



Header courtesy Eric Wand

Newsletter for March 2019

Website: MOWVANDENBERG.ORG

Officers & Staff 2018 - 2019

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ADJUTANT
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Past Commander
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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
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SURGEON GENERAL
MAJ Ernest B. Miller, MD USA (fmr)

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
LTC Col Angel Ortiz
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MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
Capt Richard Hathcock, USA (ret)

Mailing Address:
108 Indio Drive, Shell Beach, CA
93449

Chapter Luncheon

The guest speaker for the forthcoming March Luncheon will be Capt. Pete Pepper, USA (Ret). Capt. Pepper was sponsored by LTC Dan Dow and is now our newest member. Capt. Pepper is a US Army Vietnam War Veteran and, as a Company Commander, led a 101st Airborne Company into battle throughout Vietnam. He started the non-profit Central Coast Veterans Helping Veterans Organization. Also, he leads our Veterans Treatment Court Mentor program. Pete will speak about his experiences as Company Commander in Vietnam and why he started Veterans Helping Veterans. The luncheon will be at the San Luis Obispo Elks Club on March 20, 2019 starting at 11:30.

Major Jim Murphy at 805-528-7565 or
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For MOAA Members contact: David Brandmeyer 714-287-7601
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Commander's Message: LTC Louis Stout

MOWW February 2019 Luncheon Program

Our guest speaker was Mr. Bear McGill. Bear retired from the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's office after 28 years as a Correctional Deputy, He is now the Chairperson for Honor Flight Central Coast California program. Bear was assisted by Bruce McGrath.

They gave an excellent presentation covering all aspects of the Honor Flight program. Their Mission is to honor all of America's veterans by taking them to Washington D.C. on their "Tour of Honor" as a guest. Once there, they can visit and reflect at their memorials which have been built to honor their service.

All-expense paid trips are scheduled for May 6-8 and June 10-12, with a third trip pending this fall. The three-day trips offer senior veterans a guided tour of military memorials and monuments and other points of interest in the DC area. More than 270 local veterans have made the trip with Honor Flight of the Central Coast since the local chapter formed in 2014.

Bear has been on nine of these trips and every time is moved to tears watching once-young soldiers remembering their pasts. They are fiercely patriotic and even with physical limitations, still insist on standing when the National Anthem is played. Everywhere they go, strangers approach our veterans to thank them for their service. It is a powerful lesson.

Honor Flight of the Central Coast is led by a group of volunteers who must raise \$100,000 each year to make the trips free to veteran attendees.

Additional information is available online at www.honorflightccc.org or send an email to info@honorflightccc.org.

Commander Stout presents certificate to Bear McGill and Bruce McGrath



Photos courtesy Erick Wand

JR VICE COMMANDER, LT (Jg) Joe Brocato USN

For the past five years, our Chapter has organized events to honor the Service of Veterans from WW II to the present. To date, at six such events, we have honored over 900 Veterans with over 2,000 family members and friends in attendance.

This year's event will probably be the last hurrah for some. Since our first Tribute event in 2014, more that we care to count have passed on. It will be a great opportunity to be in the company of what remains of the "Greatest Generation."

These events, which included a luncheon and tangible tokens of appreciation, were underwritten by our organizing group and donors.

On 19 March 2019, we are honoring 22 WW II Veterans at the Second Annual WW II Veterans Luncheon at the San Luis Obispo Country Club.

Since last year, we have lost three of the ten attending at that time.

WWII
Veterans Tribute
Luncheon in 2018



Some notable Veterans attending:

- Three Iwo Jima Veterans, two with Purple Heart Medals received for wounds on Iwo Jima;
- A 100-year-old Fighter Pilot (SDB Dauntless Dive Bomber, and F6F Hellcat) with 22 combat missions in the Solomon Islands. Edward Monteath is a retired Navy Captain;
- A 98-year-old Fighter Pilot who flew combat missions in Europe and China. Flew with Claire Chenault and the "Flying Tigers." Harry Moyer still flies his own plane; and
- CMSgt Albert L. Findley, Jr., USAF (Ret), at the time an Airman who was a POW in German Prison Camps.

Theirs are stories worth telling.

19 March 2019; 11:00 AM -2:00 PM

San Luis Obispo Country Club

255 Country Club Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Adjutant: MAJ Jim Murphy, USMC (Ret)

Intelligent Communication Wanted!

In our military and even civilian lives, we have all experienced bureaucratize directives and answers to queries that are excellent examples of the use of words that break down communications. Take the case of a plumber who wrote to the Bureau of Standards. He claimed he had found hydrochloric acid good for cleaning out clogged drains. The Bureau sent the plumber this response: "The efficacy of hydrochloric acid is indisputable, but the corrosive residue is incompatible with metallic permanence."

The plumber wrote back and thanked the Bureau for agreeing with him. The Bureau sent another letter: "We cannot assume responsibility for the production of toxic and noxious residue with hydrochloric acid and suggest you consider an alternative procedure." Again the plumber wrote and thanked the Government for agreeing with him.

Finally, the Bureau became alarmed, broke down and sent the plumber a letter written in plain English: "Don't use hydrochloric acid! Its hell out of the pipes!"

Chaplains Corner, James Murphy

Daily Work:

O God, who orders all things in Heaven and earth: Help me to go about the tasks and duties of this day with the remembrance that I am Your servant therein. Make me honest, painstaking, and cheerful, and grant that all I do and say may bring good to others and glory to Your holy name!

A Prayer for This House: (This seems most appropriate given our recent very wet weather!)

May nothing evil cross this door; may ill fortune never pry about these windows; may the roar and rain go by;

Strengthened by faith, these rafters will withstand the battering of the storm; this hearth, though all then world grow chill, will keep us warm;

Peace shall walk softly through these rooms, touching our lips with holy wine, till every casual corner blooms into a shrine;

May God bless all who lives and comes within, may each one strive to help and comfort one another as the winds of change blow on.

Laughter shall drown the raucous shout, and though these sheltering walls be thin, may they be strong to keep hate out and hold love in.

GEN Hoyt S. Vandenberg Chapter

Military Order of World Wars

Executive Committee

108 Indio Drive

Shell Beach, CA 93449

Address correction requested

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, Mar.8th, 2019

MOAA LUNCHEON

Wednesday, Mar.13th, 2019

MOWW EXCOM

Tues.Mar.19th, Veterans

Tribute Luncheon

Wednesday, Mar.20th, 2019

MOWW LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 10th,

MOWW EXCOM

MOWW Goals 2018-19

1. Of 10 meetings, guest speakers will be 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 4% (4new 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
6. Provide Eagle and Girl Scout Gold Awards upon request, throughout the County
7. Conduct and participate in Lost at Sea Ceremony
8. Participate in funeral services as requested
9. Conduct regular Executive Committee meetings, as needed and requested
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