received the prestigious Capital Style Magazine's Bridal Reader's Choice Award for Best Wedding Photographer.



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- MICHAEL FARRELL, Colonel, USMC (Ret) September 16, 2024
Chief of Staff, & COO, MOWW, Inc.



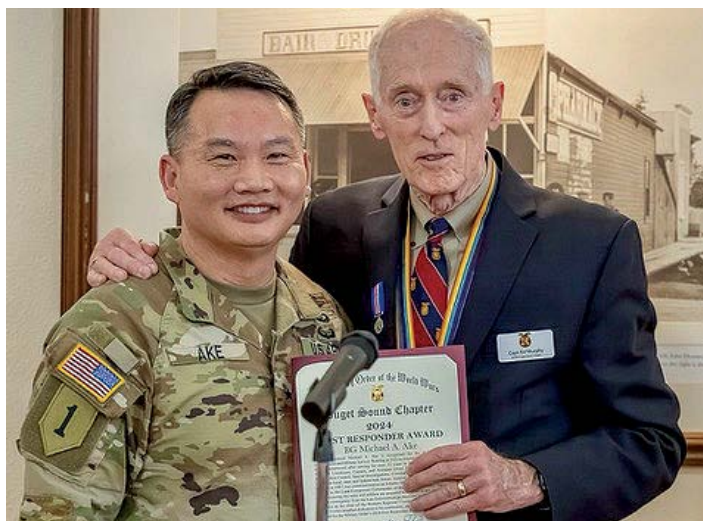
Puget Sound Chapter, WA

BG Mike Ake Receives Chapter's 2024 First Responder Award

PCINC COL DAVID B. GIBSON, USAF (RET)

Guest speaker for Law and Order Outreach, US Army BG Michael Ake, the incoming Commander of the Land Component Command for the Washington National Guard, receives a Certificate of Appreciation for his talk to the Puget Sound Chapter, and Region XIV at Steilacoom Town Hall on 4 May 2024.

(L-R): BG Ake was awarded the Chapter's 2024 First Responder Award by Puget Sound Chapter Commander Ed Murphy.



Northern Virginia Chapter

C.D. Hylton Cadets Honored

BY COL VINCE OGILVIE, USA (RET)

On 4 July 2024, COL Vince Ogilvie, USA (Ret), had the honor of presenting MOWW Certificates of Appreciation to AFJROTC cadets from C.D. Hylton High School for their participation in the Four Seasons at Historic Virginia's Community Independence Day Parade.

(L-R): COL Vince Ogilvie, USA (Ret); Cdt Baylee Peeler; Cdt Madison Swanigan (who sang the National Anthem); Cdt Adja Kone; Cdt Aseel Osman; Cdt Jabez Suraphel; and Maj Edward Holder, USMC (Ret), the Four Seasons at Historic Virginia Homeowners Association President.



Puerto Rico Chapter, PR

Chapter Recognizes ROTC Excellence

BY COL ADALBERTO RIVERA, USAF (RET)

The prestigious ROTC Medal of Merit was presented to the distinguished recipients of the Air Force ROTC during the Detachment 755 Dining Out event on 4 May 2024. This significant occasion took place at the Community Club in Fort Buchanan.

(L-R) Col Adalberto Rivera, USAF (Ret); Cadet Captain Jeffrey Torres (Gold); Cadet Lt Col Manuel Villa Viera (Silver), and Cadet Major Roxiely Olivieri (Bronze).





Dallas Chapter, TX

West Pointers Unite

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

On 6 August 2024, the Chapter had the privilege of hosting The Honorable Keith Self, Congressman from the 3rd Congressional District, TX, and a distinguished graduate of West Point Class of 1975, as our guest speaker. His address provided valuable insights into both national security and veterans' issues.

West Pointers in attendance with graduation year (L-R): Nick Grant (2018); Stephen Brightman (2010); Marshall Miles (1993); Asst. Div. Cmdr 36th Inf Div Texas Army National Guard BG Mike Wallace (1994); Carol MacGibbon (1980); Congressman Keith Self (1975); Commissioner District 3 Collin County TX Darrell Hale (1994); Rob Holmes (1989); John Wagner (1962); Greg Schmitz (1976), and Allen Clark (1963).



Colorado Springs Chapter, CO

July 4th Independence Day Parade

BY LTC MIKE BERENDT, USA (RET)

The Chapter proudly participated in the July 4th Independence Day Parade in Monument, CO. The MOWW "float" included living historians and reenactors from the Colorado Military Historical Group (CMHG) riding a World War II vintage 1942 Ford GPW "Jeep"; a 1941 Dodge WC-21 ¾ Ton Truck, and a 1968 2 1/2 Ton "Deuce and a Half" Vietnam-era Convoy Escort Gun Truck. Special thanks to LTC Nathan Watanabe, USA (Ret), from the CMHG, and Companion Lt Col Rich Peters, USAF (Ret).

(L- R): Rocky Mountain Dept Commander COL Shambach, USA (Ret), and Mrs. Miriam Shambach; Lt Col Jim Borders, USAF (Ret); TSgt Joan Sgaggio; LTC Mike Berendt, USA (Ret); Lt Col Ulysses Swift, USAF (Ret), and Chapter Commander Col Kerm Neal, USAF (Ret).



Brig Gen Scott Chapter, GA

The Museum of Aviation

BY MAJ ROBERT KOMLO, USAF (RET)

Col Kenneth Emery, USAF (Ret), Director of the Museum of Aviation at Robins AFB, GA, was welcomed by Chapter Commander Capt Theron Simpson, USMC (Ret), to address the chapter. He discussed the museum's mission to preserve historical aircraft and artifacts, educate visitors of all ages, and honor the sacrifices of military personnel. The museum's commitment includes a comprehensive collection of aircraft, artifacts, and gear, providing a glimpse into the lives of those who served in the armed forces. All present enjoyed his informative talk. See more at the museum's website: <https://museumofaviation.org/>

(L-R): Col Kenneth Emery, USAF (Ret), and Capt Theron Simpson, USMC (Ret).

Sun City Center Chapter, FL

Installation of Officers

BY CW3 EDGAR L SMART-HOMER, USA (RET)

On 20 June 2024, the Chapter conducted its Installation of Officers for OY 2024-25. Guest speaker Region VI Commander, LTC Steve Hodges, USA (Ret), successfully installed the new slate of Officers and Chapter Commander, COL Lonnie Dale Vona, USA (Ret). Outgoing Chapter Commander LTC Charlie Conover, USA (Ret), awarded Ms. Heather Hampton and Ms. Vanessa Ivey the MOWW Bronze Patrick Henry for patriotic achievement. They received this award on behalf of the Retired Officers Corp.

(L-R) Officers for OY 2024-25: Chapter Commander, COL Lonnie Dale Vona, USA (Ret); CPT James Williams, USA (Fmr); MAJ Robert Smith, USA (Ret), and Lt Col Frank Zahrobky, USAF (Ret).



Roanoke Chapter, VA

MOWW Honors Maj Gen Randal D. Fullhart, Commandant of Cadets

BY LTC DAVID R. KING, USA (RET)

At the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Spring Awards Ceremony in April, ten cadets were presented the MOWW ROTC Medal of Merit by the Roanoke Chapter of MOWW. As one of the esteemed six Senior Military Colleges in our nation, cadets have the opportunity to earn commissions from the Army ROTC, Naval ROTC (which includes the Marine Corps) and Air Force ROTC (which includes Space Force). In a special presentation, the Commandant of Cadets, Major General Randal D. Fullhart, USAF (Ret), received the MOWW Silver Patrick Henry Award for Patriotic Service. During his thirteen-year tenure as Commandant (the longest tenure of a Commandant in Tech history), General Fullhart oversaw the growth of the Cadet Corps from 950 to about 1240 in just this past year—greater than a 30% increase, resulting in the largest Corps in more than 55 years with plans in place to grow the Corps to 1400 cadets. Additionally, he secured final approval and oversaw the construction of three new residence halls to house the entire Corps of Cadets, and the new Cadet Leadership and Military Science Building (CLMS), which opened last fall. These are only a very few of the major accomplishments in his time as Commandant of Cadets. Maj Gen Fullhart retired as Commandant on 1 July. He truly reflects the Hokie motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve). He and his wife, Kathy, have chosen to establish their residence in the vicinity of College Station, TX, in order to be in closer proximity to their son, Steve.

(L-R): Maj Gen Randal D. Fullhart, USAF (Ret), Commandant, Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets who retired 1 July; Virginia Tech alum, Col Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret); and LTC David King, USA (Ret)





America250 Rolls Out National Programming 'playbook' For America's 250th

America250, the official nonpartisan entity charged by Congress with planning the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, has announced its national tentpole programs— a full suite of initiatives, events, and opportunities for national fellowship that will serve as the nationwide programming efforts to commemorate and celebrate the Semiquincentennial. These include programs recently launched within the past year and initiatives launching later this year through 2026.

America's Invitation: A unique opportunity for Americans to share their stories and their hopes and dreams for the future of our country. Together, these stories create a portrait of America at 250 years. Launched: Summer 2023. <https://america250.org/americas-stories/>

America's Field Trip: A multi-year contest that invites students in grades 3-12 to submit artwork, videos, and essays, answering the question, "What does America mean to you?" for the chance to receive unique experiences at iconic American historical and cultural sites. Supported by America's Field Trip founding sponsor, BNY. America's Field Trip contest for the 2024-2025 school year will begin in/around September 2024. Sign up <https://america250.org/fieldtrip/application/> to receive updates!

Our American Story: A national effort to compile an oral and visual history and understanding of the United States. Launching a call for nominations on July 3, 2024. <https://america250.org/nominate/>

COMING SOON

America Gives: A multi-year, year-round effort focused on charitable giving, volunteer service, and public service—which includes military service. Through this effort, America250 will create a legacy of service beyond 2026.

America's Culture: An opportunity to showcase American art forms, creative expressions, and cultural touchstones and increase access to and awareness of the arts in America.

America Innovates: A traveling tech expo that will display America's greatest innovations and our aspirations for the future, asking the next generation of creators what innovations they want to create that will be critical for the next 250 years.

America Waves: A unique way to create moments for all Americans to come together with their communities, wave their American flags, celebrate America's 250th, and honor the contributions of those who brought us to where we are today.

Time Capsule: A collaboration involving all 50 states, five territories and the District of Columbia to collect items for a time capsule to be buried in Philadelphia on July 4, 2026.

July 4th 2026 Activations: A national celebration in Washington, DC, and across the country on July 4, 2026, in which we will partner with established groups who host legacy July 4th events and parade organizers at the state and local levels.

America250 focuses on a multi-year, national public awareness and engagement effort to reach Americans in every corner of the country. These initiatives will be executed closely with federal, state, local, and private sector partners. Additionally, states and territories nationwide are planning grassroots programming to ensure that this historic milestone meets all Americans where they are.

On August 1, 2024, America250 announced that President George W. Bush, Mrs. Laura Bush, President Barack Obama, and Mrs. Michelle Obama will serve as Honorary National Co-Chairs of the official nonpartisan entity charged by Congress with planning the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

As Honorary Co-Chairs, President and Mrs. Bush and President and Mrs. Obama will lend their voices to the nationwide effort to mark this historic milestone.





Reveille

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NOTE: Primary Memberships Only

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COL Raoul H. Alcalá, USA (Ret)

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The Officer Review sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience that may have been caused by the omission of Taps listings from the April-May issue reported in this section. Those listings appear in this issue. Thank you for your understanding.





"IT IS NOBLER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED"

OFFICER REVIEW®

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS



2024 National Youth Civics Summit
Students and chaperones group photo US Capitol