

Dallas Military Order News



Volume 32, No. 8

Best Large Chapter in the Nation

February 2024



The first order of business to begin the New Year was the presentation of two generous checks to the Dallas Chapter. The first was from **Larry Allen** (!) the Chair of our Wreaths Across America fundraising drive that placed wreaths on headstones throughout the DFW Veterans Cemetery in December. Next, fellow Companion **Ben Cervin** donated an even larger check which is the first in our 2024 campaign to sponsor as many as 50 high school students to this summer's MOWW Youth Leadership Conferences. Please take the time to thank these Companions, and then join them in supporting our Outreach activities.

This Month's Program

"Initiatives of the Bush Presidential Library"

Kenneth Austin is a Charter Docent of the George W. Bush Presidential Center at SMU. The Center includes the Bush Library and Museum which is operated by the National Archives and Records Administration and the Bush Institute which focuses on the Center's "Initiatives" for strengthening democracy and advancing free societies.



Kenneth Austin

Among many other programs is the Initiative on *Veteran's Affairs*. Ken will include an update on the Initiative and an overview of special exhibits planned for 2024 that will feature copies of some of the most important documents of freedom of all time (the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence, and the Emancipation Proclamation).

Kenneth has a Bachelor of Science in History and Political Science from Texas A&M and a Master degree in History from North Texas University. He taught history and politics at various schools for over 39 years.

The Commander's Report

"It is better to serve than to be served."

2024 will be a year that rocks! Soon after our first chapter meeting, your staff and I started working on implementing a few changes to start out the year.



LT Natan Ton That

The staff voted to fulfill our commitment to the National Defense Briefing series (NDBS) by purchasing a table at the final NDBS session of 2023.

Eight Companions were chosen to attend the final session of the second season in the NDBS series, the highlight of which was the presentation of the "Congressman Sam Johnson *Defender of Freedom* Award" to Mr. Darcy Anderson Vice Chairman of the Hillwood Foundation, a charitable arm of the family of the late, H. Ross Perot, Jr. Following remarks by Mr. Anderson, guests were treated to a "fireside chat" between former Ambassador to the United Nations, Kay Bailey Hutchinson, and former Commander of US Forces in Europe, General Mike Scaparrotti.

Commander's Report (continued)

I urge all of you to continue to support this magnificent NDBS program. In addition to an excellent social gathering, it has become a windfall *fundraising* event for our chapter which will allow us to continue to conduct even more Outreach activities in our community.

My second change pertains to staff members: I prefer *in-person* attendance but will continue to make Zoom sessions available for those unable to meet in person.

Let us continue to Pray for peace in the Middle East. The longer that conflict persists, the greater the possibility of it spiraling out of control.

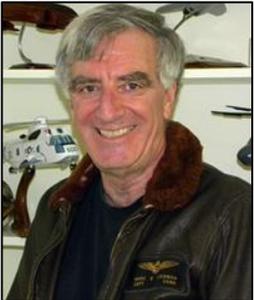
LT Natan Ton-That

Dallas Chapter Commander

Last Month's Program, Jan 2024

“Iran: Go-To Sponsor of Terrorists”

Captain Marc Liebman presented a sobering analysis of the Global War on Terrorism, emphasizing the role of Iran as the leading sponsor of terrorist organizations in the world today. Virtually every antisemitic group in the Middle East receives arms, ammunition and massive funding from the leadership in Tehran.



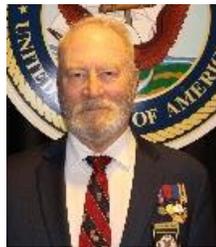
Capt (USN) Marc Liebman

His detailed slides covered a host of military, political, and economic data that included irrefutable evidence that the mullahs in Iran will not be satisfied with anything less than a Palestinian state in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Companion Down

The Winter Blahs Strike again.

Our Marshal Pat Teipel was hospitalized with a severe case of pneumonia and an extreme reaction to drug medications. After a heavy dose of TLC, he rallied and is now resting and recovering at home.



**Old School
Well Wishes**

Our Chaplain reports that Rob O'Brien has returned to his office but faces numerous additional operations and long term physical therapy.



Allen Clark's wife, Linda, is recovering from surgery which has added the title, Intensive Care Nurse, to his long list of responsibilities.

Chapter Committee Reports

Patriotic Education (Greg Schmitz). Our YLC programs cost \$350 per student. Our goal is to send 50+ students. How can you help?

- 1) Volunteer to conduct interviews at local high schools to nominate students.
- 2) Sponsor one - or more - students.
- 3) Solicit financial support from your corporate contacts. If you would like to volunteer or need additional info, please contact Greg.



Reserve Officer Training (Mark Smits). The chapter is working closely with the independent school districts of north Dallas in support of Senior & Junior ROTC end of year Awards programs.



Scouting (Bill Farmer). The chapter will have presented 140 GSA Gold awards and over 100 BSA Eagle awards by June 2024.



Veterans Affairs (Allen Clark). The chapter has invited Ken Austin, Director of the Veterans Affairs Initiative of the George W. Bush Presidential Center to brief us on their program of events for 2024.



Law and Order (Chuck Daniels). The chapter presented our Certificate of Appreciation to the Dallas Officer of the Month at the January supper meeting of the Dallas Police Community Awards Committee.



National Security (Michael Menefee). Michael continues to submit articles for publication in the Chapter Newsletter. See his February article on page 4.



Homeland Security (Bob Epstein). Bob participated in a brief overview of the new National DHS "Active Shooter" awareness program. You must be prepared to react instantly in an active shooter situation.



Information & Publicity (Martha Cenkeci). Marti provided national headquarters a report on our Bronze Patrick Henry awards to JROTC cadets, which was published in the Jan-Feb 2024 *Officer Review* magazine.



Upcoming Luncheon Speakers

Chapter Programs Just Keep Getting Better

**6 Feb 24 – “The Bush Initiative on Veterans Affairs”
Kenneth Austin, George W. Bush Presidential Center**

**5 Mar 24 – “SitRep on China”
Viet Luong, Major General, US Army (Ret)**

**2 Apr 24 – “
To Be Announced**

“America’s veterans have taken on the toughest tasks imaginable. Now it’s our turn to help them.”

— *President George W. Bush*

Government programs, corporations, more than 45,000 philanthropic organizations and millions of individuals are committed to improving veterans’ quality of life.

The “Stand To” Initiative of the Bush Presidential Center focuses on Veterans and is aimed at accomplished leaders from diverse sectors across the country who are motivated to increase their impact in supporting our Nation’s veterans. Scholars include active-duty service members, veterans, and civilians from different backgrounds.



Michael Bailey, Manager Leadership Programs

Michael Bailey serves as Senior Program Manager, Leadership Programs, for the George W. Bush Institute. In this role, he manages the Stand-To Veteran Leadership Program, which focuses on developing the leadership skills of veterans, those who serve, and their families.



National Defense Briefing Series

Click [HERE](#) to view NDBS Seasons 1 & 2



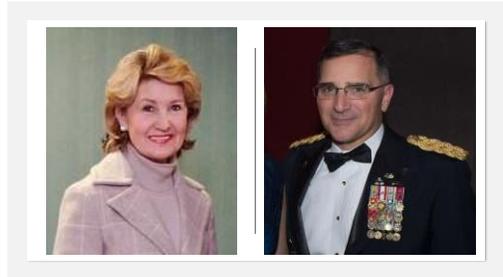
NDBS
NATIONAL DEFENSE BRIEFING SERIES

Stay tuned for the future Line-up of Distinguished Speakers in this outstanding National Defense Briefing series.

The 2024 Recipient of the National Defense Briefing Series “*Defender of Freedom*” award is Darcy Anderson. He is the Vice Chairman of Hillwood Management, working closely with Ross Perot Jr. on the Perot family’s real estate, oil and gas and investment business projects.

Darcy is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He completed five years of active duty in the United States Army.

Following the award ceremony, the NDBS committee arranged for a “*Fireside Chat*” between Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchinson** and General **Mike Scaparrotti** (former Commander of the US European Command).



This chat may prove to have been the finest political and military exchange of strategic insights in the entire series of presentations. In two short seasons, the NDBS program has grown from a nascent opportunity to gain new insights on critical international affairs into its current outstanding track record of illustrious world class leaders.

If you have not yet attended one of these sessions, you are missing one of the best kept seminars in North Texas.

National Defense Blog Series

Click [HERE](#) to view Marc Liebman’s Blog

Marc writes on current events and provides an excellent overview of international threats to our national security.

<https://marcliebman.com/category/blog/>

Dallas Companions in the News

LTC Greg Schmitz, US Army (Ret)

LTC Greg Schmitz was born in Portsmouth, Iowa.



He is a 1976 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil and Mechanical Engineering. He was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers and served six years on active duty. He

later attended the University of Dallas, where he earned a Master of Business Administration degree in Engineering Management.

Greg joined Texas Instruments in Dallas in 1982 and worked there for 16 years, eventually rising to the position of Manufacturing Manager.

In 1998, Greg became the Director of Operations and Supplier Development for Chorom Technologies. A telecommunications startup, where he managed the operations and infrastructure build-up.

In 2001, Greg became Vice President of Sales and Operations for Brilliant Technologies. For the next six years he was responsible for all new business development, sales, and operations planning and execution.

In 2007, Greg became Director of Inventory Optimization and Logistics for OsteoMed. He managed a \$26 million inventory for sales representatives and distributors, surgery centers, and hospitals, marketing tradeshow workshops.

Greg is supervising the selection of students who will attend the 2024 Youth Leadership Conferences of our Patriotic Education outreach program.

Greg and his wife, Barbara, have been married for 47 years, have two married daughters, four grandchildren, and live in Dallas.

LTC Justin Wolf, US Air Force

LT Justin Derek Wolf was born and raised on a working farm in southern York County, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, with emphasis in gas turbine theory and rocket propulsion. He received his commission from the Penn State Air Force ROTC program.



ated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, with emphasis in gas turbine theory and rocket propulsion. He received his commission from the Penn State Air Force ROTC program.

Lieutenant Wolf spent the majority of his 4 years active duty assigned to the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), both at UN headquarters, supporting missile inspection teams, and deployed to Iraq 7 times to hunt for weapons of mass destruction, for which he was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his actions in Iraq.

After serving his country in uniform, Justin graduated from Columbia School of Business, with an MBA focused in finance and entrepreneurship. He worked for the International Netherlands Group (ING) as an investment banker in the Renewable Resources department.

Later, he was the Manager of a team of over 40 technicians in Bank of America's technology group, who were responsible for the bank's wire transfer platform. After that, he was Director of all North America projects for the Brinks Corporation. In his spare time, he currently owns a wine importation company.

Justin serves as Director of Operations for a small network of physical rehabilitation clinics in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. He is also an active member and graduate of the Save a Warrior Foundation.

Justin and his wife, Katya, live in Irving, and are proud Texas transplants.

National Defense Report

XI JINPING PURGES LEADERSHIP OF CHINA'S NUCLEAR ROCKET FORCE

By LtCol Michael W. Menefee, USMCR (Ret)

Xi Jinping is the president of the People's Republic of China (PRC). His additional official titles are - General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), and Chairman of the Central Military Commission (China's top military command). He is also the communist dictator of China. Xi aspires to replace the US as the preeminent world superpower – militarily, economically, and politically.



The People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China is the largest in the world. Xi replaced nine PLA officials on 29 December 2023 from the National People's Congress. Five of the replaced officers were linked to the Rocket Force. Xi Jinping replaced the head of the PLA's nuclear arsenal Rocket Force, with General Wang Houbin. General Xu Xisheng is his new deputy and political commissar.



This is the largest unplanned military leadership restructuring in nearly a decade and is important because China is undergoing dramatic changes to its nuclear strategy. Three of the executives removed were state-owned defense contractors who manufactured ballistic missiles, and this purge indicates the corruption and graft of military procurement within the Rocket Forces.

Xi has previously emphasized exposing corruption and reducing patronage networks. Military intelligence analysts believe there is massive corruption within Xi's Chinese state; however, some analysts also believe his clean-up efforts may erode or reduce the power he is trying to consolidate. Xi's "purge" may be to replace generals less willing to wage war with more aggressive generals who are willing to be loyal to Xi and conduct a war with Taiwan.

Many military analysts do not believe China could successfully invade Taiwan. China has fiscal issues of a deteriorating economy. It faces an aging workforce, a slowing employment market, reduced foreign investments, declining global demand for exports, and a slowing real estate market. Chinese stock markets have experienced a downturn of trillions of dollars of stock losses since late 2023. Additionally, the US is likely to deter Chinese aggressions and ambitions toward Taiwan. China may not have the amphibious ships necessary to invade Taiwan, and lastly, Taiwan just elected a pro-independence president in free elections.



Beijing has had recent clashes with India along its long border with China, as well as island and territorial water disputes with Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam which these countries claim as their own. China is also carefully observing the international reaction to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. These are serious considerations China must study before it invades Taiwan.

The Chinese communist danger can only be met with strong leadership from the US. Corporate globalists, US politicians, professors, journalists, military, and diplomats must recognize and stand up to this Chinese threat. Before any warfare starts between communist mainland China and Taiwan, the US must make its intentions known. Regional wars tend to spill over to surrounding territories which expand the conflict. China has observed the problems that Russia has had with Ukraine. A US response must include a forceful political and military will, as well as the economic might of the US economy. The US is the only country in the world that can economically or militarily challenge China. It is the only country that could launch a deterrent plan of action to counter the Chinese threat. Without strong US resolve and determination, China will continue to be a US enemy with aims to control the world. Only a strong US economy and military will prevent the nightmare of Chinese global dominance.

Information for this article was gathered from Open Sources – books, media, published articles, charts, and the general knowledge of the author. There is no classified information in this article, no known quotations from any sources, websites, or graphs, and this article does not have footnotes or endnotes due to its brevity. Any views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or positions of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) or the Dallas Chapter of MOWW.

Lighten Up



WHY

Is there a penguin on the helipad?



THE U.S NAVY

Need I say more?

DONT KNOW WHAT IT IS. DONT CARE.



I WANT ONE!!!

Happy Birthday

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

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1 February | LT COL Bob Little |
| 2 February | BG Thomas Kula |
| 2 February | MR Steve Neumeier |
| 3 February | CPT Al Lisi, Jr |
| 4 February | COL James Vineyard |
| 7 February | MAJ Lannie Hughes |
| 7 February | LTC Allen West |
| 9 February | LTC Edwin Dumas |
| 9 February | CAPT John Kutch |
| 10 February | MAJ William Coleman |
| 11 February | CPT Michael Dundon |
| 13 February | Capt P.J. Putnam |
| 15 February | MAJ Robert Pierce, Jr |
| 16 February | COL Paul Beaty |
| 16 February | COL Ken Cordier |
| 18 February | COL Roger Neumann |
| 19 February | LTC Thomas Donnelly |
| 19 February | CAPT Richard Lethe |
| 20 February | CAPT Claude Williams |
| 21 February | LT Richard Herrick |
| 25 February | Col David Howe |
| 25 February | LT Lewis Willis |



Your Dallas Chapter, JAN 2024.



Chapter Commander LT Natan Ton That swore in Meredith Walker as our 320th Perpetual Hereditary Companion. She is the wife of



Natan then awarded an Outstanding Service medal to Companion Greg Schmitz for his contributions in support of our Youth Leadership Conferences.



Natan presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Capt (USN) Marc Liebman for his outstanding summary of the strategic issues at stake in the Middle East.



Natan also presented an Outreach medal to Paul Divis who has volunteered to assist in the planning and execution of this year's ROTC Awards ceremonies.



Our Homeland Security Chairman, Bob Epstein takes his training so seriously, he recently participated in a trap shooting competition in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.



Our Chaplain James Grogan and his wife Kathie shared a photo taken at church with their children during a Veterans Day salute to military service. According to Katherine the kids excited to see their Dad honored.

The Chaplain's Corner



The Month of Love

Well, the month of love is upon us. It's time for St. Valentine.

On February 14th, a card, roses or candy are always appreciated. Those are symbolic gestures of love. In the same way, the Lord loves his children.

In Psalm 33 we are told that His unfailing love fills the earth. We should stand in awe of Him. The Lord's plan stands firm forever and his intentions can never be shaken.

"What joy for the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people he has chosen as his inheritance." (Psalm 33:12)

He observes all who live on the Earth, and he watches over all who love him. When we put our hope in the Lord, he is our sword and our shield.

So, let us rejoice in the Lord as we put our trust in Him. *"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say rejoice."* (Philippians 4:4.) They who trust in the Lord will lack no good thing. We can always take refuge in him while we search for peace. *"Let us keep our tongues from speaking evil and our lips from telling lies."* (Psalm 34:13).

We live in America; how can we not rejoice? We have the blessing of freedom of religion, and Congress can make no law to change that. Let's appreciate our country and always love it.

James Grogan
Chapter Chaplain

Mark Your Calendar

February Events

Chapter Lunch, 6 Feb 24



Kenneth Austin speaks on "Veterans Initiative at the Bush Presidential Center."

[Click HERE](#) to register.

Future Events

Chapter Lunch, 5 Mar 24



Major General Viet Luong speaks on "The Threat of China in Southeast Asia."

YLC Interviews, Apr/May 24



Companions will interview over 200 students in order find the 50 best to attend our Youth Leadership Conferences

[Click HERE](#) to volunteer.

ROTC Awards, Apr/May 24



Companions will present Senior and Junior ROTC medals to outstanding Cadets at the end of their academic year. Cadets in Senior ROTC programs receive either gold, silver, or bronze medals.

Museum Opening, 17 Mar 25



Ribbon cutting and Grand Opening of the Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, next to World Series Champions Texas Rangers ballpark.

Command and Staff, FY 2024

Commander
Natan Ton-That
LT, US Army
214-548-1179
natanmoww@gmail.com



Senior Vice Commander
Mark Smits
CPT, US Army
972-342-8904
mmwsmits@aol.com



Junior Vice Commander
Currently open, awaiting a volunteer.

If not you, who?
If not now, when?

Adjutant
Brandon Hern
LT, US Army
214-901-4874
brandon@imctx.com



Treasurer
David Wallace
Capt, US Air Force
571-379-0256
dwwallace11@yahoo.com



Judge Advocate
John VanBuskirk
MAJ, US Army
214-321-5101
johnc47@tx.rr.com



Marshal
Pat Teipel
Perpetual Hereditary
469-583-8714
Pteipel11@gmail.com



Surgeon
Fred Aurbach
CPT (Dr), US Army
214-793-2065
drfred@drfredaurbach.com



Chaplain
James Grogan
CPT (Dr), US Army
469-585-9622
docharley-dav@sbcglobal.net



Special Operations
Don Munson
LTC, US Army
972-971-1413
don.munson@tx.rr.com



dallasmoww.org