

The Military Order of the World Wars

Celebrating Our Freedoms



Header courtesy Eric Wand

Newsletter for March 2018

Website: MOWVANDENBERG.ORG

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Chapter Luncheon

Lunch and Field Trip At Camp San Luis Obispo

LTC Angel Ortiz, USA NG, the Commander at Camp San Luis Obispo has agreed to sponsor our Vandenberg chapter on March 21, 2018 for a briefing and field trip at Camp SLO. We will meet at the Camp Dining Hall at 11:30 for lunch after which we will move to the Camp Headquarters, Bldg.738, for a briefing by LTC Ortiz. Following the briefing, he and/or his staff will take us on a bus tour of the installation to include the ranges and other facilities. MOWW, MOAA Marine Corp League and other guests will be welcome; however, everyone will need a drivers license or government ID and proof of auto insurance at the main gate.

Please RSVP to Jim Murphy
805-528-7565 or jlmurphy@calpoly.edu.
or Lou Stout 805-994-7051 or louisstout35@gmail.com.

More detailed directions will be provided by a separate email.

Commander's Message: LTC Louis Stout, USA (Ret)

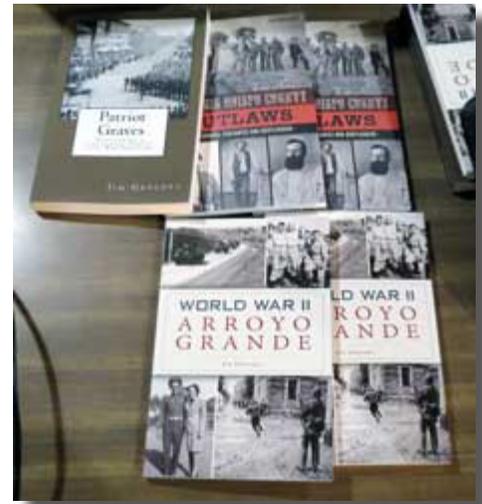
Fellow Companions & Friends, Our Speaker for our February Luncheon was local author Jim Gregory. Jim has taught American literature, modern world literature, cultural anthropology, advanced placement U.S. History and AP European History for thirty years at Mission College Preparatory School in San Luis Obispo and at Arroyo Grande High School. He has led several student trips to Europe, including visits to many of the villages and cities where young Americans fought in 1944-45.

Jim is the author of several published books including "World War II Arroyo Grande", "Patriot Graves" (Discovering a California Town's Civil War Heritage), and "San Luis Obispo County Outlaws". His fourth book, "Aviators" will be published and available in May.

Jim presented an overview of early aviation in our local area, including the WWII wartime training programs at Cal Poly and Hancock field, and examples of notable local fliers, including fighter pilots, bomber pilots, and aircrew. He also highlighted the ladies of the WASP (Women's Air-Force Service Pilots) who were actually non-military contract pilots. 38 of them died during wartime.



**Photos
from
February
2018
Luncheon**



For the Good of the Chapter - The Art of Falling Safely.

Simple rules for hitting the ground as softly as possible. This is from an AARP article.

It was nearly 30 years ago that Mrs. Fletcher from the Life Call commercial first uttered her plaintive cry: "I've fallen, and I can't get up!" Back then, it was campy and funny. But in the intervening years, chances are that you, and perhaps some of your loved ones, have taken some nasty spills. It's not just the elderly, though, who end up on the ground. A study in the Journal of Allied Health showed that 50- to 60- year-olds fall more than older folks. They're more active, and that puts them more at risk of falling. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that people are more likely to suffer a traumatic brain injury from falling than from any other cause.

And we're all going to fall: The world is full of banana peels, So, while avoiding a fall is job one, knowing how to fall when it's inevitable is a crucial skill. "Be smooth, don't panic, stay loose, " says Alexa Marcigliano who is really good at falling down. A professional stuntwoman, she's taken serious spills. Here is her five-point plan for a safe landing.

#1 - Stay Bent. the moment you sense you've lost your balance, get ready to fall with bent elbows and knees. When people panic, they become rigid. "In the stunt world, we never reach out with locked arms. Bend your elbows and have some give in your arms to soften the impact. When you're rigid, you're more likely to suffer a set of injuries called "FOOSH" a doctor-speak for "fall on outstretched hand." The result is often a broken wrist or elbow.

#2 - Protect Your Head, If you're falling forward, be sure to turn your face to the side. Falling backward? "tuck your chin to your chest, so your head doesn't hit the ground," Marcigliano advises.

#3 - Land on the Meat. "One of the things we try for in stunt falls in landing on meaty parts of your body - the muscles in your back, butt or thighs, Not bone. If you keep your knees and elbows bent and look to land on muscle, you'll be less likely to crack your elbows, knees, tailbone or hips.

#4 - Keep Falling. Your instinct will be to stop your body as quickly as you can. But your safest route is to keep rolling - indeed, the more you give in to the fall, the safer it will be. "Spread the impact across a larger part of your body; don't concentrate impact on one area, "Mardigliano says. The more you roll with the fall, the safer you'll be.

#5 - Before the Fall. Practice "mindfulness" - focus on the present and be aware of your surrounds, instead of being lost in your thoughts. If you can't see it, you can't avoid tripping over it. Have your eyesight and eyeglasses Rx checked regularly. Boost your balance. Stand with your feet together. Raise one foot an inch; hold for 30 seconds. Do this for 10 reps. Repeat with your other foot.

Courtesy of Davis Frayer

Sr. Vice Commander: LT Ron Janney USNR (fmr).

ROGER T. DURBIN ... *The World War II Memorial in Washinton, DC*

In December of 1944, a 24 year old Technical Sergeant assigned to the Tenth Armored (Tiger) Division of General Patton's Third Army participated in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war ended, Sergeant Roger T. Durbin returned to his wife Marian and their son Peter and to his home town of Berkey, Ohio (West of Toledo). Roger was a rural mail carrier until his retirement. Like many WWII veterans who came home, he returned to civilian life and contributed to making the country a great place to live. He served as a Richfield Township trustee, coached Little League baseball, and was active in the American Legion. He directed the Cub Scouts who placed flags on veterans' graves at the local cemeteries for Memorial Day, and then participated in Memorial Day ceremonies. He worked with Boy Scout troops, teaching them military discipline, taking them camping, and teaching them how to march. He was a quiet, soft spoken man, but the Scouts knew that this "old Army Sergeant" was a no nonsense man.

In 1987, Roger attended a political fish fry in Jerusalem Township (east of Toledo). During the evening, he asked his Congresswoman, Marcy Kaptur, "Where is the World War II memorial in Washington?" We had a Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall. US Representative Marcy Kaptur replied that there was indeed a memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington, DC. Roger informed her that the Iwo Jima Memorial was for one battle only and one branch of the service, the US Marines. He wanted a memorial to represent all branches of the military, all who served in every theater, and one that he could take his grandchildren to visit. Representative Kaptur returned to Washington, did a little research, and she became the driving force in making Roger's dream a reality. Roger Durbin launched a campaign of letter writing and speech making in his drive to get the memorial. When the site was dedicated on November 11, 1995, Roger, at the request of President Clinton, joined him in unveiling the site plaque. The World War II Memorial was dedicated on May 29, 2004. Unfortunately, T-Sgt Durbin died on February 2, 2000 and he did not get to see the crowning achievement of his dedication. His granddaughter Melissa Growden, whom President Clinton had appointed to the Memorial Advisory Board, spoke from the platform during the ceremonies. About 4.4 million people visit the memorial each year and so his legacy lives on. Our local veterans from the Central Coast and all veterans who have flown back to DC on the Honor Flight to visit the Memorial owe a debt of gratitude to Sergeant Durbin. As Bob Dole stated, "His determination is the reason it stands."

It is an honor for me to have known him. I was one of the Cub Scouts who placed flags, and later was a Boy Scout who can claim that Sergeant Durbin was my first Drill Instructor (of about 5 or 6 later in my life). On October 16, 2010 there was a ceremony to dedicate an Ohio State Historical Marker at Ford Cemetery in Berkey, Ohio. This Historical Marker commemorates the dedication of a man who did this not for himself, but for all veterans of World War II.

MOWW Financial Report from our Treasurer.

Special Account: \$7,705.11 Regular Account: \$4,054.27

Please send dues to this address. MOWW, 830 Redbird Ct., Santa Maria, Ca 93455

Adjutant: MAJ Jim Murphy, USMC (Ret)

Wha's Like Us? 'Tis an Englishman who is quick to pan his neighbor to the north: The Scot.

It's time for a short history lesson for those who can't appreciate the Scots. The above comment basically questions those who either don't understand a Scotsman or wish they could more closely identify! This is really aimed at the Englishmen who, as noted, wish they had some Scots blood in their veins.

The average Englishman in the home he calles his castle, slips into his national costume--a shabby rain-coat--patented by chemist Charles Macintosh from Glasgow, Scotland.

En route to his office he strides along the English lane, surfaced by John Macadam of Ayr, Scotland. He drives an English car fitted with tyres invented by John Boyd Dunlop, Veterinary Surgeon of Dreghorn, Scotland.

At the office he receives mail bearing adhesive stamps invented by John Chambers, Bookseller and Printer of Dundee, Scotland.

During the day he uses the telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell, born in Edinburgh, Scotland. At home in the evening, his daughter pedals her bicycle invented Kirkpatrick Macmillan, blacksmith of Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland.

He watches the news on TV, an invention of John Logie Baird of Helensburgh, Scotland and hears an item about the U.S. Navy, founded by John Paul Jones, of Kirkbean, Scotland.

Nowhere can an Englishman turn to escape the ingenuity of the Scots.

He has by now been reminded too much of Scotland and in desperation he picks up the Bible, only to find that the first man mentioned in the good book is a Scot--King James VI--who authorized its translation.

He could and would like to take a drink, but knows the Scots make the finest drink in the world.

He could take a rifle and end it all but the breech-loading rifle was invented by Captain Patrick Ferguson of Pitfours, Scotland.

If he escaped death, he could find himself on an operating table injected with penicillin, discovered by Sir Alexander Fleming of Darvel, Scotland and given chloroform, an anesthetic discovered by Sir James Young Simpson, obstetrician and gynecologist, of Bathgate, Scotland.

Perhaps his only remaining hope would be to get a transfusion of quid Scottish blood which would entitle him to ask-----**Wha's Like Us?**

Sergeant-At-Arms Remarks: MAJ Jim Murphy, USMC (Ret)

Please note your interest in any of the below areas of service to the Chapter. Contact an officer for greater details of what may be required of you. Some members already assist in most of these areas, so the load will not rest with one person! The amount of time dedicated by each person varies but is usually distributed throughout the year. Committees are:

- a. Patriotic Education: _____
- b. ROTC/JROTC: _____
- c. Scouts: _____
- d. Membership: _____
- e. Memorials: _____
- f. Publicity/Photography: _____
- g. Nominating: _____
- h. Phone: _____
- i. Wellness: _____
- j. Chapter Activities: _____
- k. Awards: Law Enforcement of the Year _____
- l. Books & Related: _____
- m. Programs: Youth Leadership; Lost at Sea; Guest Speakers _____
- n. National Security: (Includes Homeland Security) _____
- o. Historian: LTC Larry Geist _____

Chaplains Corner

Here is a tested formula for a useful, happier life, see if it doesn't work for you

JUST FOR TODAY

I will try to live through this day only, and not try and tackle my whole life problems at once.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will be happy. I will assume to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

JUST FOR TODAY

I will try to strengthen my mind. I will study. I will learn something useful. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will exercise my soul in three ways: I will do somebody a good turn, and not get found out. I will do at least two things I don't want to do -- just for exercise. I will not show anyone my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I'll not show it.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk low, act courteously, criticize not one bit, not find fault with anything, and not try to improve or regulate anybody but myself.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will have a plan, a program, I may not follow it exactly, but I will have one. I will save myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will have a quiet half hour all by myself. During this half hour, I will try and get a better perspective of my life.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will be unafraid. Especially I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful, and to believe that as I give to the world, so the world will give back to me.

JUST FOR TODAY

I will recognize God as my Heavenly Father, and that I am His child; and think, act, and feel accordingly.

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

Fri. March 8th - MOAA Luncheon

Wed. Mar. 14th - MOWW EXCOM

Wed. Mar. 21st - MOWW Luncheon

Wed. April 11th - MOAA EXCOM

Fri. April 13th - MOAA Luncheon

Wed. April 18th - MOWW Luncheon

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.