



Header courtesy Eric Wand

**Newsletter for September 2018**

**Website: MOWVANDENBERG.ORG**

## Chapter Luncheon

### September 19, 2018 Chapter Luncheon:

Companions and Friends, having been dark for two months, the first Fall meeting will be held at the Elks Lodge starting at 11:30 am on September 19, 2018. The meeting will primarily be the nomination of officers by the Nomination Committee for the upcoming year. In addition, the "Greg Padgett" trio will provide entertainment with foot stomping patriotic and military arrangements. MOAA Members have been invited to join our meeting. Also, invite the ladies and any other guests. This will be a great meeting to bring a prospective new chapter member (their lunch is free).

*Please RSVP to Jim Murphy  
805-528-7565 or [jlmurphy@calpoly.edu](mailto:jlmurphy@calpoly.edu).  
or Lou Stout 805-994-7051 or [louisstout35@gmail.com](mailto:louisstout35@gmail.com).*

## Commander's Message: LTC Louis Stout,

### Commanders Comments:

I find it hard to believe that we have been dark for three months considering all the recent events our chapter has been involved with over this period. This includes, in early June, Commander Stout's participation in the annual Cal Poly ROTC Awards Ceremony on the campus at Cal Poly (see photos herewith) and the MOWW June 20th monthly luncheon which honored Sheriff Ian Parkinson and Boy Scout Troop 51 of Atascadero (see photo and event descriptions below. In addition, many of us attended LTC Dan Dows promotion held at the VFW Post 66 Hall in San Luis Obispo.

<b>Officers &amp; Staff 2017-2018</b>
<b>CHAPTER COMMANDER</b> LTC Louis Stout, USA (Ret) 805.994.7051
<b>SR VICE COMMANDER</b> Lt Ronald L. Janney, USNR (fmr) 805.434.3425
<b>JR VICE COMMANDER</b> To be determined
<b>ADJUTANT</b> Maj James L. Murphy, USMC, (Ret) Past Commander 805.528.7565
<b>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS</b> Maj James L. Murphy, USMC, (Ret)
<b>TREASURER</b> PHM Bonnie Harris 805.937.0731
<b>CHAPLAIN GENERAL</b> Maj James L. Murphy, USMC (Ret)
<b>JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL</b> MAJ Dan Dow, USAR 805.703.3187
<b>SURGEON GENERAL</b> MAJ Ernest B. Miller, MD USA (fmr)
<b>MEMBERSHIP CHAIR</b> LTC Dan Dow, USAR
<b>MEMBERS-AT-LARGE</b> Lt Col Angel Ortiz, USA, Lt(Jg)Joe Brocato USN (ret), Capt Richard Hathcock, USA (ret)
<b>Mailing Address:</b> 108 Indio Drive, Shell Beach, CA 93449

## CAL Poly ROTC Awards Event:

Four cadets were selected to receive MOWW Certificates of Recognition, as Distinguished Military Graduates. Chapter financial support and certificates were given the cadets as follows. MOWW Gold Award, Cadet Joseph Thurling; MOWW Silver Award and \$300, Marcial Nunez; and MOWW Bronze award and \$200; Harrison Meyers. Cadet Taylor Palmaffy received the "Sommermeyer" award alone with a check for \$100. Certificates were presented to these cadets at the Cal Poly ROTC Award Ceremony on campus on June 7.



## MOWW JUNE 2018 MEETING

Our last meeting of the Summer was highlighted by honoring Sheriff Ian Parkinson and Boy Scout Troop 51.

*The Atascadero Boy Scout Troop 51* was recognized for the excellent support they are providing to our Chapter with the maintenance of the flags on our American Heritage Monument. The Monument has a 40 foot flagpole with a large (6'x10') American Flag with a Betsy Ross flag beneath it. (check out the background and features of the Monument by clicking on the **Heritage Monument Project** link on the home page of the website: <http://www.mowwvanderberg.org/> ). The flags need to be cleaned at times and replaced when faded or wind torn and lowered to half-staff on designed dates. The scout troop is providing this service (the Chapter does furnish replacement flags) and it is very much appreciated by the Chapter.

*Sheriff Ian Parkinson* was presented with the coveted Patrick Henry Award plaque and a certificate from the Chapter for his extensive, professional leadership of the Sheriff's Office of San Luis Obispo County. Sheriff Parkinson has instituted a number of significant improvements in the department and in the county jail system. The month of May is typically when law enforcement individuals/departments are recognized by our Chapter, however Sheriff Parkinson had a scheduling conflict last month.

The Sheriff was also presented with a recognition certificate from the office of Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham. The presentation was made by Keegan Koberi representing the Assemblyman.

In attendance at the luncheon was Undersheriff Tim Olivas, Morrow Bay Police Chief Gregory Allen, and our companion and re-elected District Attorney LTC Dan Dow, USAR. Each of them highlighted their association with and pleasure working with the Sheriff. Ian's wife Ami and son also joined us.



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

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston and walked timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office. The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard, and probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge. *"We'd like to see the president,"* the man said softly. *"He'll be busy all day,"* the secretary snapped. *"We'll wait,"* the lady replied. For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away. They didn't, and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted. *"Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they'll leave,"* she said to him. He signed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, and he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office. The president, stern faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple. The lady told him, *"We had a son who attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago he was accidently killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus."* The president was touched. He was shocked! *"Madam,"* he said gruffly, *"we can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery."* *"Oh, no,"* the lady explained quickly. *"We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."* The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and the homespun suit, and then exclaimed, *"A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in physical buildings here at Harvard."* For a moment the lady was silent. the president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now. The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, *"Is that all it cost to start a university? Why don't we just start our own?"* Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the university that bears their son's name, Leland Stanford Junior University, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing for them.

This is a true story as related by Malcolm Forbes. **"People will forget what you said; people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."**



### Promotion for Major Dan Dow

A promotion ceremony for Major Daniel Dow to the rank of Lieutenant colonel was held August 18, 2018 at the American Legion Post 66 in San Luis Obispo. the ceremony was highlighted by the remarks of Colonel Nicole Balliet, Chief of Staff, California Army National Guard. Our congratulations to member LTC Dan.



## Senator John McCain Tribute

Atascadero Boy Scout Troop 51 lowered the flags on the American Heritage Monument to half-staff upon the death of Senator John McCain. The troop raised the flags upon the burial of Senator McCain on 2Sept2018.

The Scouts always cite the Pledge of Allegiance after lowering or raising the flag(s).



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

**OKINAWA, 1 APRIL 1945.** In 1945, in the predawn hours of April 1---which was also Easter Sunday--- the US Tenth Army participated in the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific Theater during World War II. We commonly refer to this as D-Day on Okinawa, but in reality it was L-Day, since D-Day became used exclusively for the invasion of Europe on June 6, 1944. The Tenth Army consisted of four divisions of the Army and three divisions of the Marine Corps. The invasion operated under the code name of "OPERATION ICEBERG" and at first was met with no resistance from the Japanese, but later became an epic battle with staggering casualties on both sides. Total casualties on both sides were around 160,000. Nearly half of the population of 300,000 Okinawans died from combat, suicide or were missing.

In the book TYPHOON OF STEEL by James H. Belote and William M. Belote, a very comprehensive account of the last military campaign of World War II is related. Taken from the dust jacket on the back flap of the book is the following quote:

"TYPHOON OF STEEL tells the story of the Okinawa campaign from both sides, from the initial plans and preparations to the suicide of General Ushijima on June 22, 1945, when organized resistance ceased. It includes enthralling accounts of the last cruise and death of the *Yamato*, the largest battleship ever built, the triumphant ordeal of the carrier U.S.S. *Franklin*, the heroic fight for survival against kamikazes by the U.S. destroyers on picket duty offshore, the death of the beloved American correspondent Ernie Pyle, and the remarkable exploits of many individual G.I.'s, Marines, and Japanese in close-in-combat."

The battle for Okinawa also resulted in the death of the highest ranking U.S. officer killed in action in World War II, Tenth Army Commander Lieutenant General Simon Bolivar Buckner, and two of his commanders, Colonel Edwin T. May (38<sup>th</sup> Infantry) and Brigadier General Claudius M. Easley (96<sup>th</sup> Division). Many well-known Marine generals and Navy admirals participated in this campaign. My former neighbor served on a picket destroyer as a gunner on the fantail, and watched many kamikaze attacks on other ships, while his ship was never hit. He waved at one Japanese pilot, who waved back, and my neighbor attributes this to the pilot turning to attack another destroyer, and not his.

For any companions interested in reading about Okinawa, I will lend the book TYPHOON OF STEEL.

### Chaplains Corner

**GRIEF, God of Grief, Comforting Lord.** With the recent passing of my son, I take special counsel in these words from the writings of Brother Timothy James Larson. My heart feels like it weights a ton; Although I have grieved deeply for months, my sadness still feels fresh and raw. Are you perplexed by the depth of my pain, or frustrated by my ups and downs? Are you disappointed by my fickle faith, saddened by my sporadic hopelessness, or impatient with my anxiety? Eternal parent, I certainly feel discouraged and perplexed.

But you are encouraging, hopeful and patient. My moody efforts or shifting setbacks do not alter Your concern of me, "as is" means more that I can say. Under girding, God, I ask that You cut through my sorrows, anxieties and fears. And lift me out of my despondency and dejection. I give You myself anew--As I celebrate my unfolding awareness of who You are. What you mean to me. And what I am becoming.

O God, my Friend, my Solace. Peace to You. And Peace to me. Amen

**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**

Wed.Sept. 12th - MOWW EXCOM

Wed.Sept. 19th - MOWW LUNCHEON

Sat. Sept. 23 - MOAA Social

Wed. Oct. 10th - MOWW EXCOM

Wed. Oct. 17th - 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.