



**Newsletter for January 2020**

**Website: [MOWW VANDENBERG.ORG](http://MOWW.VANDENBERG.ORG)**

*Header courtesy Eric Wand*

## **MOWW Officers & Staff**

108 Indo Dr., Shell Beach, CA 93449  
2020 - 2021

### **Chapter Commander**

Maj. James L. Murphy, USMC, (Ret)  
805-528-7565

### **Sr. Vice Commander**

Lt(jg) Joseph Brocato USN (fmr)

### **Jr Vice Commander**

LTC Lou Stout  
805-994-7051

### **Adjutant**

Maj. James L. Murphy, USMC, (Ret)  
805-528-7565

### **Treasurer**

Lt(jg) Joseph Brocato USN (fmr)

### **Chaplain**

Maj. James L. Murphy, USMC, (Ret)  
805-528-7565

### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

Maj. James L. Murphy  
805-528-7565

### **Judge Advocate**

LTC Dan Dow USA (NG)  
805-703-3187

### **Staff at Large-3 Positions**

LTC Angel Ortiz USA (NG)  
Capt David Brandmeyer USMC(fmr)  
CPT Richard Hathcock USA (fmr)

## **Commanders Message**

It's now official! Apparently what goes around comes around! I was the chapter commander from 2009 to 2011, and here I am again! As many know, our officers agonized over the future of our Vandenberg Chapter: Should we shut down, or was there a way for us to continue to function? Analyzing the processes of closing the chapter identified a number of daunting steps, none of which we were looking forward to taking. The discussions were long and in depth. Many members came forward encouraging us to "keep the faith!" Now you know the results: I agreed with the support of many, to again take the mantle. You saw in the last newsletter the complete roster of your officers. I'll repeat that list later in this newsletter. You'll especially note that there are some of us who will be wearing more than one hat, so to speak. Having "been there, done that," we are comfortable in doing so. Of course some have stepped forward and offered to assume a task, and this is really appreciated! As you consider your own time constraints, I hope you will come forward and ask what might be required for any of the positions on this list. In addition, there are other outside events that we, as a chapter are committed to. As an example, we participate in the Lost at Sea service in late May at the Cayucos Pier; we conduct a half-day Youth Leadership Conference for Grizzly students; we honor the Boy Scouts; we also acknowledge a law enforcement or civic minded person every year. Each of these requires someone to reach out and often finalize the details of each of these activities. None require a great deal of time, but each is an important element of our service to our community.

MOWW Goals 2020-21

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1. The number of monthly meetings has been established as noted in the Adjutant's comments. Of these meetings two are planned as joint meetings(see #12, below) with MOAA; the other meetings should include guest speakers, persons of interest and note to the community; civilian and military spokespersons to the degree possible on issues of worth to our members
2. Increase new membership by at least 2% (2 new members)
3. Conduct a minimum of one, one day Youth Leadership Conference with the Grizzly Academy
4. Sponsor ROTC certificates and/or awards; attend commissioning services; invite outstanding ROTC Cadets to meetings, and present awards
5. Present local First Responder Award to an outstanding person (law enforcement, safety and/or security worker)
6. Provide Eagle and Girl Scout Gold Awards upon request, throughout the County
7. Participate in Lost at Sea Ceremony
8. Participate in funeral services as requested
9. Conduct regular Executive Committee meetings, as needed and requested; such meetings will attend to chapter business in lieu of previous regular chapter meetings. These meetings will generally be held on the third Wednesday of the month, except July and August when the chapter is "dark"
10. Participate in Veteran's Day and other related military activities and memorials services
11. Continue support of sister veteran's organizations activities as identified
12. Continue to join with MOAA in social events throughout the year; at least one will be the traditional holiday/Christmas meeting

***The December meeting was a joint Christmas Luncheon with the MOWW and MOAA chapters and was held at the San Luis Obispo Country Club.***



***The entertainment was provided by the Cuesta College Carolers***

## ***Adjutant's Comments: MOWW Calendar 2020***

A number of special events are on tap for this coming year. Some are pending and haven't been confirmed, but I can announce:

**January** joint special meeting Joe Brocoto honoring veterans on January 28th. Special reservations required!

**February:** Super Debbie Arnold will join us.

**March:** Senator Sam Blakslee will speak about a non-military approach to the new Space Force. So be alert to the next two monthly meetings. We have other events of special interest and you'll get plenty of advance notice as these are firmed up!

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### ***Chaplain's Offering:***

With the Christmas season behind us, and we are celebrating Epiphany, I hope everyone who was enjoying the season has now taken down the lights and other decorations! Epiphany is a festival commemorating the manifestation of Christ as God Incarnate. We are all familiar with the "12 Days of Christmas", and while we enjoy the song, need to realize that this date is the concluding of one season and the beginning of another. In the west this primarily acknowledges this time (January 6, current calendar) as the baptism of Christ by his cousin John. This date is also associated with the visit of the Magi. Notice that these two events occurred many years apart! So as we begin another year, let us pause and give thanks and appreciation for the rewards and benefits we enjoy as citizens of this great country! God bless and stay strong!

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**PASSING  
THE  
GAVEL**

**GEN Hoyt S. Vandenberg Chapter**

*Military Order of World Wars*

*Executive Committee*

108 Indio Drive

Shell Beach, CA 93440

Address correction requested

**Mark your calendar**

Jan. 9th-MOWW EXCOM  
Jan. 28th-MOWW

**MOWW Preamble**

To cherish the memories and associations of the World Wars waged for humanity;

To inculcate and stimulate love of our country and flag;

To promote and further patriotic education in our nation;

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;

To foster fraternal relations among all branches of the armed forces;

To promote the cultivation of military, naval, and air science and the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of national security for the United states of America;

To acquire and preserve records of individual services;

To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of memorials of the World Wars; and

To transmit all these ideals to posterity; under God and for our country we unite to establish . . .

The Military Order of the World Wars.