



Dallas Military Order News



Volume 29, No. 3

Best Chapter Newsletter in the Nation

September 2020



Amid the pandemic, a ray of sunshine, as the Chapter inducted two Companions during our August Luncheon. (left) Linda pins on Bob Ganson's MOWW lapel pin, and (right) Audrina pins on Terry Thorsen's. Terry becomes our 255th living Perpetual Companion.

This Month's Program: Installation of Officers, FY 2021

Passing the Torch during Challenging times

It has now been six months since the world was told to get used to the new normal. Masks and Social distancing are no longer oddities in public, but the united effort of our society to strangle this virus before it surges again.

Assuming Command of the largest MOWW chapter in the nation is never an easy task, nor one taken lightly. Add to that the difficulty of filling the enormously large shoes of our Past Commander, Paul Brown, during a quarantine and the job is even more daunting and intimidating.



Last year's Induction of Captain Paul W. Brown, USAF

We are blessed to have a Companion who has eagerly accepted the challenge, picked up the gauntlet, and thrown himself, full force, into moving the chapter through turbulent seas, gale winds and uncharted territory. US Navy Lieutenant, **Chuck Daniels**, is that man.

The Yeoman is piping for All Hands to be on deck for the Installation Ceremony and Banquet of our very own, *Horatio Hornblower*. Join us for a memorable evening at the Park City Club of North Dallas, on **Tuesday, 1 Sep 20**, at 1715 hours (**5:15 p.m.** for you landlubbers and civilians)

The Commander's Corner

Military Customs and Traditions

The U.S. military has been around for a long time. As is natural for any institution that has such a lengthy history, several traditions have sprung up over the course of the last couple of centuries. For all the fascinatingly odd rules, pomp, and regalia, each ceremony and activity hold a special meaning and is deeply cherished by those who preserve it. Here are a handful of the most bizarre military customs that the members of our armed forces continue to practice to this day.

CROSSING THE LINE - I'll start with what is perhaps the most peculiar Navy tradition of them all: a raucous initiation in which "Pollywogs" become proud "Shellbacks" a term signifying their equator-crossing experience. The ceremony itself was created back in the days of wooden ships, when a trip across the equator was an event marked by hazing of the crewmen who were crossing for the first time. The hazing frequently got completely out of hand. Today, much of the ceremony is cloaked in secrecy, and only happens to sailors on a ship at sea.



Commander's Corner – continued page 2.

CHALLENGE COINS - Challenge coins have a long and rich history. Many organizations, like police, fire, and sheriff departments use these coins, carving each set with a specific insignia for a branch of their force or a group of people within it. They're also often associated with the armed forces, as military coins have been in use from as far back as World War I. The legend of the first challenge coins dates back to an Army Air Corps unit, in 1918, that created a Squadron coin. One member crashed behind enemy lines and when he eventually escaped, his coin was his only proof of who he was.



THE SWORD TAP - Finally, we have the "sword tap" tradition of the Marine Corps. The sword tap involves accepting a new member into the military family. When a member of the military decides to marry a civilian in a full dress military- ceremony, it often ends with the happy couple



exiting the building through an arch of swords or sabers. When Marines do this, there is one final piece of the ceremony that gets added onto the end, quite literally. As the newlyweds exit the arch, the last member of the

line will use his sword to gently tap the bride's derriere and shout out, "Welcome to the Marine Corps, ma'am!"

MOWW is no different than the active military when it comes to tradition. We have our Chain of Command, our Organizational structure, our Conventions, and ceremonies, but to name a few. Two of our most enduring ceremonies are the **Induction** of new members and the **Installation** of new Officers,

both of which will occur on September 1st, 2020. We will,



posthumously, induct into the Dallas Chapter, Perpetual (Memorial) Companion, Congressman **Sam Johnson**, with his family present. We will then install the 74th Commander of the Dallas Chapter, **LT Chuck Daniels**, and his Staff.

Traditions are important; they solidify our Companionship, our dedication to our Order, and to each other.

Chuck Daniels

Chuck Daniels, LT, USNR (Fmr)
Commander, Dallas Chapter
Military Order of the World Wars
www.dallasmoww.org

Last Month's Program: Law Enforcement

A Court for "Wounded" Veterans

Judge John Roach presides over the Veterans Courts of North Texas. His inspiring presentation detailed the groundbreaking initiatives he has instituted in the Courts of Texas, to help Veterans with exceptional circumstances.



By giving special consideration to troubled veterans, in which there may be a connection between their military service and the offense with which they are charged, he provides them an a "tough love" option. In many cases, a wide range of personal problems resulting from military service may have materially affected the criminal conduct at issue in the case. Judge Roach has balanced the scales of Justice for those veterans. Without his judgement, many would almost certainly have been incarcerated and labeled as the derelicts of society. We stand in awe and admiration of Judge Roach for his brilliant creativity and his innovative approach to fair and impartial Justice

Eagle Scouts

Not Even a Pandemic can slow them down

Dallas Chapter is on a roll, again, recognizing Boy and Girl Scouts throughout the State of Texas, who have attained the highest award in Scouting, the rank of Eagle. In fact, our award-winning Scouting program leader, **Bill Farmer**, has even traveled outside of the State to ensure that these young men and women are properly recognized for their outstanding achievements.



Clockwise from top left, Dylan Dunn, and his Dad (Troop 148), Mark Mayo (Troop 74), Ethan Worsham (Troop 76), and Cameron Kirby (Troop 725). This is a small representative sample of the Awards presented. As photos are available, we will attempt to display as many as possible.

Notice: Next Chapter Commander's Staff Meeting will be held, on the 3rd Thursday in September, at 1:30 p.m., in the Frontiers of Flight Museum, 3645 Lemmon Ave.

KNOW YOUR NEWEST COMPANIONS

Colonel Sam R. Johnson, US Air Force

Sam Johnson was born in San Antonio in 1929 but grew up in Dallas and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1947. He graduated from Southern Methodist University, earning a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree from the Elliott School of International Affairs of the George Washington University in 1976.



He was a decorated combat fighter pilot veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. During the Korean War, he flew 62 combat missions in the F-86 *Sabre* and was credited with shooting down a MiG-15.

During the Vietnam War, Johnson flew the F-4 *Phantom II*. On April 16, 1966, while flying his 25th combat mission, he was shot down over North Vietnam and suffered a broken right arm and broken back. He was a prisoner of war for nearly seven years, including 42 months in solitary confinement.

Johnson was part of a group of eleven U.S. military prisoners known as the *Alcatraz Gang*, a group of prisoners separated from the others because of their stubborn resistance to their captors. They were held in a special facility about one mile away from the notorious "Hanoi Hilton". Johnson, like the others, was kept in solitary confinement, locked nightly in leg cuffs in a windowless, 3 X 9-foot concrete cell. He was released on February 12, 1973. He recounted the details of his POW experience in his autobiography, *Captive Warriors*. By the time of his release, he weighed 120 pounds, his right hand was permanently disabled, and he was left with a noticeable limp for the rest of his life.

During the twilight of his 29-year career, he served as Director of the Air Force Fighter Weapons School and flew the F-100 *Super Sabre* with the Air Force Thunderbirds precision flying team. He commanded the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing at Homestead AFB, FL and an air division at Holloman AFB, NM, retiring as a Colonel. One of his classmates in flight school was future astronaut, Buzz Aldrin.

He served 13 years in the Texas House of Representatives and 26 years as a US Congressman. He was the oldest sitting member of the US House of Representatives.

Johnson was married to Shirley L. Melton of Dallas for 65 years, until her death in 2015. They had three children (Gini, Beverly, and Bob) and ten grandchildren.

Captain Robert Ganson, US Air Force

Bob Ganson was born in Spokane, WA in 1936. He lived in Seattle during WW2. His family moved to Bainbridge Island, west of Seattle, after the war. He graduated from Washington State University, with a BA in Marketing and an Air Force ROTC commission in 1958.



I had learned a little about navigation while boating on Puget Sound and learned a lot more in USAF Navigation School at James Connally AFB in Waco, TX, and then, Advanced Navigation and Bombardment at Mather AFB in Sacramento, CA.

Next came KC-135 (*Stratotanker*) Combat Crew Training at Castle AFB, Atwater, CA and Walker AFB, Roswell, NM. His first duty assignment was as a Strategic Air Command (SAC) KC-135 Navigator in the 92nd Air Refueling Squadron, at Fairchild AFB, Spokane, WA.

The glamorous part was 72-hour alert duty. (One of Bob's favorite movies is *Doctor Strangelove*, because he knew most of those guys!) When Operation Chrome Dome (SAC's 24-hour Airborne Alert) started he did several deployments to Eielson AFB, in Fairbanks, Alaska, (in *minus* 35^o F weather) where he refueled B-52s on their 24-hour flights over the pole.

During the Cuban Missile Crisis in October of '63, he and his crew were on base alert with orders to expedite bringing a KC-135 out of maintenance. They spent three days living aboard the aircraft on strip alert ready to be launched. On the third day they were taken into the Wing briefing center to hear President Kennedy on TV and see U2 photos of missiles in Cuba.

In 1963, he left the service and joined IBM in Seattle, as a Systems Engineer, later as a development analyst and marketing representative to the Financial industry. He moved to Texas in 1976. In 2001, he served on the Board of Directors of Mobility Credit Union.

Bob and his wife, Diane, have been married for 55 years. They have a son and daughter and 4 grandchildren. They have lived in Plano for the past 44 years.

Happy Birthday, Companions

"Age only matters with Cheese"



1 September	HPM John D. Lester
1 September	CPT Weldon W. Nash, Jr
5 September	WO Billy W. Franklin
7 September	MS Kathleen L. Spangler
8 September	LTC Jerry B. Jochum
8 September	LT Derrick W. Watson
10 September	Mr Spencer J. Adams
10 September	COL Jeffrey W. Gault
13 September	LCDR Harry Chris
13 September	Mrs. Maurine P. Dickey
13 September	Capt Curtis L. Frisbie
13 September	COL Gary D. Jackson
13 September	CDR Kurt Richter
15 September	Capt H. Keith Barrett
15 September	LCDR David Minton
16 September	CPT Robert E. Sanders
17 September	LTC Milton C. Henderson
17 September	Mr John R. Warterfield
18 September	LTC Kenneth W. Boatman
18 September	Col Bennett W. Cervin
18 September	LTC Kaaren J. Teuber
19 September	CAPT David L. Love
19 September	LTC Donald R. Willis
21 September	LT Curtis Baggett
21 September	LT James W. Crysdale
21 September	Mr Aaron K. Schmidt
23 September	LTC Thomas J. Galli
24 September	MAJ James S. Angelino
25 September	GEN Gordon Sullivan
28 September	Mr Christopher Neumeier
29 September	Mr Andrew Warner
30 September	CPT James Grogan



Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

**1 Sep 20 –Formal Evening Banquet
"Celebrating the 2021 Commander and Staff"**

**6 Oct 20 –Tom Kula, Brigadier General (Ret)
"Leadership " the Luncheon will also feature
JROTC & SROTC Recognition awards**

**3 Nov 20 –Caroline Johnson, Capt, USAF (Fmr)
"Backseat in an F/A-18 Super Hornet"**

**1 Dec 20 – Chuck Daniels, LT, US Navy (Fmr)
"Annual Christmas Banquet"**

**5 Jan 21 –Speaker TBD, Drug Enforcement Agency
"Controlling our Southern Border"**

**2 Feb 21 –Dr. Stephen Holt, Dallas VA Health System
"80 Years of caring for Military Veterans"**

Park City Club Luncheon Guidelines for September

Now Hear This!!!

Companions have two options for to attending the Club.

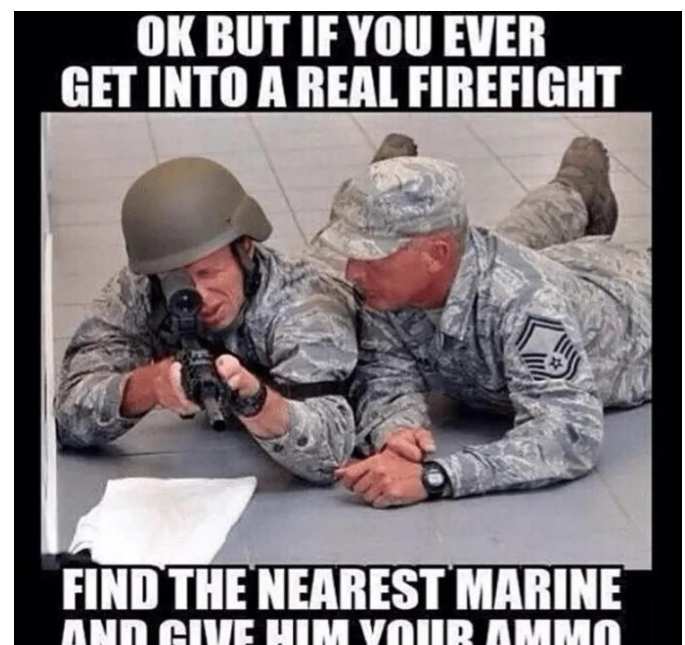
- 1) When contacted by the Calling Committee you must confirm that you are attending.
- 2) If you did not receive a call, you may confirm your attendance by contacting John Wagner at jhwagner62@sbcglobal.net.

If you cannot reach John by email please call him at :(682) 465-2615 and leave a message, no later than Friday, 28 August 2020.



Respect the welfare of others. Maintain six feet of separation and wear a mask, whenever appropriate.

Advice for Air Force Marksmen



AUGUST LUNCHEON PHOTOS



Chuck welcomed our newest Companion, **Bob Ganson**, after Diane pinned on his MOWW lapel pin



CDR Chuck Daniels congratulates **Terry Thorson** on becoming a Perpetual, as Audrina smiles her approval



CINC Chuck Chamberlin presented a check for \$1,000 to **Blake Talley**, Phoenician essay contest winner



Chuck presented a bronze Eagle to **PJ Putnam**, for his heroic act, pulling a trucker from his burning big rig.



CINC introduced **Brennan Jones**, the Executive Assistant to our Guest Speaker Judge John Roach



The Head table is enthralled by another fascinating story, told by our favorite Marine, **Lyle Mueller**



The Fruit of Your Labor

"Blessed is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways. You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you." (Psalm 128:1-2)

"Happiness" as used by King David in this passage, does not refer to temporal pleasure, but rather to well-being of soul.

This can only come from the knowledge that you are fulfilling God's purposes for your life.

It can never come, under any circumstances, by living outside of God's will.

We all strive for relevance and meaning in our lives. Align your will with God's. Make his desires your own, follow his ways, and you will certainly find the most coveted forms of peace and joy.

God bless each of you.

May God bless each of you.

Jamie Malakoff
Chapter Chaplain



Wreaths Across America

D-FW National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Pkwy
Dallas, TX 75211

Date: 19 December 2020

This event draws a large crowd and parking will be difficult. You will need to arrive early and be prepared to walk long distances. One option is to skip the ceremony and go directly to Section 99 to participate in the laying of the wreaths.

Donations for wreaths may be made for \$15 per wreath (or \$30 for 3 wreaths). Cash or checks made out to "Wreaths Across America" may be given to **Barbara Butcher** at our September, October, or



November meetings. Checks may also be mailed to her at **7 Chisholm Trail, Lucas, TX 75002**.

If you choose to make a donation online, please use <https://wreath-sacrossamerica.org/pages/150562>.

That will be credited to the Dallas Chapter, although the website does not indicate this. A \$30 online donation will still pay for 3 wreaths.

Partnership: We will be partnering our wreath fund raising and laying of the wreath efforts with the James Billingsley Chapter of the DAR.

Our goal is to fund **300** wreaths. Please give generously to support this wonderful event.

Command and Staff, FY 2020

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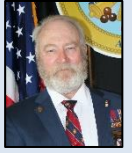
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