

The Military Order of the World Wars

*Celebrating
Our Freedoms*



Header courtesy Eric Wand

Newsletter for November 2017

Website: MOWVANDENBERG.ORG

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Lt Col Angel Ortiz, USA, Lt(Jg) Joe Brocato USN
(ret), COL Loren Weeks, USA (Ret)

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Our Meetings

Are held at the San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge #322,
Grazier Room, 222 Elks Lane

EXCOM (Exec Committee): 2nd Wednesday at 9:30 am

LUNCHEON MEETING: 3rd Wednesday at 11:30 am
\$20/person includes tax & gratuity

RSVP Please by the prior Sunday (at the latest)

Jim Murphy 805. 528. 7565 or

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Lou Stout

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*We must convey expected attendance by 1000 hrs. to the Elks
Lodge on Monday prior to the luncheon*

Chapter Luncheon

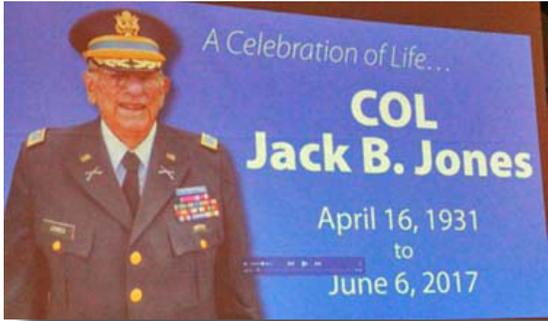
At the 11/15 luncheon, LTC Al Fonzi has agreed to be our guest speaker. Al is a well-recognized expert on foreign affairs and will address the current threats and State Of The Nation. This is a "do not miss" update.

Last Month's Luncheon

Last month's luncheon was a "Celebration of the Life of COL Jack Jones, USA" and a combined MOAA & MOWW gathering to reflect on Jack's amazing LIFE OF SERVICE. Jack served as both the Commander of the local Hoyt S. Vandenberg Chapter and the National Commander of the MOWW. The photos and captions in this issue newsletter barely touched the surface of Jack's service and leadership within the Central California Coast community.

**The MOAA and MOAA jointly had a “Celebration of COL. Jack Jones’ Life”
on
October 13, 2017 in the Garden Room at the Madonna Inn.**

A slide show of photos showing Jack in many of his activities was presented by Erick Wand, a very long time friend of Jack.



A number of people expressed how pleased, touched and impressed they were with Erick’s slides.



MOWW Commander LTC Lou Stout, Erick Wand, and MAJ Jim Murphy

Lou and Jim were the MC’s for the meeting. Our thanks to not only Jim, Lou and Erick, but also to Capt David Brandmeyer (MOAA) and Lt Ron Janney for their collective efforts in organizing this fine tribute to Jack.

Craig Jones, Jack’s son, presented an overview of his dad and his close family ties as well as the outstanding career of Jack and his many community involvements.



Sheriff Ian Parkinson highlighted Jack’s law enforcement career.



Councilwoman Debbie Arnold represented the SLO County Board of Supervisors and local officials. Debbie presented a certificate from our state representatives, and during her talk, Debbie described many of the activities Jack was involved in.



COL Loren Weeks, USA (ret) and Lt Col Angel Ortiz (the new commander of Camp San Luis Obispo) presented a bronze plaque of a soldier in battle dress to Craig.

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

With the publication of this Newsletter, we are marking an end of our era whose hallmarks were dedication, excellence, perseverance and service to our community. During November we will be addressing the very core of our growth going forward. At our forthcoming MOWW EXCOM on November 8th, we will be finalizing recommendations for very specific changes in our organization's programs and structure going forward, including combining MOWW and MOAA monthly social meetings, starting in 2018. We will present our recommendations to the full Membership at the November 15th luncheon.

I strongly encourage your attendance at the 11/8 EXCOM and our 11/15/17 luncheon.

Our Chapter was formed 26 years ago and has been active in our community since that time. We have sponsored and been successful in with many programs. Some of the continuing activities and accomplishments include:

Cal Poly ROTC Awards and Commissioning Ceremonies
Grizzly Youth Leadership Conferences
Veteran Tribute Luncheons (WWII, Korean, and Vietnam)
Lost at Sea Memorial Day Ceremonies
Law Enforcement Month honoring select local police
Your American Heritage Monument with Boy Scouts
And support to many other Community/Veterans events

Our chapter is very active but in order to continue we need more membership support. The same few people have done most of the work for the past years. This year, we lost Chuck Ward and Jack Jones, two of our strongest volunteers. Therefore, ***the main challenge this new Chapter year will be to get more active support from our existing members and to recruit new active members.***

Your Executive Committee asks for your feedback on how to make this happen and any other constructive suggestions you may have.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.

LTC Louis Stout, USA (ret)

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

Prior to WWII the Marine Corps was developing strategic plans to conduct amphibious operations, specifically in the Pacific. During WWI the British conducted an amphibious landing on the Turkish peninsula of Gallipoli. It was a military disaster and almost ended the political career of Winston Churchill. As a result of the Gallipoli fiasco, military planners believed that such operations were either stupid, extremely impractical if not impossible.

A number of devices were invented and built that changed how such operations, that is, landing a military force from the sea to occupy and defend the land could and would succeed. Many we know today: Landing craft of various sizes, the LCVP, two sizes of LCM, LCI, LST, the list seems to go on and on. Today these are relegated to museums or in "boneyards" such as Suisun Bay. Hull definitions have changed over the years; I served for two years on an amphibious ship designated "APA"; a similar designation today would be "LPA". There are currently eleven Navy hull designations "L", for landing. I'll not bore the reader with going down that list! While the largest ships in the U.S. Navy are the super carriers, the next ships in size are all amphibious of one type or another and intended to provide transportation and support to a landing force. These include (not intended to be all inclusive!) Landing Ship Docks (LSD) (designed to carry both amphibious tractors and air cushion landing craft,) and helicopter carriers to identify other major classes of these ships.

Some time ago the *Navel Institute Proceedings* carried a letter from a Navy LtCdr who questioned the role of the Army in amphibious operations. I had taught engineer amphibious operations for three years at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado. It was a joint command and for enjoyment the Army captain and I swapped roles: He would teach the Marines, I would teach the Army. So I had more than a casual knowledge of the Army's role in such operations. In my response to this LtCdr, I pointed out that the Army, during WWII conducted more amphibious landings of battalion size and larger than the Marines Corps. (This number included a great number of separated landings in and on the many islands of the Philippines, so the number may be considered skewed somewhat.) I also commented on the largest amphibious operation in the history

of warfare: Operation Overlord, the Normandy landings, and Army lead operation, more commonly known as “D-Day.” (Of course we all know there were many real D-Days!)

There is a relatively small and often overlooked unit that played a major role in ensuring the success of every one of these landings. Later, as the services developed what came to be known as “Vertical envelopment” or ship to shore via airborne helicopters, a similar task force was developed. The first was known as Shore Party; the latter titled Helicopter Support Teams (HST). Due to the length of this paper, I shall continue a more in depth discussion of both the Shore Party and HST in a follow on newsletter. Stay tuned!

Chaplains Corner

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked him if he believed they should pay taxes to the Roman Emperor. He asked why they were challenging him. It was evident to Jesus that they were laying a trap for him. He responded by asking whose face is on the Roman coin. They said it was Caesar’s. Jesus simply answered, “Give to Caesar what is his.” The Pharisees went away marveling at Jesus’ wisdom.

How many times have we also been challenged and perhaps tricked when placed in a hostile situation and asked to answer more as the person wishes than we know is right and correct? I think this is truer today than perhaps ever in our lives. Consider the political climate of our country and the bickering and arguing that seems more rampant than ever. I believe that it is impossible to conduct a rational debate with some people on matters of local and national matters. We may also be guilty of such a strong position that we are not willing to listen to opposing points of view. Logic and reason seem to have disappeared at such times. Jesus was logical in his response and the Pharisees could not provide a plausible counter argument to that logic.

Politics is not the only area of concern today. International issues and especially the role of religion across the globe should be a grave concern to every thinking citizen. Across the country we hear terms such a “Black Lives Matter” and the actions of some law enforcement against minorities. The issue of “taking the knee” has become a symbol of I’m not sure what. The issue in all of these is simple: Neither side is prepared to discuss their concerns and have predisposed to a mind set. No one seems prepared to present a petition but as we observe in the media, these exchanges almost always end in shouting matches with no settling of the topic.

We, as an educated populace need to go back and listen again to what Jesus said and try to apply his logic and reasoning to the events that surround our daily lives. Ignoring them does not offer solutions. Be strong, give thanks and pray to your God!

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.