



Dallas Military Order News



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December 2022



The skies opened and a heavy downpour forced cancellation of the Greater Dallas Veterans Day Parade, however, the Eleventh Hour ceremonies at City Hall simply moved indoors and went off without a hitch. Pictured above are the Dallas Chapter Companions who made it all happen. (l to r) Doug Gagliano (Parade Units), Michael Menefee (Chapter Commander), Ken Cordier (Air Boss), Natan Ton-That (Community Relations), King Moss (Dignitaries) and Pat Teipel (Coordination with City Hall). Following the activities at City Hall, Parade Foundation Chairman Ric Hamer arranged for a party at Nick and Sam's Restaurant to thank all participants and supporters.

This month's Program, Christmas 2022

"The Reason for the Season"

"Tis the season to be jolly".....and thankful. Join us in giving thanks for the fine year we have enjoyed, for the fellowship and for the difference we have made in so many person's lives.



For the past 15 years, your Dallas Chapter has supported an annual Christmas *"Toys for Tots"* drive. In that short span of time, the Chapter has generously donated more than **2,000** games, toys, stuffed animals, and a wide variety of wonderful presents for children, ages one to seven.

The *Park City Club* provides the splendor and elegance of their magnificent main dining area for our Banquet, complete with its breathtaking panoramic view of the downtown Dallas skyline.

Be there and enjoy the ambiance of an evening of *camaraderie and fellowship* with family and friends of your award winning chapter, whose contributions to the greater Dallas area continue to be recognized by city, state, and national leaders, each year.

We'll see you and yours on December 6th, 2022, at 5:30 pm, at the Park City Club!

Commander's Comments



"It is Better To Serve..."

This month our **December** events include: **Dallas Chapter Christmas Banquet and Toys for Tots (06 DEC)**, the **National Security Briefing (11 DEC)**, and **Wreaths Across America (17 DEC)**. Contact LTC Munson for additional information.

Our Junior Vice CDR, 2LT Natan Ton-That, will also serve as the Adjutant for our Christmas Banquet meeting, while 2LT Brandon Hern is recovering from surgery. Our Senior Vice Commander CPT Allen Clark continues to seek volunteers to assist in tasks that are critical to our mission and will help us achieve the Best Large chapter in the Nation title again. Volunteer openings are available to support **ROTC, YLC, and Law and Order** programs. If you would like an opportunity to serve on the staff or a committee, please call me, or any staff member.

We will be distributing a new chapter **Membership Questionnaire** for our military Companions to complete at our chapter luncheon in January. Please complete it at the luncheon and give to *Companion Pat Teipel*.

Commander's comments, continued

Our chapter Historian continues to publish biographies and photos of newly inducted Companions. Ultimately, you will be able to visit the chapter website to view a complete gallery of the biographies of **all** chapter Companions and Patriots.

I am pleased to inform the chapter that our MOWW CINC, LTC Michael Okin, MD, USA (Ret) and his lovely wife Debbie, plan to attend our Christmas Banquet on 6 Dec, at the Park City Club.

Thank each of you for your hard work and dedication to our chapter! I am extremely proud to serve you as your Chapter Commander. ***Without your dedication and help, our chapter's success could not occur!***

Merry Christmas

*LtCol Michael W. Menefee, USMCR (Ret)
Commander, Dallas Chapter MOWW*

National Defense Seminar Briefings:

**11 Dec 22 – “Space: A Warfighting Domain”
General Kevin Chilton (US Air Force, Ret)
Astronaut & Fmr CDR, Strategic Command**

**29 Jan 23 – “Air and Naval Power in the 21st Century”
Admiral James Foggo (US Navy, Ret) and
Major Heather Penney (former USAF pilot)**

**2 Apr 23 – “Naval Challenges in the 21st Century”
Admiral John Richardson (US Navy, Ret)**

**4 Jun 23 – “Season Two Wrap-up”
Presentation of the Congressman Sam Johnson
Defender of Freedom Award**

General Kevin Chilton completed a 34 year career as Commander of US Strategic Command from 2007 to 2011, where he was responsible for the plans and operations for the Department of Defense's space and cyber-space operations. He served as Commander of Air Force Space Command from 2006 to 2007. He has been an Air Force test pilot, served 11 years as a NASA astronaut, where he flew as the Commander of STS-76, his third Space Shuttle mission. He also served as the Deputy Program Manager for Operations for the International Space Station Program.



GEN Kevin Chilton, USAF

To transmit these ideals to posterity

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

**6 Dec 22 – Annual Tri-Chapter Christmas Banquet
“Christmas Carols and Holiday Cheer”**

**3 Jan 23 – Elizabeth McCormick, #1 Best Selling author
“Succeeding – in spite of Everything”**

**7 Feb 23 – Jennifer Marshall, Actress & Military Advocate
“Stranger Things have happened”**

Last Month's Speaker, November 2022

On Mended Wings

It was easy to see why former Captain Colin Cahoon is known as a masterful storyteller. Following the publication of his documentary book, ***Mended Wings***, he has been in constant demand as a speaker to share insights into the lives of ten fellow pilots, who flew helicopters during the Vietnam War, each of whom was awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received in combat.



Colin served with distinction as an Aero Scout Platoon Leader in the 307th Attack Helicopter Battalion of the 7th Infantry Division, where he accumulated over 1000 hours of flight time in UH-1 (Iroquois) and OH-58 (Kiowa) helicopters.

To cherish the memories of the World Wars

78th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge

It is fitting and proper that we pause for a moment to pay tribute to the battle which General George Patton was referring when he said, “We could still lose this war!”

Four former Companions of the Dallas Chapter fought in that famous Ardennes Offensive.

You know the outcome, but did you know: Hitler's generals advised against the attack; Allied generals ignored early warnings of the attack; it was the first time during WWII that US units were ordered to desegregate; weather played a major role in the outcome; and fuel shortages doomed the Germans to defeat?



To promote the cultivation of Military, Navy & Air Science

Youth Leadership Conferences

Volunteers are Needed! Our MOWW chapter has many **Outreach** initiatives in which we engage with our local communities. The most rewarding one involves interviewing sophomore and junior high school students, who are nominated by their School Counselor to attend one of our Youth Leadership Conferences (YLC). Each



YLC is a week-long program covering leadership, patriotism, the US judicial system, and free-market concepts.

We need Companions (and *Patriots*) to engage with local public High Schools, home schoolers, and private schools. As a volunteer you and a fellow Companion will interview and select candidates to attend one of our 2023 YLC's. To become an interviewer, contact Don Munson at: don.munson@tx.rr.com.

Volunteers are Needed to honor members of law enforcement and first responders. We intend to broaden our **Outreach** to honor a wider spectrum of laws enforcement officers, who serve and protect us. As a volunteer, you can help by contacting your local fire department and paramedic organizations, offering to honor their **[Person] of the Year**.



This is an important way in which we may continue to serve the Greater Dallas community, which by most accounts, is the fourth largest city in the nation. To coordinate these Law and Order programs, please contact Allen Clark at: allenbclark@aol.com.

To stimulate love of our country...

Natan addresses City Hall

Dallas Chapter Junior Vice Commander 2LT Natan Ton-That represented us at the November meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Southlake, at which he presented an MOWW Certificate of Commendation to the Mayor in recognition of his support for military veterans. Southlake's Veterans Day Parade was one of the largest in North Texas, this year. Unlike Dallas, the heavy downpour that cancelled Dallas's Parade bypassed Southlake allowing the citizens to enjoy bands, color guards, and hundreds of veteran organizations.



2LT Natan Ton-That and Southlake Mayor John Huffman

To maintain Law and Order

Chapter salutes Dallas' Finest Officers in Blue

This month's **Officer of the Month**, Senior Corporal Jose Bernal (Badge # 9000) received an MOWW Certificate of Commendation from former Dallas Chapter Commander, Paul Brown.



Sr. Cpl. Mercado serves in the

Central Patrol Division. He has been awarded 88 Letters of Commendation and has been designated Field Training Officer of the Year. Prior to joining the Dallas Police for, he served for four years in the US Marine Corps rising to the rank of Corporal, while serving in Okinawa. We commend him for his distinguished service to the Police Department and the City of Dallas, and we proudly salute him for his dedication to the Nation.

Sr. Corporal Jose Bernal and former Commander Paul Brown

To preserve records of Service...

Companions Down

Our Chapter Surgeon, "Doc" Aurbach, sadly reports the passing of Perpetual Companion LT Jack Hall, US Army. Jack joined the chapter in 2018, at the tender age of 88. He was within days of his 92nd Birthday.



Jack Hall

LT Brandon Hern is hospitalized to repair an injury incurred during his recent Kick Boxing tournament. (Let's Go, Brandon!).

Maj Terry Thorsen is still recovering from a massive paralyzing stroke and although the physical therapy is punishing, he insists that he will "soon" be strong enough to attend our Luncheons in the New Year.

HPM Steve Suiter, our Webmaster, has recovered quickly from hip replacement surgery and is back to work improving our Chapter website. Having completed final coding, all Companions are now able to register and pay *online* for Luncheons, Banquets, and other activities.



Steve Suiter, Webmaster

Notice: The next Commander and Staff Meeting of the Operating Year, will be held Thursday, 16 DEC 2022, at 1300 hrs (1:00 p.m.), in the Frontiers of Flight Conference Room, 6911 Lemmon Avenue, Dallas, TX (adjacent to Love Field).

National Defense and Homeland Security

THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THREAT

By LtCol Michael W. Menefee, USMCR (Ret)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a machine technology that involves computer systems which perform tasks normally performed by humans. AI involves decision-making computations, but also may involve visual, speech, and language discernment. It imitates human intelligence and performs tasks faster and sometimes solves problems based on information it, or another computer, has gathered. AI analyzes large amounts of data and reduces response times for cybersecurity, business, and defense applications.



Accenture is a large business consulting firm. According to a recent Accenture report, seventy-five percent of corporate level executives believe if they do not increase their AI capabilities in the next five years, they may risk going out of business.

AI's future is on the rise. It is especially helpful regarding cyber security threats. AI can examine billions of bits of information including malicious files, dubious IP addresses, articles, blogs, news stories, and research papers in significantly less time than a team of computer analysts.



Additionally, large multinational organizations like Amazon, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Walmart, and Accenture are some of the companies increasing their efforts to develop and improve their AI capabilities.



Humans are being replaced by AI, at many stores, banks, and customer service departments. At many stores most checkout clerks will be replaced by AI.

Microsoft (MS) Word is rolling out a new spelling checker. Instead of the wavy red line for misspelled words there will now be a purple wavy line for politically incorrect words and phrases which involve age, sex, or cultural bias according to the programmers.

China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea are some of the state actors engaging in a race to improve and increase their Artificial Intelligence (AI) capabilities.

Each of these state actors is developing AI to attack or harm US computer systems, power plants, pipelines, ships, troops, cities, and ports. Both US and Chinese military officials have voiced apprehension that increased use of AI systems could lead to accidental or unintended conflicts increasing the risks of escalation.

China has recently developed unmanned military drones which can launch missiles without human control. These military drones include a stealth battle drone and an unmanned drone bomber. China's latest military drone is the Wing



Loong II. It is armed with a laser-guided BA-7 missile. This air to surface missile is believed to be one of the world's most powerful anti-tank missiles. Military officials believe that these drones, and others which have not yet been developed, could lead to an AI race to further expand drone warfare and increase the likelihood of unintentional military conflict, or war.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the world we live in. AI is altering the way we pay our bills, shop, and, potentially, how we go to war. Our future will include AI.

Technology is increasing so rapidly that defensive warfare may not be able to keep up with AI threats. Our country and defense firms should make certain that American technology stays in American hands. Our universities, technology and defense firms need to redouble their efforts to maintain the security of this technology and not allow our adversaries: state actors, terrorists, or criminal syndicates, access to it. America's national security depends upon rigorous vigilance!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Military Memes

"The secret to Birthdays is to pick one you like and stick to it!" ...Snoopy

1 December	Lt Col Al Johnson
2 December	LTC Paul Bauereis
3 December	CPT Paul Sermas
4 December	HPM David Merton
7 December	LT Joe Applewhite
9 December	MAJ Marshall Miles
11 December	RADM Cub Amos
12 December	MG Willard Latham
13 December	HPM Jacob Paleschic
16 December	LT Robert Betts
17 December	HRM Jeff Stevens
20 December	LT Jon Jackson
21 December	LTC James Blunk
21 December	LTC Chuck Chamberlin
21 December	COL Ron Forest
21 December	HPM Mary Hayes
21 December	Maj Terry Thorsen
24 December	COL Ron Barker
24 December	COL Gary Hoebeke
28 December	2LT Brandon Hern
28 December	LT Tommie Williams
31 December	COL Steve Minear



Your Chapter in Action, November 2022



Chapter Commander Michael Menefee presented a Certificate of Appreciation to our Speaker former UH-1D pilot, CPT Colin Cahoon



LtCol Menefee inducted two new PATRIOTS into the Chapter. On the left, Michael, Mark Rutledge, and his Sponsor Trey Fife. Next, Ron Forest brought in Chris Ingelido.



Despite cancellation of the Parade due to rain, the Veterans Day Eleventh Hour ceremony proceeded inside of City Hall. Left is Gary Littrell, recipient of the Medal of Honor, who was our Parade Grand Marshal. Right, is Command Sergeant Major Gretchen Evans, our Keynote Speaker.



The event opened with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem sung by a member of the Texas Air National Guard.



Prior to the speeches, a dozen recruits took the Oath of Office and joined the US Armed Forces.



Parade Chairman, Col Dave Iversen presented a Special Award to long time Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson for her many years of public service.



All stood proudly, hands over the heart or at "Attention" as they recited the Pledge of Allegiance



The ceremony concluded with the playing of TAPS



Formalities over, the participants adjourned to Nick and Sam's Restaurant to Salute those who have served, those who are serving, and those who paid the ultimate price.

Chaplain's Message

God's Greatest Gift

The prophet Isaiah foretold the giving of God's greatest gift -- His only begotten son.

He said, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given." (Isaiah 9:6)



Jesus Christ is the most notable figure on the pages of history.

His birthday gave the world a new era, dividing the past from the future at a focal point.

His spirit has given the world its most immortal paintings.

His love has inspired the world's masterpieces of art, sculpture and music.

His influence has inspired the world's greatest philanthropies.

More books have been written about Him than have been written of all of the Kings who have ruled from earthly thrones.

In Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah prophesized: "and this shall be called wonderful".

He is truly God's greatest gift to mankind.

Let us truly celebrate his birth at this season of the year.

Chaplain Jamie Malakoff

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendar

6 December – Christmas Banquet

Companions will meet at the Park City Club to celebrate "the reason for the season".



11 Dec – NDBS Briefing

General Kevin Chilton, former Commander of USAF Space Command, will provide an update on the newest warfighting domain: SPACE.



17 Dec – Wreaths Across America

Companions will meet at the DFW National Cemetery to place wreaths on hundreds of military headstones.



25 Dec – Christmas 2022

Companions will gather with family and friends to celebrate the 2022nd anniversary of the birthday of Jesus.



1 Jan – New Year's Day 2023

Four Bowl Games and a fridge full of leftovers.

Happy New Year.



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