



M.O.F.W.

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Newsletter

OUR MILITARY ORDER, VETERANS RIGHTS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

All members of the MOFW should be aware that our Order is an active member of the National Military Veterans Alliance (NMVA), usually just called "The Alliance". The Alliance is an organization of 33 member organizations representing approximately 3.5 million veterans, their families and survivors. It meets monthly in the Washington, DC area to develop policy in order to present its position on what is good for the veteran and for his family. While the emphasis is on veteran care, the Alliance takes a firm stand on the need to maintain a balanced mix of those elements necessary for a strong National defense. Some member organizations have full-time staff members actively visiting those in government who shape National veteran and defense policy. The Deputy Secretary-General for Legislative Affairs, Companion (COL) Andrew M. Johnson, is the MOFW's designated representative to the NMVA and participates in NMVA discussions each month. The MOFW has formulated policies and priorities for veteran legislation and National defense. These policies originated under Past Commander-General Arthur J. Nattans (2207-2009) and continue to form the framework of the MOFW's veterans and Defense position. The Military Order of Foreign Wars has identified the following goals as our top three legislative aims for 2010: (1) **Support a National defense adequate to the needs of the Nation** by funding a significant increase in the size of the Active duty Army, adequately fund other services to retain their

capabilities for general war, and increase realistic manning, structuring, equipping and training for the Reserve and National Guard in their current role as an operational force; (2) **Equal treatment for Reserve and National Guard servicemen and women in medical services and retirement benefits;** and (3) **Maintain the benefits of retired service personnel** by reforming laws relating to concurrent receipt of military pay and disability compensation and by returning retirement pay to the retiree. Any automatic distribution of a portion of retirement pay to former spouses is a betrayal of the retiree. Considerable progress has been made on these issues, largely endorsed by all veteran organizations, The Army has been enlarged to cope with its present war fighting responsibilities and progress is being made towards more equitable treatment of the reserve forces for TRICARE medical benefits and for retirement at less than age 60. Our greatest impact has been felt in the changes to law regarding concurrent receipt of benefits. Most old vets recall that service retirement pay has traditionally been offset by the value of any VA disability benefits received. Congress has gone a long way to correct that long-standing inequity. But, as always, much more needs to be done. Companion (COL) Andrew M. Johnson, Deputy Secretary-General for legislative Affairs may be contacted by writing him at 1200 South Monroe Street, Arlington, VA 22204-4219.

FROM THE C-G'S OFFICE

The role of our military forces continues to be vital and a reminder that the purposes of our Order are relevant and provide a focus for our Companions. I recently attended a luncheon of the Pennsylvania Commandery with a talk given by MG Jessica L. Wright, the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, reinforcing the commitment and role of our National Guard in service to our country. The strength of the Air Guard is over 100% and the strength of the Army Guard is approximately 99%. Our citizen soldiers have joined with our Active Component to embrace the challenges which are facing our country today. Last year I identified several goals including an increase in membership and increased programs within our Commanderies. In addition I envisioned a web based "unsung heroes program". The increase in membership was based on a content driven website which would include some of the considerable information accumulated by our Order over the years (primarily located in Carlisle) which provides insight into the efforts of our Companions over the years and inspiration for new members. I assembled email addresses for about half of our companions with the intention of communicating as well as encouraging visits to the website. I am still trying to find any volunteers who share interest in achieving these objectives and are willing to help accomplish them. We now have three potential Commanderies, however, our Constitution requires 15 initial companion members apply for a Charter and the wisdom of our predecessors seemed to recognize that it takes more than the enthusiasm of a few who wish credit

for starting a Commandery to sustain that Commandery. An example is that the National Constitution provides “the Constitution of every Commandery shall contain, in full and without change, Article III of this Constitution”. This would suggest that each Commandery should have a Constitution, or at least By-Laws, however, it appears that some do not or at least none that they can find. Without a structure sustainability may be an issue which has confirmed by the return of funds by the Texas Commandery and information that several of our well established Commanderies might not have a Constitution or By-Laws. There is a quick fix to this issue by development of model Constitution By-Laws which can be considered by the Commanderies and changed as they deem appropriate (with the exception of Article III). Also we can make sure that new Commanderies include a Constitution or By-Laws as part of their application to the National Council along with the list of initial members who would accept responsibility and hold the offices and council positions. If you have not sent me your email address please do so to LLNeilson@pobox.com. If you have not joined our Order's Facebook Page please do so although you need to be listed on the National Roster. The Pennsylvania Commandery sent notice of the recent luncheon to members of our Order using Facebook in addition to the regular meeting notice. Please do not hesitate to contact me with suggestions. We are planning a National Council meeting in New Orleans in November and anticipate reviewing any proposed changes to our Constitution as well as reviewing the updates to the Order's History which have been requested from the Historian-General. It has been our practice to include a short history and roster of Companions when the Constitution is published and once any changes to the Constitution have been approved at the next Convention the publication can follow shortly thereafter. A meeting is also planned of the Nominating Committee, with the able leadership of BG Hall Worthington and if you have suggestions for nominations for the General Officer positions please send those suggestions to General Worthington.

Lewis L. Neilson Jr.
COMMANDER-GENERAL

From the Paymaster

The Treasurer-General Head Tax report: the DC, LA, FL, MD and RI Commanderies have paid for 2009. The Order thanks you for your payment. PA, NJ, NY, WV and CA remain unpaid for 2009. CA has not paid for 2008 and 2009.

Charles D. McCall
TREASURER-GENERAL

From the Supply Room

New items in stock! Service bars for IRAQ and AFGHANISTAN in both Large (for regular size Insignia) and Small (for miniature Insignia) are now available for purchase. Please see the Quartermaster's Store section of this newsletter. Companions are advised that the Special Order Item, “Ladies MOFW Pendant and Matching Necklace, 14 ct Gold” will no longer be offered as a Quartermaster's Store item. The MOFW Pendant was developed and offered in response to Companion's requests that we develop items that would appeal to our female Companions as well as our Companion's spouses/female friends. Despite predictions, sales of the item were less than expected. The Pendants were listed by name when sold and a record was kept of the purchasers. However, a computer glitch erased the record. **Therefore I am asking any Companion who purchased a MOFW Pendant and Necklace to contact me so that the list may be re-constructed.** The Pendant Die has been placed in the hands of the Historian-General for safekeeping. In addition the MOFW Cumberbund and Bow Tie Set has been discontinued – again due to a low sales volume. Your Quartermaster-General continues to “purge” MOFW items that sales indicate that Companions no longer desire while, at the same time, searches for new items that would benefit Companions and the Order in general. On a down note, please be advised that our vendors have increased prices for 2010-2011 and the new prices are shown in the Quartermaster's Store Section of this newsletter for the items affected.

Ronald R. Sommer
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL

FROM THE ARCHIVES

All Commanderies, MOFW Officers, and Companions are reminded that it is extremely important that you send a copy of all Commandery news, reports, newsletters, events that affect the State Commanderies, etc., to the Historian-General. It is vitally important to the Order that changes in state Commandery leadership, organization, etc., be recorded for posterity. Please do not trash old documents but send them along to me for file. We have seen over the years several unfortunate events of fires and flooding among individual Commanderies that have irreparably lost or damaged rare original MOFW documents. I urge all Commanderies to ensure your records are preserved for future generations by forwarding them to the Historian-General for safe and permanent archiving with the Order's complete records. The Order's historical files are not only a benefit to our present Companions but to those Companions of the future. Be a real part of your Order's history – send those documents to

your Historian-General!! My mailing address is 7928 Pebble Brook Court, Springfield, VA 22153. An additional note. I have recently been sent 7 crates of historical records from our Past Historian-General, Ralph Okrepkie. This is a HUGE collection of materials and these files will be combined with our historical archives in a major cataloging/accounting project to commence over the next year. Our Order owes a debt of gratitude to Past Historian-General (LTC) Ralph Okrepkie, for being such a dedicated steward of our precious history.

Mark G. Hartell
HISTORIAN-GENERAL

NEWS FROM THE WEB

The MOW National Web site (www.mofwus.org) has hosted over 10,000 visits since its November 2009 launch, averaging over 2,200 visits each month. The National Website has spurred inquiries from prospective members, educated current members, and has advertised the mission of the MOW to numerous political and veterans organizations. State Commanderies are asked to please send their events announcements for future meetings, luncheons, and guest speaker presentations to the Webmaster-General at webmaster@mofwus.org. The MOW National Website has proven to be a popular gateway to advertise MOW events to the general public, attracting interest in our Order and prospective new members.

Mark G. Hartell
HISTORIAN-GENERAL

A Bucket of Shrimp

It happened every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembled a giant orange and was starting to dip into the blue ocean. Old Ed came strolling along the beach to his favorite pier. Clutched in his boney hand was a bucket of shrimp. Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now. Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts... and his bucket of shrimp. Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier. Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds, As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, "Thank you. Thank you." In a few short minutes the bucket is empty but Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought as though transported to another time and place. Invariably, one of the gulls lands on his sea-bleached, weather-beaten hat – an old military hat he's been wearing for years. When he finally turns around and begins to walk back towards the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the ends of the beach and on home. If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like a "funny old duck" as my dad used to say, or "a guy that's a sandwich shy of a picnic" as my kids might say. To the onlookers, he's just another old codger, lost in his own world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp. To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant...maybe even a lot of nonsense. Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters. Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida. That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better. His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero back in WWII. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his 7-man crew went down. Miraculously, all the men survived, crawled out of their plane and climbed into a lift raft. Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger. By the 8th day the rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were. They needed a miracle. That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle. They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose.

50th MOW Convention

The Convention Planning Committee of the District of Columbia Commandery has been active in planning the 50th MOW Convention scheduled to be conducted in Arlington, VA during May 5-7, 2011. All Companions should set aside the period from Thursday, May 5 through Saturday, May 7 to attend the Convention. Through negotiations, hotel costs have been reduced to a very reasonable rate for the three day event. The Official "Call to Convention" will be made in the January 2011 issue of this newsletter and at least 90 days prior to the convention, full information concerning hotel reservations, schedule of events, and costs will be forwarded to all of the Commanderies. A deadline date for hotel reservations will be announced. A registration desk will be placed in the convention hotel lobby for delegates and spouses/guests to sign in and receive convention packets on Thursday afternoon, May 5th. A Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres will be held that Thursday night followed by a National Council Meeting. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided on Friday, May 6th and on Saturday, May 7th, with the Saturday night dinner being a formal affair. Business sessions of the Convention will be held on Friday and Saturday mornings with Committee meetings to be held at the call of the respective Committee Chairpersons. Trip events will be scheduled for Convention delegates and their spouses/guests. In addition to the National Staff, each Commandery is authorized 5 Convention Delegates with voting privileges and 5 Alternate Convention Delegates who will be eligible to vote if replacing a voting Convention Delegate. National Staff Officers, National Council members and State Commandery Commanders are asked to notify the DC Commandery Commander as expeditiously as possible the estimated number of attendees from his/her Commandery. This advance notification will assist the planning process for the Convention. The DC Commandery is planning a great Convention and urges all to attend.

Time dragged and all he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft. Suddenly, Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull! Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal – a very slight meal for 8 men – of it. Then they used the intestines for bait. With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and more bait..... and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigor of the seas until they were found and rescued (after 24 days at sea). Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first lifesaving seagull. And he never stopped saying “Thank you”. That’s why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude. P.S. – Eddie was also an ACE in WWI and started Eastern Airlines. **A great, great story and true.**

ships are few. The transit this time, in convoy with three other vessels, was uneventful. However, we could at one point observe a suspicious object a few nautical miles away, something that looked like a typical pirate enterprise, a mother ship with four small skiffs. Fortunately they stayed put. Like always, you are more nervous before you enter the danger zone, than when you are inside it. And once you are out of harm’s way, you have this great feeling of being safe again. Lieutenant Lars Bergqvist

COMMANDERY NEWS

District of Columbia The Commandery held its quarterly luncheon meeting on 2 March 2010 at the Army and Navy Club on Farragut Square in Downtown Washington, DC. The meeting was attended by over 60 members of the Order and their guests, some traveling from California and Athens, Greece. This meeting featured good food, diverse speakers, and completion of Commandery business activities. A social period was held from 1130 until noon during which time members and guests could mingle and talk with Dr. Spiro C. Manolas (the principal guest speaker) and purchase his book entitled “American Arms, Greek Blood”. During lunch, Commandery business, along with selected guest speakers, was conducted. Mrs. Katerina P. Papathanassiou, a former US State Department Foreign Service Officer and widow of LTG Papathanassiou of the Greek Army, gave a brief talk on her husband’s service with the Greek Army during the Greek Civil War of 1946-1949. LTG Jack C. Stulz, Army Reserve/Commanding General, US Army Reserve Command, was enrolled in the MOFW. LTG Stulz is the highest ranking general officer in the Order who is on active service. The principal guest speaker, Dr. Manolas, discussed his 10 years of research into the Greek Civil War. He discussed the 400-member American Military Mission assistance to the Greek Democratic government in suppressing the Communist insurgency in Greece. The Commandery conducted its annual election of officers and Companion (LTC) Orfeo “Chuck” Trombetta Jr. was re-elected a Commander and Wulf R. Lindenau as Secretary/Treasurer.

TRANSIT OF GULF OF ADEN



LT Bergqvist on the bridge in
Helmet and Flak Jacket

Recently I did my third transit on a merchant ship, within a year, of one of the world’s most dangerous places, the Gulf of Aden (GoA). GoA is a stretch of water between Somalia and Yemen, used by about 20,000 ships per year, on their voyages between Europe and Asia. The place has become infamous during the last couple of years due to an ancient menace, continuously tormenting seafarers, namely piracy.

Although being used to the danger of pirates for many years after visits to West Africa and the Malacca Strait, the Somali pirates are in a league by themselves, requiring extra precautions. On this particular voyage, we sailed between two ports in Saudi Arabia, Al Jubail in the Arabian Gulf and Yanbu in the Red Sea. A few days before reaching the hot spot, the task of preparing the ship starts. Since we do not have any weapons on board, a non-lethal defense is implemented. With passive methods such as water cannons, concertina wire around the ship’s rail and dummies as look-outs, we are trying to counter the threat of pirates armed with Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG) and Kalashnikovs (AK 47). Well, the theory behind this modus operandi is that if the pirates observe that their target appears to be prepared and alert, they will abort and search for a more defenseless victim. The method feels rather safe after all and the morale on board can be kept to a high level. There are also warships patrolling off the coasts of Somalia and Yemen and all merchant ships are requested to report their movements to a naval operations center in Dubai. But it is a vast area of water and the war-



LTG Stulz and
Cdr Trombetta



Dr. Manolas with
Cdr Trombetta

Maryland The Commandery held its annual Dinner-Meeting on Thursday, 18 March at the historic 5th Regiment Armory in Baltimore, MD. Commander-General Lewis L. Neilson Jr.

attended as a guest of the Commandery and he spoke on the efforts by Pennsylvania veterans to preserve a historic arsenal in Philadelphia. At the conclusion of the business meeting, an



L to R Commander Worthington, C-G Neilson, Past Commander Stemple

election was conducted to select the Commandery officers for the next 2 years. Elected to office were: Commander – M. Hall Worthington; 1st Vice Commander – George E. Linthicum III; 2nd Vice Commander – Francis D. Alessi; Secretary-Treasurer-Registrar – Lawrence R.

Daniels; National Delegate – John F Kutcher Sr. ; Historian – Francis L. Chalk; Chaplain – Donald L. Turley; Surgeon – Frank Barranco; Quartermaster – Ronald R. Sommer; Judge Advocate – Carl A. Muly; and Marshall – Roger B. Copinger Jr. This spring the Commandery continues its ROTC/JROTC Awards Program at 7 local colleges and universities – Bowie State University, Morgan University, McDaniel College, Mt. St. Mary's University, Loyola University, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Maryland (2 program awards). The Commandery presented its 2nd Annual JROTC Awards to 2 Cadets in the Marine Corps JROTC Program at Chesapeake HS (Baltimore County). In addition the Commandery supports the Maryland National Guard ChalleNge program for at "at-risk" youth with \$ 200.00 Savings Bond and a letter of Congratulations from The Adjutant General to an Honor Graduate. The next gathering of the Commandery will be 21 August 2010 at the Gunpowder Military Reservation for the annual family cook-out.

New York On 21 April 2010 the Commandery held its annual meeting and the following Companions were elected to office: Commander - LT Donald L. Twiss; Vice Commander - LT William B. Richards; Secretary – LT Jonathan C. Jones; Treasurer – MAJ John C. Straton Jr.; Registrar – Companion John M. Hilliard; Judge Advocate – CAPT Owen C. Smith; and Chaplain – The Reverend Dr. Thomas F. Pike.



Cdr Twiss (l) and C-G Neilson

Rhode Island The Commandery held its annual Business Meeting at the Quonset O'Club in North Kingston, RI on 14 May 2010. After a sumptuous buffet, the Commandery recognized Past Commanders in attendance followed by the Necrology of past members. State Commander Jay Waller

recounted the past year's events which included a listing of the guest speakers. The next meeting will take place on 27 August, again at the Quonset O'Club. The guest speaker will be Mr. Tim Grey, a former local sports newscaster and winning producer of videos recounting the return of 5 Rhode Island D-Day veterans to Normandy and their recollections of "The Longest Day". The Commandery will also invite and sponsor WWII veterans who currently reside at the Bristol VA Home. The Commandery presented MOFW ROTC and JROTC Meritorious Serve Awards to Cadets at Providence College and Coventry, Rogers and Cranston High Schools. Companion (COL) Joe Rooney presented the first ever National MOFW Service Award at Norwich University (the birthplace of the ROTC Program) and Commander Jay Waller did the honors at the US Coast Guard Academy on 18 May. An expanded biography for Rear Admiral Bleeker Luce Sr. was presented. In addition to being the "father" of the Naval War College in Newport, RI, the Admiral instituted the first Rhode Island Commandery on 28 February 1900, organized it on 15 March 1900 and was its first Commander. A member of the Knighthorse Theater Company did a rendition of a convocation address presented to an early Naval War College class by RADM Luce. A new State Commandery Staff was approved by those in attendance: BG Joseph Waller – Commander; CW2 William Henry – Secretary; MAJ James Kenney – Treasurer; 1LT Alisa D'Agostino – Registrar; LTC John Ricottilli – Deputy Registrar; and CW5 Marcel Cartier – Quartermaster. The Rhode Island Commandery has entered the 21st Century thanks to the efforts of CW5 Cartier. You can now join the RI Commandery on Facebook as we have a grouping. Take the time to join our group and get to know your fellows MOFW members. A RI Commandery MOFW Executive Council/Past Commander's meeting was held on 9 Jun 2010 at "Pelly's 19th Hole". The Annual Rhode Island MOFW Golf Tournament will be held 2 August 2010 at the Richmond Country Club. For more information or to signup, contact CW2 Henry at William.j.henry1@us.army.mil or suebillpepper@verizon.net.

The Sound of Her Voice.

During WWII, **Axis Sally** and **Tokyo Rose** were the famous female propagandists for Germany and Japan, respectively. During the Korean War, **Seoul City Sue** (AKA **Rice Bowl Maggie** and **Rice Ball Kate**) was their counterpart. The woman was Anna Wallis Suh from Arkansas, a Southern Methodist missionary in Korea until she married Suh Kyoon Chul in China. Unlike Axis Sally and Tokyo Rose, she delivered her broadcasts in a monotone voice which lead many to believe she was under coercion. And Viet Nam had "Hanoi Hannah" or "Dragon Lady" (Trinh Thi Ngo, alias Thu Huong - "the fragrance of autumn") who tried to instill fear rather than persuade. She learned English by watching her favorite movie "Gone With the Wind".



I regret to report that COL Norman L. Bedard (RI), 1LT Bryan Bell (LA), 1LT Gordon C. Campbell (PA), 1LT Daniel T. Deane Jr. (PA), MAJ Cyrus R. Harrington Jr. (DC), CPT Richard D. Kolter (CAL), LT(jg) Leroy M. Lewis Jr. (PA), LTC Edward S. Milligan (DC), BG Joseph Montecalvo (RI), LT Earl B. Nichols (RI), LT Joseph Sataloff (PA), and COL James B. Smith (NJ) have Answered the Last Roll Call.

Rest in Peace Faithful Companions.

Actress, Singer and Comedian Martha Raye

It was just before Thanksgiving '67 and we were ferrying dead and wounded from a large GRF west of Pleiku, R of VN. We had run out of body bags by noon, so the Hook (CH-47 CHINOOK helicopter) was pretty rough in the back. All of a sudden we heard a "take charge" woman's voice in the rear. There was singer and actress, Martha Raye, with a SF (Special Forces) beret and jungle fatigues, with subdued markings, helping the wounded into the Chinook and carrying the dead aboard. "Maggie" had been visiting her SF "Heroes" out west. We took off, short of fuel, and headed to the USAF hospital pad at Pleiku. As we started unloading our sad pax's, a USAF captain said to Martha "Ms. Ray, with all these dead and wounded to process, there would not be time for your show!" To all of our surprise, she pulled on her right collar and said..."Captain, see this eagle? I am a full "Bird" in the US Army Reserve and this is a "Caduse" which means I am a nurse, with a surgical specialty.....now, take me to your wounded." He said "Follow me." Several times at the Army Field Hospital at Pleiku, she would "cover" a surgical shift, giving a nurse a well-deserved beak. Martha is the only woman buried in the Special Forces (SF) cemetery at Fort Bragg, Hand Salute! (Writer Unknown)

MILITARY WORDS OF WISDOM

- * "You, you and you....Panic. The rest of you, come with me". USMC Gunny Sergeant
- * "Clean it if it's dirty. Oil it if it squeaks. But don't screw with it if it works!" USAF Electronic Technician
- * A Navigator's Definition of Latitude & Longitude: Latitude is where we are lost and Longitude is how long we've been lost.
- * The only time you have too much fuel is when you are on fire.
- * The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you. Max Stanley (Northrup Test pilot)
- * If something hasn't broken on your helicopter, it's about to.

We have printed in this Newsletter the words to "TAPS" from time to time in order to remind all Companions of the significance of the music. We are all familiar with that haunting melody known as "TAPS" played at military funerals as well as for "Lights Out" on military bases. But how many of us know the words?

TAPS

Day is done	Fading light	Thanks and praise
Gone the sun	Dims the sight	For our days
From the lakes	And a star	Neath the sun
From the hills	Gems the sky	Neath the stars
From the sky	Gleaming bright	Neath the sky
All is well	From afar	As we go
Safely rest	Drawing nigh	This we know
God is nigh	Falls the night	God is nigh

WELCOME TO NEW COMPANIONS

LTC John W. Adams (PA)
Comp Andrea Aitkin (EA)
LTC Mark J. Aitkin (EA)
CDR Robert C. Barbee (EA)
LtCol (Chap) Elwood M. Barnes (EA)
COL Howard F. Brown (RI)
LTC Mark J. Buckley (EA)
MAJ P. David Burgess (EA)
MAJ Kelly M. Cahalan (EA)
MAJ Gabriel A. Chinchilla (EA)
Comp Elizabeth L. Clark (DC)
Comp Carmine L. DeMaria (PA)
Comp Joseph C. DeMaria (PA)
CPT (Chap) Daryl W. Densford (E/A)
LT Timothy Derbyshire (EA)
CDR James O. Finnegan (PA)
LTC Christine A. Gaudette (EA)
LTC James E. Halterman (CAL)
LtCol John M. Harlow (EA)

Comp Eric T. Hendrix (DC)
CAPT Phillip J. Heyl (EA)
LTC Scott P. Hoyle (RI)
COL James R. Jagielski (DC)
MAJ Lloyd B. Jameson (EA)
CPT (Dr) Robert F. Kamansky (DC)
BG James E. Keighley (RI)
COL Leonid E. Kondratiuk (DC)
LTC Theodore L. Larsen (CAL)
LTC Louis A. Leppert (DC)
1LT William G. Lockhart (CA)
CAPT Randall J. Lynch (EA)
LT Terry Lynch (EA)
LTC Norman K. Matzke (EA)
Comp William B. McLane (CAL)
1LT David B. McMullin (PA)
ENS Robert R. Milewski Jr. (DC)
LtCol Alvin V. Miller (DC)
LTC Richard J. Murphy (EA)

CPT Patrick J. Pacalo (DC)
COL Dorothy Ann Perkins (EA)
COL Brian D. Perry Sr. (EA)
Comp James J. Profita (EA)
LtCol Jeffery Puckett (DC)
COL A. Eric Rojo (DC)
CDR John F. Roscoe (PA)
LTC Elbert G. Ross (EA)
CAPT Melvin Silverman (DC)
CAPT Joseph J. Spurr IV (DC)
MAJ Patrick J. Swint (DC)
LCDR John M. Tully (EA)
COL Bruce W. Willett (EA)
LTC Jeffrey T. Wyatt Sr. (EA)
Comp Anne C. Zedler (EA)
Comp Franceska Zedler (EA)
Comp Marc W. Zedler (EA)

(Ed Note. The abbreviation (EA) indicates Companionship in the new European/African Commandery, that when chartered, will be headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany)

MILITARY QUOTES

"The badge of rank which an officer wears on his coat is really a symbol of servitude – servitude to his men." *General Maxwell D. Taylor*

"War is not a matter of chance. A great deal of knowledge, study, and meditation is necessary to conduct it well."
Prussian King Frederick the Great

"When the troops continually gather in small groups and whisper together, the general has lost the confidence of the army."
Chinese philosopher Sun Tzu

"To be a successful soldier, you must know history." *General George S. Patton Jr.*

"One always has enough troops when he knows how to use them." *Napoleon Bonaparte*

"An army cannot preserve good order unless its soldiers have meat in their bellies, coats on their backs, and shoes on their feet."
English general John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough

"In this country it is considered wise to kill an admiral from time to time in order to encourage the others." *French writer Voltaire*

"There is always hazard in military movements, but we must decide between possible loss from inaction and the risk of action."
General Robert E. Lee

"At its best, discipline is instilled and maintained by pride in oneself, in one's unit, in one's profession; only at its worst by a fear of punishment." *British Field Marshall A.P. Wavell*

"There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but, boys, it is all hell." *General William T. Sherman*

"Nothing except a battle lost can be half so melancholy as a battle won." *British field Marshall Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington*

MOFW ANNUAL AWARDS

**US Air Force Academy. On 24 May 2010, the MOFW Award was presented to Cadet Daniel O'Keefe by Companion (COL) Adelbert Carpenter of the District of Columbia Commandery. The award, a Bronze Eagle Statuette, is presented to the cadet who excelled in Physics.

**US Coast Guard Academy. On 18 May 2010, the MOFW Award was presented to Cadet 1/c Kirstin Marie Haas by Companion (BG) Joseph N. Waller, Commander of the RI Commandery. The award, an engraved pair of binoculars, is presented to the midshipman deemed the Most Proficient in Handling a Sailing Vessel.

**US Military Academy. On 21 May the MOFW Award was presented to Cadet Caroline A. Taft by the Order's Commander-General, (LTC) Lewis L. Neilson Jr. The Award, a Crossed Saber Plaque, is presented to the Cadet who excels in General Management studies.

**US Merchant Marine Academy. On 18 June the MOFW Award was presented to Midshipman Alexander R. Wingate of Chandler, AZ by Mr. Charles H. Hill, the Chairman of the USMMA Alumni Foundation. Mr. Hill is a 1965 USMMA graduate. The Award, a wrist watch, is given to the midshipman who writes the best Leadership Essay in the Department of Naval Science or Air Force ROTC Leadership Course and who is entering Active Service.

**Norwich University. On 27 April 2010, the MOFW Award was presented to Cadet Steven Levine by Companion (COL) E. Joseph Rooney of the RI Commandery and a Norwich

University graduate of the Class of 1982. The award, a framed personalized aerial photograph of the Norwich University Campus, is presented to the Senior Cadet who holds the position of Norwich University Corps of Cadets Regimental Honor Committee Chair.

**The Citadel. On 6 May 2010, the MOFW Award, a framed collage of The Citadel, was presented to Cadet Phillip Westbrook by the Commandant of Cadets, (COL) L. A. Mercado. Cadet's honors include 3 scholarships, the Navy's Outstanding Physical Fitness and Academic Award, the Dean's List 7 times and a final GPA of 4.0.

**Virginia Military Institute (VMI). On 30 April 2010 at VMI in Lexington, VA, Past Commander-General Ronald E. Fischer presented MOFW Awards to the top Naval and USMC

Cadets on behalf of the Order. Cadet Jason T. Barnes was presented the Top Naval Cadet Award, an engraved presentation Leatherman, and Cadet B. Barker Squire was presented the Top USMC Cadet Award, an engraved presentation K-Bar knife. Cadet 1/C Barnes was commissioned as an Ensign in the US Navy and Cadet 1/C Squire was commissioned as a 2LT in the USMC, both on 15 May 2010.



2LT Squire (l) and EN Barnes

POTPOURRI

** New York Commandery Web Site. State Commander (LTC) Donald L. Twiss has appointed Companion (CPT) Owen C. Smith as the Chairman of the new MOFWNY Website. Companions can now access the site at www.mofwny.org. The web site is linked to the National web site www.mofwus.org. National has linked back to their site. The NY web site has a "membership section" where Companions may propose a new Companion and whose proposed enrollment may be viewed by NY Companions. All Companions are urged to visit the new web site and enjoy its information.

** Norwich University Added to MOFW Awards List. At the MOFW Convention in 2003, then Commander-General Ron Fischer proposed adding The Citadel, the Virginia Military Academy (VMI), Texas A&M, and Norwich University – the home of the ROTC Program – to the Order's list of awards presented at the five Service Academies. The 5 selected universities had traditionally had strong ties to the Nation's military and their graduates have performed great uniformed service in both war and peace. Awards at The Citadel and VMI were first presented in 2004 and 2005 and the Order has made these presentations annually ever since. The awards for Norwich U. and Texas A&M, for some reason, were placed on the "back burner" until this year. Thanks to the work of Rhode Island State Commander (BG) Jay Waller, this spring the Order made its first presentation at Norwich University. RI Companion (COL) Joseph Rooney made the first ever MOFW Award presentation. The Order is working with Texas A&M to bring them "into the fold" hopefully in 2011 – then Past C-G Ron Fischer's goals will be complete.

** Cold War Medal Briefing. On 28 April 2010, SVC-G Wulf R. Lindenau was invited by the American Cold War Veterans, Inc. (ACWV), to present a briefing in the Dirksen Senate Building in Washington, DC to the Cold War Veterans, the USS Liberty Veterans Association, and to select Congressional attendees. The theme of the gathering and briefings was to reinforce the victory over Communism by the USA and US military veterans in the Cold War from 1945 to 1991 and to request that Congressional efforts by the House and Senate continue



L to R SVC-G Lindenau, Donald Levesque (ACWV), Albert Lepine (ACWV), Senator Snowe, Jerald R. Terwilliger (ACWV)

to support appropriate recognition of Cold War Veterans. Along with Mr. Scott L 'Ecuyer, National Director of the American Cold Wars Veterans, Inc., SVC-G Lindenau briefed Senator Olympia Snowe on the need to appropriately recognize Cold War Veterans by supporting the issuance of a Cold War Medal. Senator Snowe was informed that DoD has for many years blocked such recognition, claiming that the Cold War Certificate DoD makes available is sufficient recognition.

Senator Snowe states that she and many of her colleagues will support our efforts until we succeed.

(Ed. Note. For the past 3 Conventions, the Order has passed resolutions supporting the issuance of a Cold War Medal by DoD. The Cold War Medal offered to our Companions from FOXFALL MEDALS is strictly a commemorative medal and is not an authorized DoD award.)

** MOFW Placemats. Do you want to add a little "class" and something extra to your next MOFW luncheon, dinner or party? The Order has a few remaining MOFW placemats available – when they are gone, they are gone! The 17" x 11" placemat features the Order's Insigne centered on a background of gold and is bordered on both ends by the colorful "ribbon of the Order". Laminated in a flexible plastic, these distinctive placemats may be used over and over again. The placemats are packaged 20 to a pack and all we are asking is for the postage to be paid - \$ 10.00 per pack. If interested, contact your Quartermaster-General, Ron Sommer (contact information can be found in the Quartermasters Store section of this newsletter).

** USS AMERICAN LEGION. The USS American Legion was an attack transport that served with the US Navy during WWII. She was built by New York Shipbuilding, christened the BADGER STATE, and launched in 1921. The US Navy acquired her on 22 August 1941 and she was re-named the USS AMERICAN LEGION. She was utilized in the Pacific Theater, first landing Army personnel to establish a field hospital on the island of Tongatapu. She was then equipped with 20mm anti-aircraft cannon, sailed with Task Force 44 (and elements of the 5th Marine Division), landing the first wave ashore on Guadalcanal. The ship earned 2 battle stars for her WWII service. The USS American Legion was decommissioned on 28 March 1946 and sold for scrap.

** Air Mobility Command (AMC) Travel Site. Space-A travelers planning to travel the AMC military travel system can go to www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp. At the site they will find an updated AMC Passenger Terminal contact list (complete with phone, e-mail and web links) and as well as travel documents including instructions on signing up for Space-A travel by e-mail. "Space-A Flights" or "military hops" are available to US service personnel, retirees and their families. Although a great benefit, Space-A travel can be stressful without proper planning as AMC travel is never guaranteed and users must have time for un-expected delays. Not every base is equipped with facilities for or lodging capable of handling passengers stranded by a "broken" or re-routed aircraft. But if you have the time, the "military hop" is a great way to save money.

** West Virginia Award. Companion Scott E. Johnson received the West Virginia State Bar's James Madison Cutts Jr. Citizen Soldier Award, an award named after lawyer and Civil War Medal of Honor recipient, James Madison Cutts Jr. The award recognizes the Bar member who is, or has been, a Reservist or National Guardsman and who best exemplifies the tradition and history of the American citizen soldier. Companion Johnson was a captain in the Military Police in the Army Reserve and was deployed to Kosovo with the 101st Airmobile Division. In addition to the MOFW, he belongs to the American Legion, the VFW, the Military Order of World

Wars, the Military Order of the Carabao, the State Guard Association of the US, the Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The award was presented to Companion Johnson by MG Kenneth D. Gray (Ret), former US Army Judge Advocate General.



Comp Johnson(I) with MG Gray

Letters to the Editor

Past Commander-General Arthur J. Nattans writes “While in Amman, Jordan in April 2010, I had the occasion to speak with many very informed Jordanians who were aware or even more so of the American issues than most US citizens. They were opinionated and popularly in support of our President’s policies. The lesson here is that we (the US) are very much in the focus of conversation around the world, and our strongest allies are at risk from our enemies. Jordan is a very current player in world affairs and is informed and prepared to take leadership positions in international affairs. The leadership is very well educated in junior, middle and senior levels of authority, many with PhDs received from American universities. Their diplomacy with their neighbors is exemplary and vital to the area for survival. Because my visit to Jordan was of a professional nature, and time filled with official meetings, I did not get to see the ancient city of Petra or many other historical sights. I did, however, travel through Madaba (the ancient Christian area) and up Mount Nebo (the highest mountain in Jordan where Moses died) on my way to the Dead Sea. It is a fascinating country with Bedouin sheep herders still dressing in biblical garb and camping in tents overnight. The modern influence is there for instead of camels, they use old Mercedes Benz trucks to haul their tents and supplies. There are camels visible ever so often but they are a tourist attraction. As impressed as I was with the history and landscape of the area, the most memorable events were with the people. They were proud to speak in English, which many do, They were polite, friendly, and attentive but at the same time, openly opinionated. It was a pleasure to experience the cultural exchange and their leadership’s commitment to conquer terrorist extremists and improve the image of their chosen religion.”

CWO Tyrone Hall and MSgt Ken Hicks write “We, the Marine Corps Junior ROTC Staff at Horn Lake High School, want to express our sincere appreciation for your contribution of time and resources at our first annual Awards Banquet. According to the Cadets, the event was a resounding success. Your support contributes significantly to their growth into solid American citizens. The Cadets have

grown tremendously in a relatively short period due to contributions such as yours. Consequently, Cadets are enthusiastic and motivated about their future with the program and beyond high school. Your presence and the awards reinforced the Cadet’s desire to excel and succeed, not just in the program but in their lives as well. In the very near future, we will be sending you photographs taken at the event. Thanks again for your support. You truly made a difference in the lives of our Cadets.”

(Ed note. From a modest beginning in 2008 (when records began being kept) with 8 schools, the MOFW JROTC Awards program now participates in 19 high school programs. This increase has been accomplished through “word of mouth advertising”; i.e., one JROTC Program passing the word about us to another JROTC Program. There is minimal cost to the Order as the JROTC Medals and ROTC Certificates are paid for by the school, State Commanderies and/or individual supporting Companions. In addition, each recipient of a MOFW JROTC Medal receives a copy of the History of the Order, again spreading the word about “who we are and what we do”. Horn Lake H.S. is located in Horn Lake, MS. Any Companion living within a reasonable travel distance from Horn Lake H.S. and who would like to be our presenter at the school, please contact the Editor. The Louisiana Commandery alone has been an early “player” in the MOFW JROTC Awards Program, presenting awards to many high schools in the state. Companions and/or state Commanderies wanting information on or wishing to join in on the MOFW Awards program may also contact your Newsletter Editor.

Historian-General Mark Hartell writes “In the June 2004 Letter to the Editor, Companion (MAJ) Joseph M. Crews wrote about finding a picture of a 1915 issue Imperial Tobacco silk measuring 8 x 5.2 cm depicting the badge (Insigne) of the Military Order of Foreign Wars. Great excitement was expressed about this finding as many Companions never knew such an issue existed bearing the proud MOFW Insigne. I am delighted to announce that a pristine specimen of this early-issue tobacco silk bearing the bright full-color Insigne of our Order has been purchased by your Historian-General and has been donated to the MOFW. Starting as early as the 1870s/1880s, tobacco companies inserted advertising cards into tobacco packages and cigarette packs. These advertisements quickly took the form of collector cards often depicting images of various popular themes, such as flags, birds, flowers, American Indians, Kings and Queens, military badges, uniforms, celebrities, trains, ships, etc. Originally made of paper, inserts after the start of WWI were of “silk” (actually a silk/cotton blend), flannel and leather. These inserts are said to have stopped in the US after the end of WWI but continued in Europe into the 1920s and 1930s. I have not been able to completely identify the military badge series into which the MOFW issue was included. There appears to be a series containing foreign military badgers that may have included this issue. This would be consistent with the printed text that identifies country of origin, “Military Order of Foreign Wars – U.S.A.” Various sources appear to date this issue between 1910 and 1920 with a most likely date in the mid-teens. Companions are urged to keep an eye out at auctions and flea markets for such interesting MOFW collectibles! As many of these collectibles are quite affordable, the MOFW would gratefully accept any donations of items for our archives!”

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