



Newsletter for MAY 2020

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

Header courtesy Eric Wand

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2020 - 2021

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Commanders Message

As you read my other jottings in this newsletter, you will begin to understand and realize how this corona virus has impacted not just our daily lives and activities but our social interactions as well. Here's what I consider a very misleading statement. We are told that except for very special needs, stay home! Well, this almost makes sense. To those of us who've lived in cold climates such as the northeast, or even the mid-west, we know that when winter comes, we hunker down inside! But the advice we hear to "go home and stay inside!" is not good advice. The facts are different: The real advice should be to limit your exposure to others, and in your home environment, (depending on the weather, of course!) get outside! Spend time in your backyard, soak up the sunshine! Get that vitamin D! Inside, it becomes stuffy, and if there are others in the house, you are just sharing the same air! So do your household chores then get outside! Breathe that good central coast fresh air! In my neighborhood, I see many just walking! Sometimes they may be joined by another friend, but just as often, alone. They are out and not cooped up in the house!

We have to face reality, and the facts are this: Given we probably will not have any meetings for the next two months (May and June), and we are quiet July and August, as we will be limited to not more than ten and the social spacing factor also to be considered. So accept that we might be able to muster again this fall. Together with MOAA, we had great plans for mutual events. There is no way at this time to determine what if any of these plans may come to pass.

I will send my newsletter comments along for June as well as this month, May. I do not expect that you'll hear from me in July and August, but rest assured as conditions improve (and they will!) I'll be in touch. Be strong, be safe, and be careful. Take care of your loved ones and yourself!

Adjutant's Comments:

There may be some action in the next few weeks or months. The President and our Governor and local officials are anxious to take steps to bring some semblance of normalcy back to our lives. Some businesses may begin to see some public activity, but there will be restrictions! These limitations will also mean that your MOWW will be significantly hampered in returning back to our regular meeting events. This of course is tied to the limiting of no more than ten people at a gathering, and the so-called social distancing factor of six (or more) feet apart. Some in authority are now suggesting a greater separation than six feet. (Have you been to the market lately? Notice the tape on the floor! Six feet apart!) According to the professionals this matter of social distancing has been a major factor in what seems to be a stabilizing of the spread of the corona virus.

I'll mention the face mask issue in another writing. But even though some of us live alone, careful steps need to continue; this especially requires frequent hand washing with hot water and soap and at least a 20 second scrubbing. I have trouble not touching my face so am double careful to keep my hands as clean as possible. So don't be dumb! Don't be foolish! Don't be stupid! This too will pass!

Sergeant of Arms

Face masks! An interesting topic! Many Asian people have worn face masks for a long time. A brief glance at pictures of Japan and China will show most people properly masked. This brings up an interesting question: What is the mask supposed to do? Does it protect the wearer from others, or to protect others from the wearer? No doubt both especially with the current corona virus symptoms of a latent time in a person not showing any outward signs of the virus but able to infect others it is important to be cautious. So a person can be a carrier (I am reminded of Typhoid Mary, many years ago; she had the disease and was a carrier but had no symptoms; she just spread typhoid!)

Simply buying a mask may be a challenge! My local drug stores (Los Osos) have not been able to stock any masks. I came across a report on how to make a mask using a regular man's handkerchief. I made one and it works just fine! It's not easy to describe, but it involves multiple folds then with a couple of rubber bands to hook over the ears, it qualifies! I think it's interesting as I go to my market and see the variety of face coverings people are using! Some look like they might be thinking of robbing a stage coach! Whatever works!

So given all this, please be extra careful when you go out; wear a mask! Keep your distances from others; be careful what you touch and as soon as you get home, wash your hands!

Chaplains notes:

While Easter Sunday is behind us, we are now near the end of the Easter season. Remember that Jesus was taken from the cross and placed in a tomb (cave). When the women came to prepare his body, the stone that had sealed the tomb had been rolled away. Then Jesus appeared but Mary didn't recognize him until he spoke to her.

Then began about a month of Jesus' time with his disciples. This was a significant time for his followers as, while they were true believers and followers, they could not grasp the real significance of his resurrection. Remember Thomas? "Doubting Thomas" became a term for all time to signify a person who questions or doubts or can't believe. While the other disciples saw and believed and shared with Thomas, he wanted proof, so when he saw Jesus, he was told to "place your hands in my side", and

then Thomas exclaimed, "I believe!"

So what does it take for us to believe? We cannot place our hands in Jesus' side. So what we have is faith, faith to believe in the most sacred and important event in all of Christianity! During this turbulent time of our lives, lives that are undergoing an upheaval that none have ever experienced, we need that faith more strongly than ever. This too shall end, and we shall survive this together.

At some time during your day, stop. Stop whatever you are doing, and stop. Be quiet, let your mind relax; try to think of nothing. Then as you take those deep breaths, give thanks and prayers for your health and the health of your loved ones. Extend a quiet prayer to those who've died from this virus

We plan on continuing our MOWW newsletter for June. However, as things have been rather calm for our chapter, we've included some pictures of recent activities. Please relax and enjoy!



Supervisor Debbie Arnold discussing some of our county issues at the February meeting.

Debbie was up for re-election, and she was re-elected!

Joe Brocato's tribute to our WWII veteran's in January. There were 22 of the vets able to attend.



The passing of the gavel from outgoing commander LTC Lou Stout to Maj Jim at our Christmas luncheon (which was also held at the country club).

Recognition of Atascadero Boy Scout Troop 51 last June for their continuing excellent support to our American Heritage Monument flag pole in Atascadero.



GEN Hoyt S. Vandenberg Chapter

Military Order of World Wars

Executive Committee

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Address correction requested

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.