



Happy New Year Dallas Military Order News



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Best Large Chapter in the Nation

January 2011

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... Chapter Commander's Commo Check

Companions, let me begin by hoping all of you had a very *Merry Christmas*. I also want to pass on my best wishes to you and your families for a healthy and prosperous *Happy New Year*. As the year 2010 comes to a close, I would like to provide an "executive overview" of Dallas Chapter activities during my watch to date.

1. At the National MOWW Convention, we were selected as the Best Large Chapter in the nation for the seventh of the last eight years. A huge "shout out" to Wes Gross.



2. We again "led the way" with the Youth Leadership Conferences. A huge shout out to Cliff Way for his continuous untiring efforts, to Don Munson and Rollie Stevens as YLC Directors (Texas A&M and the USS Lexington) and to all those who provided presentations at those conferences. Unquestionably your continuing financial support is critical to the success of these conferences.



3. We have had some outstanding speakers, examples being Mark Davis & Joe Galloway, to name two. Another shout out to Wes.
4. We have inducted 18 new members since July 2010. A shout out to everyone who spreads the word about our chapter.



5. Cliff Way was elected as our National MOWW Commander in Chief and John Hayes was elected to be the Senior Vice Commander in Chief. Thanks to you, both, for all that you have done for the Dallas Chapter and all that you do for the Military Order.



6. Many Dallas Chapter members held key planning and implementation positions for the Dallas Veterans Day Parade. They were responsible for making this year's parade such a huge success. Over 90 World War II veterans were recognized at the 2010 Veterans Day Parade. What an awesome and moving experience seeing each one riding by in his own top down Corvette or antique convertible.



7. Once again we have the greatest monthly newsletter in the nation. A huge shout out to Don Munson for his hard work and professional contribution to our chapter. (continued on page 2)

Charles B. Chamberlin

Lt Colonel, US Army (Ret)
Dallas Chapter Commander



Chapter Lunch, 1130 hrs, 4 Jan 11 @ Park City Club
Staff Meeting, 1300 hrs, 4 Jan 11 @ Park City Club

Largest Christmas gathering - ever

It was a gala evening for the record books. More than 140 Companions and guests gathered for our tenth annual Christmas Banquet. The setting was beautiful, the food was superb, the entertainment was outstanding, and our generous chapter Santas donated more than 150 stuffed animals, games, and toys for children throughout the Dallas area. Take a bow one and all. You have made this a most memorable year.



Three former chapter Commanders gathered to hear Don Nguyen's accounts of the ongoing counter-drug war in North Texas

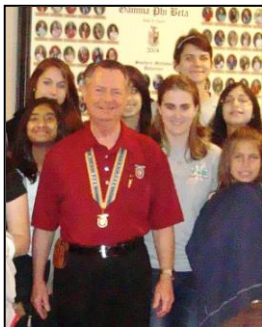
(Continued from Page 1) Commander's Comments

8. Closing out the year we had a wonderful joint Christmas Party with our Metroplex MOWW sister chapters. There were about 140 members & guests. Marsh Middle School posted the colors and provided an excellent drill team demonstration. We collectively brought 150 gifts for the Toys for Tots program. To cap the evening Brian Piper provided an outstanding musical medley for our entertainment pleasure. Thanks to all who made this super evening possible.



Charlie Alford was caught giving away Golda's favorite rabbit

9. Many other activities such as John Hayes assisting Girl Scouts with two new Gold award projects, help given to the Snowball Express, & to the *Greet the Troops* program at DFW airport. The outstanding efforts by members of this chapter over the past 6 months continue to reinforce the goals stated in our Preamble. A shout out to you all.



John Hayes is a hit with the Gamma Phi sorority

We have much to do in this New Year and I urge each of you find a way to join those Companions who, throughout the year, give of their time and money to support our activities and programs. Please join them this year in making 2011 the best ever for the Dallas Chapter, and the Military Order of the World Wars.

No such thing as an ex-Marine



Major General James Williams, former Commanding General, 4th Marine Division

Students of war will recall that the cities of Fallujah and Ramadi were scenes of some of the bloodiest fighting in Iraq. Major General James Williams commanded US Marines in both of those areas during two overseas deployments. Some would say that his stateside assignments were almost as challenging, especially while he was serving as a White House military aide to Presidents Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter.

Next Six Months' Programs

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

4 Jan 11 – Maj. Gen. James L. Williams, USMC (Ret)
former Commanding General, 4th Marine Division

1 Feb 11 – Rear Admiral Jim Eckelberger, USN (Ret)
Update on strategic US national defense issues

1 Mar 11 – Brig General Roger Bultman, USA (Ret)
Former Chief of Staff, Headquarters, MOWW

5 Apr 11 – Career Ambassador Ryan Crocker
Dean, Bush School of Government & Public Service

3 May 11 – Mr. William Farmer, Raytheon Engineer
Expert in military surveillance equipment

7 Jun 11 – Annual Installation of New Officers
Commander and Staff for FY 2012

Laurel Land Cemetery

Remembering Pearl Harbor, 7 Dec 1941

Each year on the anniversary of the bombing of military and civilian installations in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, ceremonies are held to honor the 2,403 men and women who died in the air attacks on that day. This year, John Hayes was invited to be the keynote speaker during the memorial program, which was attended by several hundred. The setting is particularly moving, as it is in a section of Laurel Land Cemetery that has been dedicated to honor those who died at Pearl Harbor, that day.



John Hayes delivers the keynote address to Pearl Harbor survivors

January Birthday Boys (& Girls)

One year older; a whole lot wiser

3 January 1931 COL Homer Schmidt

5 January	MRS Ginny Gross
8 January	LT COL Jack Bond
9 January	CPT Weldon Nash
9 January	MAJ John Van Buskirk
10 January	CDR Jerry Rucker
11 January	MRS Beverly Hardin
11 January	LTC Stonell Greene
12 January	CPT Boyd Branch
12 January	COL Virgil Williams
13 January	LT Paul Brewer
15 January	COL Jon Allen
16 January	LTC King Moss
22 January	CPT Steven Poole
23 January	MAJ Richard Farr
23 January	LTC Charles Winder
24 January	LCDR James Bailey
26 January	MAJ GEN William Gossell
28 January	MR Walter Applewhite
28 January	MRS Joey Munson
31 January	MR Joe Applewhite
31 January	COL Joe Sasser

Get well, soon

If anyone can beat it, Allen can

Amid the joy of the Christmas season and the optimism that always accompanies the arrival of a New Year, we are all too often reminded that life can sometimes be difficult and at other times downright painful. Each of us has his own set of coping mechanisms, but the most powerful of them all is the power of prayer. Please keep Allen Clark and his lovely wife, Linda, in your thoughts and in your prayers.

I'm not a gambler, but if I were, I'd put my money on Allen and Linda to face the devil and spit in his eye. Get well, Al. Be that **Healing Warrior** that you've written about.

Sunnyvale, Texas

Tribute to the Armed Forces

On 2 Dec 10, the city of Sunnyvale dedicated a Blue Star Memorial marker to pay tribute to the men and women of the US Armed Forces. LTC King Moss Commander of the Texas Department of MOWW (and Past Commander of the Dallas Chapter), accepted the marker on behalf of the veterans of Sunnyvale, King's new hometown.



LTC King Moss II and Mrs. Gail Wilson, President of the Sunnyvale Garden Club, the organization that sponsored the marker

Boy Scouts of America

Another Eagle Scout for Troop 42

On 19 Dec 10, Troop 42 held yet another Court of Honor



Erich Seidel, Troop 42, receives an Eagle Scout certificate from Senior Vice CINC, John Hayes

for one of its Scouts who has been elevated to the rank of Eagle. John Hayes, our Scout Committee Chairman, was on hand to present the MOWW certificate. Erich is the sixth Scout this year from Troop 42 to earn scouting's top award.

Snowball Express

1,200 Children enjoy a week of fun & games

The Snowball Express came roaring into Dallas, on 9 December, bringing over 1,200 boys and girls for a whirlwind week of carefree entertainment. The children have all lost a parent during fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan. The gathering gives them an opportunity to meet other kids who are suffering a similar loss. And it helps their Moms learning how to cope. Dallas Companion, Mike Hogg is the national Director of Snowball, which receives generous support from American Airlines.



Bob Little and his AA crew are among the angels that make Snowball flights happen

Please support your Dallas Chapter this March, by filling a "Box for Soldiers" with wish list consumables Companion Peggy Shuman will provide the boxes, you provide the items.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

More photos from the Christmas Banquet



Former Commander-in-Chief of MOWW, Homer Schmidt, and his wife, Dianne



Just in case you were wondering, Satin is "in" this Christmas



Former Dallas Chapter Commander, Ron Forest, and his wife, Redon



Region VIII Commander John Lopez and Dallas Companion Stan Seat



David Darelus, David & Gail Mersbach, and Mary Darelus



Former Dallas Chapter Commander, Ken Cordier, and his wife, Barbi



Bob & Lourene Dickson, Ginny, Chris, & Wes Gross, and Ron & Redon Forest



David's wife, Sarita Wirzig, and Don's wife, Joey Munson



Wes Gross receives the title of "Chapter Commander Emeritus" from Commander Chuck Chamberlin

More Photos from the Snowball Express



Luggage handlers – at five o'clock in the morning – greeted the incoming flights



Volunteers met the families - including the entire Hillcrest HS football team - to help load buses to the Hilton



Homeward bound, after four days of rodeos, puppet shows, and hundreds of new found friends.

KNOW YOUR CHAPTER COMPANIONS

Lt. Colonel Jack Bond, US Air Force (Ret)



Lt. Col. Jack Bond was born on 8 January 1929, in Dallas, Texas. He graduated from Texas A&M University, in 1951, with a BA degree in mathematics.

In 1953, he became a pilot with the 84th Fighter Interceptor Squadron (FIS) at Hamilton AFB, CA.

He flew F-89D's at Ladd AFB, AK, for two years and later was a flight commander in the 97th FIS, New Castle, DE. Jack then moved to Tyndall AFB, FL, where he was Senior Instructor for fighter interceptor crews, a position he later held at Malmstrom AFB, MT. In 1962, he returned to Texas A&M, graduated with a BS in Aerospace Engineering and became an engineer in the Directorate of Advanced Reconnaissance Planning at Wright Patterson AFB, OH. In June 1967, he reported for duty in the 45th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, RVN, where he flew 132 combat missions in the RF-101C.

In 1968, Jack was assigned to the Aeronautical Systems Division (ASD) of USAF Systems Command, supervising weapon system acquisition and logistical support for combat operations. In 1972, ASD assigned him to the C-5A Program, where he was the Engineering Data Manager, until his retirement, in 1976. After retiring, he worked in real estate in Dallas for the next 20 years.

Jack is a command Pilot with 3,900 flying hours. His military awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with 8 Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal with one Brass Service Star, Vietnam Service Medal with 5 Brass Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He holds two undergraduate degrees from Texas A&M University and has two Masters Degrees from Central Michigan University. Jack and his wife, Ina, have 3 sons and 3 grand children.

Captain Allen B. Clark, Jr, US Army (Ret)



CPT Allen Clark graduated from the US Military Academy. After qualifying as a paratrooper, he volunteered for a tour in Vietnam, where he served as a Military Intelligence officer assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group. He was injured in an early-morning mortar

attack at the Special Forces camp, near Dak To, on June 17, 1967, which necessitated the amputation of both legs below his knees. For his service and sacrifice, he was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

While learning to walk on prosthetic legs, he obtained an MBA in finance and investments from SMU. Allen was an investment manager for Ross Perot, was vice president of a bank, president of three oil service companies, and co-founder of a real estate investment company.

In 1979, Texas Governor William Clements appointed Allen to be his Special Assistant. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan chose him to be Deputy Administrator for the Dept. of Veterans Affairs. In 1989, President George H.W. Bush chose him to be Assistant Secretary for Veterans Liaison in the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

In 2005, Allen was the Public Affairs Officer for the North Texas VA Health Care System in Dallas, Texas. He was founder of the Combat Faith Ministry helping veterans recover emotionally and spiritually from adverse wartime experiences.

Allen's autobiography titled "*Wounded Soldier, Healing Warrior*" was published in 2007. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Service award from the Military Order of the World Wars, among many similar outstanding commendations.

Allen and his wife, Linda, live in Dallas, where they remain very active as motivational speakers. He travels throughout the country and has, frequently, been featured on radio and TV.



Chaplain (Dr) Weldon Estes'
Words to live by

Only Today in the New Year

“We know not what a day brings forth”- (Proverbs 27:1)

There is no yesterday with God. Nor is there a tomorrow. With God, always, there is just *now*. He sees the end from the beginning, and all life is present before His infinite eyes. To us, things happen a day at a time, but not with God. The Bible says “we know not what a day brings forth.”

Yesterday is gone forever. Tomorrow we do not yet possess. We only have now, this moment, and that is all. The difference between us and God would be that we are like a finite speck – like a moth-living in a moment. In his infinitude, God is eternal. The Bible says, “What is your life? It is a vapor, that appeareth for a little while and then vanishes away.” (James 4:14) There is insubstantiality in life that is undeniable. It is a little thread, so easily broken and torn apart.

There are certainties about life, and number one is that it is ending. It is certain and conclusive that we will die, sometimes so suddenly, so tragically. At the beginning of the New Year, let us cast ourselves anew upon the mercies of God so that God will give us breadth and length of days.

“Teach us to number our days so that our life may be long upon the earth.”

The Dallas Military Order of the World Wars

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To Bring a Guest!!