

Ballas Military Grder News

Volume 28, No. 7

Best Chapter Newsletter in the Nation

January 2020



Hern, Jessica Cafferata, Michael & Cathy Menefee, John Wagner, Doug Gagliano, Barbara Butcher, Chuck Daniels & couples from the Dallas DAR.

This Month's Program, January 2020

Off to another Roaring Start – HAPPY 2020

Commander Hank Coates, the CEO of the Commemorative Air Force in Dallas, will be our first Guest Speaker in 2020.

Hank is a former 22-year veteran of the US Navy and is due to be inducted into the chapter as our 339th living Perpetual member, prior to his presentation.

The mission of the Commemorative Air Force is to: "Honor, Educate, and Inspire", which fits nicely with the aspirations enshrined in the Preamble of our Order.

Plans are currently underway to build a National Aviation and Education Center which will be devoted to supporting Youth education with an emphasis on military history and the impact of aviation on the growth and development of our nation's armed forces.



CDR Hank Coates, US Navy

The Center will focus on honoring veterans of all services, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

This year we will endeavor to make our Luncheons more inclusive of the distaff half of our Companions. You are all encouraged to bring your Chief of Staff to share in the camaraderie and fellowship of comrades-in-arms. Next month will feature a Valentine's theme.

Next Month's Program, February 2020

"Going Feet Dry..."

Caroline Johnson was an unlikely aviation candidate. A tall blonde debutante from Colorado, she could have just as easily gone into fashion or filmmaking, and yet she went on to become an F/A-18 Super Hornet Weapons System Officer. She was one of the first women to fly a combat mission

over Iraq since 2011, and the first woman to drop bombs on ISIS from an F/A-18.

Her autobiography, GIRL, tells the remarkable story of the women fighting at the forefront with the opportunity to reach the highest peaks. She offers an insider's view on the fascinating, thrilling, dangerous and, at times, glamorous world of being a naval aviator. It is a comingof age story about a young college-aged woman who



LT Caroline Johnson, US Navy

drew strength from a tight-knit group of friends called the Jet Girls, who struggled with all the ordinary problems of life: love, work, catty housewives, father figures, make-up and wardrobe. Not to mention being put into harm's way daily against terrorist groups such as ISIS and world powers such as Russia and Iran.

Not just a memoir, **JET GIRL** also aims to change the conversation, to inspire and attract the next generation of women tempted to explore a life of adventure and service.



COMMANDER'S CORNER

MY FELLOW COMPANIONS.

I want to talk with you about three different matters today.

Wreaths Across America MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!

Because of your generosity, we excelled well past our primary goal of funding 100 Christmas Wreaths to be laid at a Veteran's Headstone in the Dallas Ft Worth National Cemetery, By contributing \$2,730 and purchasing 182 wreaths,

you answered the call to serve beyond your duty and rose to the occasion. WELL DONE! In the big picture because of many donors, for the first time in the Dallas - Fort Worth National Cemetery



40,000 wreaths were laid, by hundreds of volunteers, one for *every* headstone

history every Veteran had a wreath on his or her grave site.

CONGRATLATIONS to each of you for your generosity and to CPT Barbara Butcher for her outstanding performance as the Chapter's Chairperson for this Project.

Christmas Banquet Gala

For those of you who did not come to the Chapter Christmas Gala, talk to those who were in attendance. You really missed an event to remember. As expected, the Park City Club delivered an outstanding dinner. Those in attendance really enjoyed the Social Hour and Silent Auction. The sur-



Ladies Liberty knocked it out of the park with songs, dance, and all that jazz.

prise of the evening was the hour plus performance of the *Ladies Liberty* Show Troupe accompanied by their supporting music. It reminded us of the Vietnam era shows

for our troops. From the Andrew Sisters through the Supremes, Tina Turner, and the Christmas Songs which made us long to be home. Finally, to the best arrangement ever heard of the Salute to the Military Services and special arrangement of Lee Greenwood's "I'm Proud to be an American - God Bless the USA", the room was full of stand-up

patriotic emotion. It was an evening to be forever remembered. Take a look at the pictures in this Newsletter and put next year, 1 December 2020, on your calendar now.

The Coming Year LIGHT THE AFTERBURNERS

Now, we move forward to the opportunities and challenges of the coming year 2020.

Like any organization, your Chapter has attrition by death (or non-renewal). *Membership* is our lifeline to performing our Missions. You have brought new members for induction during the last six months, but we need to "**light our after-burners**" during the **next**

6 months to prevent taking net losses in our ranks. So, I am asking each of you to support our Chapter by going the extra mile to find candidates, especially for Perpetual membership. Show them the companionship of this Chapter and how they too can have a legacy of mak-



Light 'em Up

ing a difference in our community. We have an outstanding line up of Speakers coming this spring. So, invite them to a luncheon, and when we make our "landing" next June, we will have flown the successful missions as General of the Armies John J. Pershing envisioned.

<u>I WISH EACH OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A</u> HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Paul W. Brown

Dallas Chapter Commander Emeritus

THESE FORMER OFFICERS BECAME PERPETUAL COMPANIONS OF THE DALLAS CHAPTER IN 2019



LCDR Larry Wilcox US Navy (Greenville)



LTC Jim Small US Army (Frisco)



COL Larry Green US Army (McKinney)



LT Brandon Hern US Army (Sachse)



LCDR Harry Chris US Navy (Irving)



COL Ric Hamer US Air Force (Fayetteville)



LT Rick Foster US Army (Azle)



CDR Hank Coates US Navy (Plano)



CWO4 Monifa Rucker US Army (Rockwall)

WE ALSO WELCOMED THESE FORMER OFFICERS WHO WERE INDUCTED AS. REGULAR COMPANIONS IN 2019



Lt Col Paul Pfrommer US Air Force (Dallas)



Jessica Cafferata (Hereditary) (Highland Village)



CDR Kurt Richter
US Coast Guard (Mesquite)



Maj Terry Thorsen
US Marine Corps (Mansfield)



LT David Iverson US Army (Wylie)

FINALLY, WE PAID OUR LAST RESPECT TO THREE DEAR FRIENDS



LTC Walt Capps US Army (Richardson)



Capt Don Griffin US Air Force (Plano)



COL Ralph Hodge US Air Force (Fort Worth)

Happy Birthday, Companions

"People who have the most birthdays – live the longest"



| 2 January LtCol Jeffrey Hauser |
|--------------------------------|
|--------------------------------|

| 6 January | v CPT | Gregory | Jones |
|-----------|-------|---------|-------|
| | | | |

| 8 January | V Lt | Col | Jack | Bond |
|-----------|------|-----|------|------|
| | | | | |





10 January CDR Jerry Rucker

11 January LTC Stonell Greene

12 January CPT Boyd Branch

12 January COL Virgil Williams

16 January LTC King Moss

20 January HPM Mark Munson

20 January CPT Richard Wegner

22 January CPT Steven Poole

23 January LTC James Small

24 January LCDR James Bailey

26 January MAJ GEN Wm Gossell

28 January MR Walter Applewhite

30 January CPT Barbara Butcher

31 January MR Joe Applewhite

31 January COL Joe Sasser

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

7 Jan 20 – Hank Coates, CDR, US Navy
"The National Aviation & Education Center"

4 Feb 20 - Caroline Johnson, US Navy "Going Feet Dry" in an F-18 (Super Hornet)

3 Mar 20 – Adam Kraft, DIA Expert on Terrorism
"The Great Spy Game"

7 Apr 20 – Judge John Roach, Collin County Court "The Veterans Court System"

5 May 20 -Elaine Cesare, Drug Enforcement Agency "Controlling Illicit Drug Trafficking"

2 Jun 20 – Capt Paul W. Brown, Chapter Commander "Installation of FY 2021 Commander & Staff"

Officer of the Month

Chapter salutes Dallas' Officers in Blue

On 14 Dec 19, Chapter Commander *Emeritus*, Captain Paul Brown, presented Senior Corporal **Ira Carter** (#8420), our Outstanding Service Citation for his selection as Dallas Police Department *Officer of the Month*.

Cpl Carter is a 16-year veteran who serves as a member of the "Motor Unit". after many years as a Patrol Officer. He is President of the Grand Prairie Youth Football League and is a volunteer at the annual Youth Fitness Fest.



Commander Paul Brown presented the MOWW Certificate of Commendation to Dallas Police Senior Corporal **Ira Carter.**

Corporal Carter is a sterling example of DPD's finest.

Keep Her in your Prayers

Gone to be with her Maker

Join us in sending Sympathy and Condolences to longtime Companion, **Ralph B. Muse**, who lost his wife, Elizabeth (Beth) Muse, after a ten-month battle with kidney cancer. Ralph and Beth had been married for 50 years.





Closing the Year in Grand Style

Congratulations to Dallas Chapter Companion, Richard G. Stewart, Jr, who has been selected to receive the prestigious 2020 MLK Justice Award conferred by the Dallas Bar Association. This coveted award is presented to a local leader who exemplifies the principles, leadership and professionalism embodied by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The MLK Justice Award will be presented to him on **Monday, 20 Jan 2020, noon** at the Belo Mansion.





As always, Companion Scott Murray lends his professionalism and a touch of class in his role as Master of Ceremonies.



The "Liberty Ladies" dazzled us with songs and dance routines that set the tone for a very, very Merry Christmas evening.



DPD Officer of the Month CPL Ira Carter is enjoying the fruits of his celebrity status by entertaining Lizabeth and Katina



We took as many photos as time and events permitted. Apologies to all of those who were there, but whose picture is not included. Needless to say..., a fun time was had by all.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all of our Companions.



The Necessity of Forgetting

As we approach the new year of 2020, there are some things that it would be wise and profitable for us to forget.

1. Forget Past Successes.

We should be grateful for past blessings, but we must beware lest we find ourselves looking backward rather than forward.

2. Forget Past Failures.

Not all of us have been successful. Some of us have experienced miserable failures. Peter disappointed the Lord. He was terribly disappointed in himself, yet he experienced the forgiveness of his Lord, and he wisely forgave himself for his failure.

3. Forget Past Grievances.

Do you plan to lug all your old grievances into the New Year? If we would face the new year with hope for success, we must forgive and forget past grievances.

"Forget the things which are behind you" (Philippians 3:13)

Chaplain Jamie Malakoff

Last Month's Program, Dec 2019

Gifts that keep on giving

Christmas is a magical time of year, especially for the very young. We frequently forget that many families cannot afford the gifts that lift the spirits of children and allow them to retain their childish belief and wonder.

That is the motivation that causes us to ask you each year, to remember those less fortunate.



With little or no fanfare, Chapter Companions quietly donated dozens of toys, games, and stuffed animals to two of our fellow military organization to distribute.

In the few years during which we have collected Toys for Tots, your chapter has accumulated a total of over 1,000 items. This year's gifts were distributed by two of our favorite charitable veterans' units, the Dallas Chapter of the Special Forces Association and Roger Staubach's Allies in Service.

You can be justly proud to be a part of the goodwill and generosity demonstrated each year by the Companions of our Chapter.

Next Commander's Staff Notice: Meeting will be held Thursday, 16 January 2020 at 1:30 p.m. (1330 hrs.) in the Park City Club, 5956 Sherry Lane, Suite 1700, Dallas, TX

Command and Staff, FY 2020

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