

Volume 27, No. 9

Forged under Fire; Still Serving Proudly

Dallas Military Order of the Warriors



Best Large Chapter in the Nation

March 2019



Only 60 days until the 2019 Patriots Golf Tournament. Honor a family member with a memorial poster at one of the holes. Sponsor a foursome. Donate a Prize. Proceeds cover chapter activities throughout FY 2020.

This month's Program, March 2019

Healing begins at Home

Lori Stevens is the Founder and CEO of **Patriot Paws**, which has become a national program that provides service dogs to Disabled Veterans.



Lori Stevens and Hardcore

Lori was working as a professional dog trainer when she was asked to help a group of disabled veterans by assisting them in training their service dogs. After visiting the VA hospital in Dallas, she recognized the need that many of our mobility-impaired veterans have for assistance throughout the day to accomplish what would otherwise be routine tasks.

With the aid and assistance of close friends and family members, Lori established Patriot Paws in a small storefront, in Rockwall, Texas, in 2006. From that modest beginning, Patriot Paws has grown to occupy an entire warehouse. She is now looking to acquire a piece of land to expand into a custom-built training center for her evergrowing, remarkable program.

Patriot Paws now has chapters in 33 states and has placed over 120 dogs, here in Texas. In Lori's own words, "we owe the veterans far more than we can ever repay, but we're doing what we can, **four paws at a time**".

Click [HERE](#) for more information on Patriot Paws.

Next Quarter's Programs - Setting the bar ever higher

Check out the Speakers for 2nd Quarter, 2019!

As we head into Spring, the chapter has been fortunate to book a trio of outstanding future Speakers.

In April, we will be honored to hear from former Chief of Staff of the Army **General Gordon Sullivan**. Special thanks to Companion MG Al Zapanta for his assistance in obtaining this commitment from one of the Army's most distinguished former Chiefs of Staff.



GEN Gordon Sullivan, US Army (Retired)



MG Clay Hutmacher, US Army (Ret)

In May, Companion Mark Kipput has convinced **Major General Clayton Hutmacher**, former Commander of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Night Stalkers), to travel all the way from Tampa, Florida, to address the chapter and share with us his work on behalf of Special Operations Warriors.

In July, we will hear from the Hon. **Pete Sessions**, former US Congressman from Texas (for 22 years). He will discuss the current state of dysfunction in Washington. We are proud to be able to say that Pete has been a *Perpetual* Companion of the Dallas Chapter for more than a decade.



Hon. Pete Sessions

The Commander's In-Box



Mark Your Calendars

I encourage all Companions to join one of the many committees that have been formed to support our Annual **fundraising** Patriot Golf Tournament.

This is the key fundraiser for the year. *I urge all of you to participate in some capacity.*

Spouses are especially welcome to join our volunteers.

Serving as a couple is a uniquely satisfying way to combine fun and social interaction, and to contribute to the success of this vital fundraiser which is essential if we are to continue to support our many worthy Youth activities.

It is not just a punchline – **Today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders.** Our **Preamble** challenges us to mentor them.

- The Golf Tournament will be on **Friday, 17 May 19**. Proceeds go to cover the spectrum of high school and college youth programs that the Dallas Chapter supports, as well as veterans' charities in Dallas.
- The MOWW National Commander-in-Chief LTC John Hollywood, will attend the Region VIII Conference, on **Saturday, 13 Apr 19**.
- The 55th Annual North Texas Military Ball is one of the largest social events in the Greater Dallas area. This year, it will be held in the Hotel Sheraton, Dallas, on the evening of **Saturday, 4 May 19**.

James B. Blunk
Dallas Chapter Commander



Military Book Club

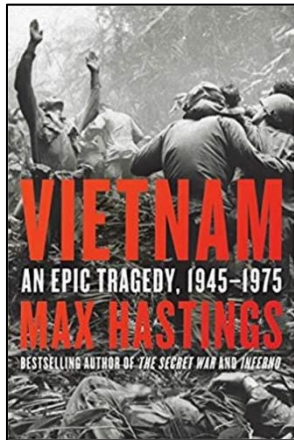
Where were You in 1968 ?

Col. Paul Hendricks will be the Moderator at the 07:15 a.m., Military Book Club gathering on **Fri, 8 March 2019**.

The next scheduled meeting will discuss **Vietnam (1945 – 1975)** by New York Times Best-selling Author, **Max Hastings**, who has written an epic non-fiction account of the war.

Hastings covers both the French and the American experiences, with equal amounts of blame and remonstrations.

All Companions are invited to attend the meetings at **Prestonwood Country Club**.



Guest Speakers

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

5 Mar 19 – Lori Stevens, President, Patriot Paws
“Service Dogs for Disabled Veterans”

2 Apr 19 – GEN Gordon Sullivan, US Army (Ret)
“Training Today’s Army for Tomorrow’s Conflicts”

7 May 19 – MG Clayton Hutmacher, US Army (Ret)
“Special Operations Warrior Foundation”

5 Jun 19 – Jim Blunk, LTC, US Army (Ret)
“Installation of the FY 2020 Commander & Staff”

9 Jul 19 – Hon. Pete Sessions, Fmr. US Congressman
“American - and Texan - Exceptionalism”

6 Aug 19 – Senator Robert Hall, (TX, District 2)
“The 86th Texas Congress: Leading the Nation”

Gift of the Month

Black Knights support Youth Leadership

On 21 Feb 19, Dallas Companion **Mike Christians** and **Rob Holmes**, *partners* at Black Knight Wealth Management, paid a surprise visit to Chapter Commander Jim Blunk, during his monthly Staff meeting, in order to present a check, in the amount

of **\$1,000**, to support the students who will attend one of this year's Youth Leadership Conferences (YLC).

The first YLC will be held on the campus of the University of Texas, in Dallas; next aboard the USS Lexington in Corpus Christi; followed by Texas Wesleyan, in Ft Worth; and culminating in the middle of July at Texas A&M University, College Station.

Mike and Rob are proud graduates of the Black Knight Academy on the Hudson, *more commonly known as:* The United States Military Academy, at West Point.



Left to right, **Don Hanson, Jim Blunk, Rob Holmes, Mike Christians, and Marc Kipphut** pose with the generous gift to this year's Youth Leadership Conferences

Attention Chapter Staff:

The Chapter Command and Staff meeting will be held on **Thursday, 21 Mar 19, at 11:30 a.m.**

KNOW YOUR COMPANIONS

GEN Gordon Sullivan, US Army (Ret)

GEN Gordon Russell Sullivan, the 32nd Chief of Staff of the Army and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will be our Guest Speaker on 5 April 2019.

In addition to his service as Army Chief of Staff, he also served as acting Secretary of the Army. General Sullivan is a former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), headquartered in Arlington, Virginia, a position he held for 18 years.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts and raised in Quincy, he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Norwich University and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Armor.

During his army career, Sullivan served as: Assistant Commandant, United States Army Armor School at Fort Knox, KY; Deputy Commandant, United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS; Commanding General, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Riley, KS; Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans; and Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army. His overseas assignments included four tours in Europe, two in Vietnam and one in Korea.

General Sullivan retired from the Army in 1995, after more than 36 years of active service. He is the co-author, with Michael V. Harper, of *Hope Is Not a Method* (Random House, 1996), which chronicles the enormous challenges encountered in transforming the post-Cold War US Army through the lens of proven leadership principles and a commitment to shared values.

He has served as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Norwich University, the Army Historical Foundation, and the Marshall Legacy Institute, as well as a member of the Army Advisory Board, and a Life Trustee of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

In addition to his many awards on active duty, he is also the recipient of the West Point Association of Graduates' prestigious *Sylvanus Thayer* Award and a member of the Sergeants Major Academy's *Hall of Honor*.



MG Clayton Hutmacher, US Army (Ret)

Major General Clayton Hutmacher will be our Guest Speaker on 7 May 2019.

He entered military service as a Private in the US Marine Corps, and transferred to the Army, after being accepted into the Officer Flight Training program. Hutmacher was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant of Aviation in 1987. He retired in 2018, having served 40 years in uniform.



He commanded at every level from Company to Regimental Commander, during three tours with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, ultimately serving as the Commanding General of the US Army Special Operations Aviation Command. Early in his career, he commanded aviation assets of the Army's covert *Delta Force*.

The US Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) is the Army component of the Joint US Special Operations Command (JSOC). USASOC is one of the most diverse organizations in the US military, bringing a broad range of combat skills to support Geographic Combatant Commanders and Ambassadors, worldwide.

USASOC is located at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida. Their fundamental mission is to organize, train and equip Army Special Operation Forces units, and to deploy them worldwide to meet war plans.

A native of Wenatchee, Washington, he was awarded a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Management from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Atlanta, GA; a Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the US Naval Command and Staff College, in Norfolk, VA; and a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College in Carlisle, VA.

Upon retiring, he became the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Special Operations Warrior Foundation nonprofit organization founded in 1980 to provide college scholarships and educational counseling to the surviving children of Special Operations personnel killed in the line of duty.

MG Hutmacher and his wife, Amy, reside in Tampa, FL.

Happy Birthday, Companions!

Information & Publicity

“People who have the most birthdays – live the longest” 😊

Click on the link to check out these Websites

www.moww-dallas.org – This is an updated version of the Dallas Chapter Home page for information pertaining to Chapter members, chapter activities, and the many “extra-curricular” events sponsored by the Dallas Chapter. (Portions of this website are still being revised).

www.moww2019.com – This *new* MOWW 2019 Convention website has been created to expedite registration and provide information on tours and local activities to be held in Simi Valley, California.

www.moww.org – This is the Home page for the National Headquarters of the Military Order of World Wars. It provides access to the MOWW store, rosters, back issues of the Officer Review, and a link to the submitted newsletters of all MOWW chapters.

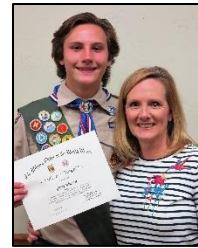
www.moww-regionviii.org – This site provides information on the Youth Leadership Conferences to be held throughout Texas, this summer. It also permits registration for attendance at the annual MOWW Region VIII Conference to be held in Dallas in May.

www.vetsdayindallas.org – This site covers all the details pertaining to the largest Veterans Day Parade in Texas (one of the largest in the country). Twelve of the fourteen committee chairmen who plan, organize, and conduct the Parade are Dallas MOWW Companions.

Scouting

On track to exceed last year’s record

Dallas Companion Bill Farmer rose like Lazarus from his sick bed to continue to maintain a perfect record of attendance at Circle Ten and Lone Star Council Scout awards presentations.



A small sampling of the 20 Eagle Scouts of Circle 10 and the Lone Star Council, who have received MOWW Citations from Dallas Perpetual Companion Bill Farmer (*this month*) commending them for achieving Scouting’s highest rank.



- 1 March LT Robert Kunkle
- 1 March MG Michael Marchand
- 2 March LCDR Ralph Muse
- 3 March HPM Richard Bullock
- 3 March LT John Canales
- 4 March HPM Ashley Adams
- 4 March COL John Antal
- 4 March HPM Geoffrey Merton
- 5 March COL James Methered
- 6 March COL Tod Almquist
- 6 March MAJ Edward Marty
- 8 March HPM Ned Butler III
- 8 March LT Lorelei Gaus
- 8 March MG Albert Zapanta
- 11 March 1917 LTC James Megellas**
- 12 March Lt Col Michael Giles
- 12 March CWO3 Joseph Lynch
- 12 March LTC Jeffrey Spears
- 13 March DR Fred Aurbach
- 13 March CDR H.B. Germany
- 19 March LTC Don Nguyen
- 20 March CAPT Robert Elwell
- 21 March MAJ Billy Manning
- 22 March HON Pete Sessions
- 23 March CAPT BJ Bjorklund
- 23 March LT Michael Sable
- 26 March Col George Reasonover
- 28 March Lt Col Daniel Hagood
- 28 March HPM Shawn Hogan
- 28 March CPT Michael Metcalf
- 29 March CDR Sean Fox
- 31 March PM Robert Marx
- 31 March CAPT Richard Stewart

Chapter Activities in the month of February

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their Chapter.

These are a few of the many ways in which you can contribute:

1. Volunteer to serve on a Committee. (Cost = **\$0.00**)
2. Sponsor a Golfer (and/or *yourself*) (\$150)
3. Sponsor a Foursome (\$500)
4. Contribute in any amount but contribute. (\$50, \$100, \$150)
5. Send a student to YLC !! (\$300)
6. Ask a friend to sponsor a Foursome (\$500)
7. Ask a local vendor, to be a Tournament Sponsor (\$2,500 to \$10,000)
8. Honor a military loved one with a photo poster (\$250) (*see photo on page 1*)
9. All of the above



CWO5 **Quint Avenetti** (USMC, Ret) [*right*] presented a Perpetual Membership Citation, pocket name badge and MOWW lapel pin to CWO3 **Xavier Herrera** [*left*] (USMC, Ret). Quint and Xavier both hail from Rockwall and met while attending the weekly gathering of the **Band of Brothers** at the Rockwall Country Club.



Lieutenant **Thomas Meyers** (former US Navy), shared an inside joke with Dallas Chapter Commander LTC **Jim Blunk** (US Army, Ret). Tom preceded his informative presentation by showing a video depicting life aboard a Nuclear Ballistic Missile submarine. Click [HERE](#) to see the YouTube video.



The Lord is my Shepherd...

Asked to recite the twenty-third Psalm, a Sunday school child began, "The Lord is my shepherd; that's all I want!"

Although it sounds humorous at first, isn't this exactly what the psalmist intended?

In our physical life, "green pastures" are symbols of provision. He knows our needs, and he will supply them.

In our emotional life, "still waters" are refuge from our troubled conscience, fears, anxiety, and withdrawal.

In our spiritual life, our "soul" needs to be restored. Man is estranged in sin. God provides the needed restoration through His son, Jesus.

In our moral life, "the paths of righteousness" are not easily discerned in a time of changing morality.

Everything done "for his name sake" is the answer for any moral question.

In our lives, "the valley of the shadow of death" is the price that all of us pay for the privilege of living.

When we lose loved ones, His comfort is with us and we need fear no evil.

So, the child was right. "The Lord is my Shepherd, that's all I want."

Never let shame or guilt keep you away from God's forgiveness.

*Jamie Malakoff
Dallas Chapter Chaplain*

Last Month's Guest Speaker

The Silent Service

Lieutenant (US Navy) Tom E. Meyers pulled the curtain back from the secretive world of the US Nuclear Submarine Navy. It is a life style to which only a special bred are able to adapt and endure.

In addition to the claustrophobic atmosphere aboard a submarine, there is the knowledge that once submerged, the sub will not surface for as many as three to six months.

Tom was an honor graduate of the US Naval Academy, which led to his selection by the famously demanding, ADM Hyman Rickover, to



LT Tom Meyers, USN

join the Silent Service. He spent the next seven years serving aboard Nuclear Ballistic Missile and Nuclear Attack submarines.

Tom's slideshow revealed insights into the mystical world of the submariner. Although the boats have grown enormously since the early years, they still have the feeling of narrow corridors and cramped accommodations.

Lengthy deployments in close living and working proximity cause officers and crew to develop a familiarity which is vastly different from the strict discipline of traditional combat forces.

Tom's briefing concluded by covering the superiority of US nuclear subs over those of our potential rivals. Our ability to operate swiftly and silently underwater continues to exceed the technological capabilities of virtually all the other navies of the world.



Command and Staff, FY 2018

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