



Dallas Military Order News



Volume 26, No. 9

Best Large Chapter in the Nation

March 2018

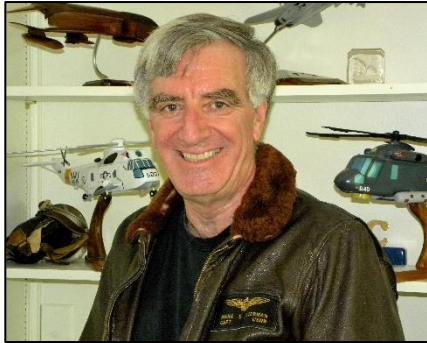


COMPANIONS, Your chapter needs you to Volunteer! Our solitary fundraiser for the year will be the First Annual Patriot's Golf Tournament. We plan to assemble 36 foursomes for an afternoon of fun and madcap golf at the Heritage Country Club in Fairview, on 27 April 2018. Individual and Corporate Sponsors will provide the funding; we need YOU to provide the manpower to make the Event "Second to None"

This Month's Program, March 2018

"North Korea: The Truth, The Threat, the Options"

Marc Liebman, Citizen, Sailor, Businessman, and Author, retired as a Captain after twenty-four years in the US Navy and is a combat veteran of Vietnam, the Tanker Wars of the 1980s and Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He is a Naval Aviator with just under 6,000 hours of flight time in helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. He has worked with the armed forces of Australia, Canada, Japan, Thailand, Republic of Korea, the Philippines and the U.K.



He has been a partner in two different consulting firms, advising clients on business and operational strategy; CEO of an aerospace and defense manufacturing company; associate editor of a national magazine and a copywriter for an advertising agency.

Marc's latest career is as a novelist and five of his books – *Cherubs 2*, *Big Mother 40*, *Render Harmless*, *Forgotten* and *Inner Look* have been published. A sixth book, *Moscow Airlift* will be released in March 2018 and a seventh, *The Simushir Island Incident* will be released in November 2018. *Big Mother 40* was ranked by the readers who buy books on Amazon as one of the top 100 war novels. *Forgotten* was a 2017 Finalist in Historical Fiction in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards, and a Finalist in Fiction in the 2017 Literary Excellence Awards. Both *Forgotten* and *Inner Look* were awarded Five Star ratings by Book Favorites.

Commander's Corner

North Texas Military Foundation Ball



All Companions, are invited to attend the annual Black Tie / Dress Blues / Mess Dress Military Ball. on Saturday, **14 April 2018** at the Irving Convention Center, 500 West Las Colinas Boulevard, Irving, TX The cost to former military is \$135 per person for dinner and entertainment. (Hotel Reservations can be made at the nearby elegant Omni Mandalay, (866-238-8235). Mandalay Hotel's discount cost is \$95.00 (including tax). Entertainment and dance music will be provided by The Walton Stout Band. Purchase your tickets on line at www.greaterdallasmilitaryfoundation.org/ball.html.

Be sure to complete the option to be seated with: **"The Military Order of the World Wars"**.

LTC Jim Blunk, US Army (Ret)
Dallas Chapter, Commander



The National Commander-in-Chief

Annual Pilgrimage of the CINC to Dallas

Each year, the Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order visits as many chapters as time – and budgets – permit.

North Texas is blessed to be able to offer *four for the price of one*, which is an attractive opportunity when CinC's schedule visits throughout the country.

The fact that the weekend coincides with the largest Military Gala of the year, is merely coincidental icing on the cake.

All Companions - and their "**Chiefs of Staff**" – are cordially invited to join the Chapter Commanders in a casual evening that mixes business (chapter status reports) with socializing (Happy Hour followed by a served dinner) at the Omni Dallas Hotel at Park West (1590 LBJ Freeway) near the DFW airport.



Colonel **David Gibson**, USAF, MOWW CINC

National Commander-in-Chief, David Gibson, and his wife, look forward to meeting you all. The CINC Supper will be on Friday evening, **13 April 18**, at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Leadership Conferences

“To promote and foster patriotic education...”

Arguably, one of the finest programs sponsored by the chapters of the *Military Order of World Wars* is the annual conduct of Youth Leadership Conferences (YLC).



Under the supervision of the Texas Patriotic Education Foundation, Inc., the 14 chapters of MOWW Region 8 will select over 325 students (from more than 500 candidates) to attend one of the five YLC's in Texas and Oklahoma.

The interviews needed to select the best and brightest of the 500 candidates are manpower intensive (in other words, we need your support to sit down with these gifted and exceptional students to make the determination of which are best qualified. Please **Step Up** and volunteer to be an Interviewer. It will prove to be the most satisfying hour of your day.

Guest Speakers

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

6 Mar 18 – Marc Liebman, Author of *Josh Haman* series
“*N. Korea: the Truth, the Threat, our Options*”

3 Apr 18 – John Guandolo, National Security Analyst
“*Understanding the Islamic Threat*”

1 May 18 – BG Paul Owen, CDR, SW Engineer Division
“*Our [Next] Most Precious Resource*”

5 Jun 18 – LTC Jim Blunk, Chapter Commander
“*Installation of Incoming Command & Staff*”

3 Jul 18 – Larry Kryske, NY Times Bestselling Author
“*Churchill - from Warrior to War Leader*”

7 Aug 18 – Kevin Freeman, CEO Freeman Global Hldgs
“*Global Economic Warfare*”

Officer of the Month

Chapter salutes Dallas' Finest Officers in Blue

On 8 Feb 18, Past Chapter Commander, Captain Paul Brown, presented Dallas Police Officer **Brian Nolf** (#6432), our Outstanding Service Citation for his selection as February's *Officer of the Month*.

Officer Nolf has devoted more than 27 years of exceptional service to the Northwest Division. His successful liaison with government and business leaders has led to improved cooperation



Captain Paul Brown presents the MOWW Certificate of Commendation to Dallas Police Officer **Brian Nolf**

and inter-agency communication, resulting in a significant reduction in crime. His superb fundraising efforts have benefited needy local families, as well as members of the SWAT unit and fellow officers in sister divisions of the Dallas Police Department.

Attention Chapter Staff:

The Chapter Command and Staff meeting will be held in the Frontier of Flight Museum Conference Room, on Thursday, 15 MAR 18, at 1:30 p.m.

Please make every effort to attend this Command and Staff Planning Session.

KNOW YOUR COMPANIONS

Major Marshall Miles, US Army

MAJ Marshall Miles is a native of Plano, Texas. He graduated from the US Military Academy at West Point in 1993 with a BS degree in history and received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant of Armor.



His first assignment was with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, at Fort Hood, Texas.

After learning to speak Serbo-Croatian, he deployed to Yugoslavia for a year. He returned to attend the US Army Field Artillery Officers Advance Course, after which he commanded an Armored/Mechanized Infantry team of the 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Division in Baumholder, Germany. His unit was later forward deployed to serve in Albania.

In 1999, Marshall's company was attached to 2nd Battalion, 505th Airborne Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, and led the initial entry forces into Kosovo.

In 2000, Marshall decided to leave active duty to pursue a career as a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch in Austin, Texas. He took a temporary leave of absence from Merrill Lynch to work as a defense contractor for Military Professional Resources, Inc. (MPRI) in Kuwait, training US soldiers preparing to serve in Iraq. He returned to Kosovo in 2001, as a brigade staff officer. In 2005, he joined the Army Reserves, 3438 Military Intelligence Detachment in the Pentagon.

In 2007, his unit provided Military Intelligence support for the US Army Special Operations Command (SOCOM) and the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) conducting covert operations. During the next 7 years, Marshall completed 7 deployments: 2 in Africa and 5 in Afghanistan.

He is a founding member of *Citizens Matter*, an organization dedicated to promoting the principles of the Founding Fathers in municipal government. Marshall has published three books; two thrillers (*Evil in the Valley* and *The Jewel of Nuristan*) and one is on the evolution of warfare and counter-terrorism theory (*The Elegance of Ruthlessness*). Marshall lives in Dallas, and will marry **Christa Barclay**, in May 2018.

Captain Dennis Sheridan, US Army

Dennis Sheridan was born in Brooklyn, New York. His family moved to Houston in 1960. Upon graduation from High School, Dennis attended South Texas Junior College. He enlisted in the Army, the day before he was drafted.



He attended OCS at Fort Benning, GA, was commis-

sioned as a 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry, and subsequently qualified as a Special Forces officer. From 6th Special Forces Group, he was reassigned as an Infantry Platoon Leader in the 2nd Battalion, 327th Airborne, 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, which, according to Dennis, is the best job in the US Army. He also served as a Platoon Leader of the Battalion Support platoon.

Upon returning from Vietnam, Dennis took command of an *A-Team* in the 5th Special Forces Group, which included Special Forces Underwater Operations School in Florida and mountain climbing in western North Carolina. In 2011, Dennis was honored by the men who served in his platoon in Vietnam with induction as a *Distinguished Member of the 327th Parachute Infantry Regiment*.

Dennis carried a waterproof Screaming Eagle wallet in Vietnam, which he passed to a platoon leader in his former unit, during Operation Desert Storm. It has since been passed to 327th platoon leaders in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 1972, Dennis started a career, in Houston, later relocating to Fort Worth. He held management positions in residential and commercial construction, and Real Estate brokerage. Dennis retired in 2009, as president of his real estate development firm.

Dennis is an active member of Special Forces Association, Chapter XXXI. Each year, Dennis is Santa Claus for the Vietnamese & Montagnard children, passing out Christmas presents provided by the **Dallas Chapter of MOWW**. Dennis and his wife, Sandra, live in Mesquite.

Happy Birthday, Companions

“With Age, Wisdom comes” Yoda

- 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
- 3 March CPT Lester Dahlheimer
- 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
- 14 March LCDR John Reed
- 16 March HPM Jack Butler
- 19 March LTC Don Nguyen
- 20 March CAPT Robert Elwell
- 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 HPM Robert Marx
- 31 March CAPT Richard Stewart



Companions Down

Keep them in your Thoughts and Prayers

Past Chapter Commander Captain Paul Brown, escorted his wife, Cathy, to the hospital in Austin. While waiting for her release, he fell in his hotel room, bruising several ribs, *inter alia*. [Some people will do anything to gain a little sympathy and attention].



Chapter Commander LTC Jim Blunk, underwent surgery to correct a problem that is all too familiar to many men of a certain age. He is recovering, as quickly as can be expected, and will soon be his normal curmudgeonly-self, once again.



Companion Allen Clark slipped on the ice, during our recent freeze, and is suffering from severe pain from the fall. We tried to tell him to stick with 5’9”, but he has chosen to go for 6’2”. The bigger they are, the harder they fall. Hang in there Allen, sunshine and summer are just around the corner.



1st Annual Patriots’ Golf Tournament

Fundraising the Fun Way

Chapter Senior Vice Commander MG Gary Bunch has assembled a Committee to assist him in planning, organizing, advertising, marketing, and conducting this premier fundraising effort.

YOU are critical to the success of this venture. Please contact Gary (804-721-3818) and let him know that you will contribute an hour, a day, or a monetary donation.

Gary needs YOU to help to make this a *Team Effort*.

The American Patriot Golf Tournament

Friday, April 27, 2018
Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club

Supporting Chapter Programs, the Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas, Inc and The USO, Dallas-Fort Worth



Sponsorship Opportunities

- Alvin York Brigade ---- \$10,000 Level----Sporting Clays Shoot for Three, Pistol Clinic, Archery Clinic & Golf for Three at Canyon Creek
- Frank Gaffney Brigade ---- \$5000 Level----Pistol Clinic, Archery Clinic & Golf for Three
- Henry Johnson Brigade ---- \$2500 Level---Archery Clinic & Golf for Three
- Freddie Stowers Brigade ---\$1000 Level---Archery Clinic
- Wild Bill Donovan Brigade --- \$500 Level



Presented by the Dallas Chapter of The Military Order of the World Wars

Chapter Activities in the month of February



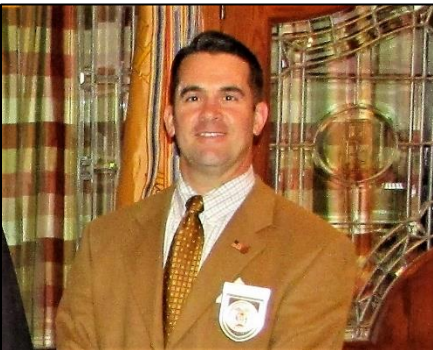
CPT Dennis Sheridan (USA) was inducted as a Perpetual Companion. He served from 1968-1972. He and his wife, Sandra, live in Trophy Club, Texas. His Sponsor is Allen Clark



LT Tommie Williams (USMC) was inducted as a Perpetual Companion. He served from 1975-1981. He and his wife, Velisse, live in Frisco, Texas. His Sponsor is Ron Forest



MAJ David Kidd (USA) was inducted as a Regular Companion. He served from 1966-1979. He and his wife, Sylvia, live in Mesquite, Texas. His Sponsor is Chuck Chamberlin



MAJ Marshall Miles (USA) was inducted as a Regular Companion. He served from 1993-2014. He is single and lives in Dallas. His Sponsor, Allen Clark, has now recruited **35** new Chapter members.



CPT Jeff Butcher (USA) and his wife, CPT Barbara Butcher were inducted as Regular Companions. They met and married while on active duty and now have 8 children. (Both were featured in our February Newsletter). Jeff served from 1985-1992, while Barbara served from 1980-1988. They live in Plano, Texas. Their Sponsor is P.J. Putnam. FYI - Jeff's dad was in the 101st Airborne; Barbara's was an Army Air Force pilot in WWII.



Prior to the beginning of the "business" portion of our monthly Luncheon meetings, Chapter Adjutant Quint Avenetti brings the microphone to every table for the introduction of Guests. Time permitting, guests are invited to briefly summarize their experiences on active duty and their current career trajectory.



Hereditary Perpetual Bob Epstein is a *force majeure* on the fundraising committee. He is seen here giving the chapter a progress report on the status of the Golf Tournament and a call for volunteers



Veterans Aid & Assistance

This month, I want to discuss VA Aid & Attendance (A&A) in greater detail. You may be one who qualifies for these VA benefits.

A&A benefits help seniors who need assistance with one of the five "activities of daily living". A&A benefits can be applied either toward rent at an assisted living facility or to offset the cost of professional nursing care at home.

Veterans must be at least 65 years old, must have served at least 90 days on active duty (one day of which must have been during a period of war) and must have been honorably discharged.

Determination of monthly *income* and *net worth* are the most commonly misunderstood financial qualifiers. To determine income, the VA considers monthly income *minus* medical expenses. (For example, if a veteran makes \$6,000 a month, but is paying \$3,500 per month in rent at an assisted living facility, the VA considers monthly income to be \$2,500).

For a veteran's net worth to qualify, a good attorney can easily assist in structuring a veteran's estate, to meet VA standards.

Surviving spouses of veterans may also qualify for A&A benefits, if he (or she) was married to the veteran at the time of his death (and has not since remarried).

VA A&A benefits can make an enormous difference in quality of life by offsetting burdensome living expenses. If you have any questions, please contact me at:

jmalakoff@wellspringssenior.com or (212) 203-9260. It is an honor to serve as your Chaplain.

Last Month's Program, Feb 2017

"The Story of Crew 713"

Film Director, Alex Mena, presented video clips, storyboards, and personal insights relating to his ongoing efforts to create a motion picture tribute to his father's World War II bomber crew. "Crew 713" will tell the history of the most mass produced American military aircraft of all time; the **B-24 Liberator** bomber, and the courageous men who flew them.



Alex Mena's father was a member of Crew 713, 492ND Bomb Group, 8th US Army Air Force, whose B-24 was the first to reach 30 combat missions.

To this day the 492nd stands alone as the only heavy American bombardment group to be removed from combat during WWII and remains to this day the only heavy bomb group removed from combat, *due to high losses*, in the proud history of the United States Air Force.

Alex continues to film, cut, edit, and improve his labor of love, while his producer continues to seek backers that will allow him to eventually bring his final product to theatres throughout the country



LTC Jim Blunk (left) awards Alex Mena, seen here with his Producer, Fiona Hall

Command and Staff, FY 2018

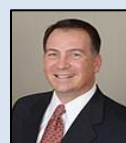
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