



# Dallas Military Order News



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Best Chapter Newsletter in the Nation

May 2020



Excerpt of a painting depicting the crossing of the Waal River, under fire, in the vicinity of Nijmegen, Netherlands, September 1944. In the center is actor John Ratzenberger, who portrayed Platoon Leader, James Megellas (from the movie: "A Bridge Too Far").

## Passing of a legend

### Maggie makes his final jump (1917-2020)

James (Maggie) Megellas was born in Fond du Lac, WI, on March 11, 1917. Upon graduation from Ripon College, he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, but following graduation from Airborne School in 1942, he transferred to the **Infantry** and became a Platoon Leader in H Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division.



LTC James (Maggie) Megellas, most decorated officer in the history of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division

His first combat jump was into the mountains of Italy, north of Naples. he was later wounded on

the beaches of Anzio. Maggie rejoined his unit in time to participate in Operation Market - Garden, the jump into Holland (reenacted in the movie, *A Bridge Too Far*).

Maggie took part in the crossing of the [Waal River](#), near [Nijmegen](#), where the American forces crossed the river in flimsy boats, while under heavy machine gun fire. During the fighting, Megellas single-handedly attacked and silenced a German machine gun nest. For this action, he was awarded the U.S. military's second-highest award for Valor, the **Distinguished Service Cross**.

He had been a member of the Dallas Chapter of MOWW for many years and was frequently honored by his Companions for his lifetime of service.

Maggie Megellas, age **103**, died at his home in Colleyville, Texas, on April 2, 2020.

### The Chapter Commander's Message

MY FELLOW COMPANIONS. I want to talk with you about four different matters today.



#### 5 May Luncheon Meeting Cancellation

I would remind each of you that in compliance with the National Commander in Chief's Order, dated 27 Mar 20, directing all MOWW Chapters to STAND DOWN and suspend all in-person meetings for the period of 30 Mar 20 through 30 May 20, the **May Dallas Chapter in person Luncheon Meeting is cancelled**. Essential chapter business will be conducted via e-mail or on-line.

#### 1-2 May Region VIII Conference Cancellation

The Region VIII Conference on 1 - 2 May is *cancelled* in compliance with the National Commander in Chief Order, dated 27 March 2020, directing suspension of all in-person Meetings for the period of 30 March 20 through 30 May 20. The Region Commander has begun to locate a hotel for the Conference during this coming September or October 2020.

#### 2020 Youth Leadership Conferences Cancellation

The decision has been made by Region VIII and the Texas Patriotic Education Foundation, Inc. that all 2020 MOWW Youth Leadership Conferences during this summer are *cancelled*. We are indebted to all YLC Directors who stepped up to plan and execute the 2020 Youth Leadership Conferences for Region VIII. Planning will be reset and continue for the 2021 Youth Leadership Programs. The value of these life changing programs to many young, soon to mature high school students, is too valuable to not plan to conduct Conferences for next year.

**Allow me to Reiterate:** The MAY Luncheon of the Dallas Chapter is **CANCELLED**.

## Patience and Persistence

Our setbacks caused by this microscopic enemy are disappointing. However, this is not the first time that Texans have faced obstacles to their future. I am reminded that we have just finished celebrating San Jacinto Day, on 21 April.

In the early 1800's, Settlers came to the Mexican Territory seeking opportunities for their future. They found a major obstacle in Santa Anna and were required to fight and die for their future.

When the Alamo fell, on 6 March, Sam Houston was chosen to lead the army. Although he was strongly criticized by many of his fellow *Texicans*, he determined to protect the Army by keeping his men in isolation by retreating into East Texas woods, until they could win the battle ahead.

On 21 April 1836, Houston turned this army around to confront an overwhelming enemy at San Jacinto and won the day.



General Sam Houston dictates the terms of surrender to Mexican General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, following the Battle of San Jacinto, 21 April 1836.

Today, we are faced with a different type of enemy, but we must follow the lead of Sam Houston by having the patience to sequester and isolate until the odds are in our favor to prevail against this new microscopic enemy that wants to take our very lives and our economic opportunities.

To this virus, we say: **“Don’t Mess with Texas”**.

Companions **STAND TALL** and protect yourselves, your families and friends by doing everything possible to **not** spread this virus.

Paul W. Brown  
Commander *Emeritus*  
Dallas Chapter, MOWW

Until we can meet again, take care and God Bless.

## Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

**5 May 20 –Elaine Cesare, Drug Enforcement Agency  
*THIS LUNCHEON IS CANCELLED***

**2 Jun 20 – Scott Murray, Renown News Analyst  
*"A Nostalgic Return to Normandy"*  
(plus, Installation of Commander & Staff for FY 2021)**

**7 Jul 20 – Brenda Culpepper, Rockwall County DA  
*"Law Enforcement in North Texas"***

**4 Aug 20 –Dr. Stephen Holt, Dir, Dallas VA Hospital  
*"80 Years of Helping Military Veterans "***

**1 Sep 20 –BG Tom Kula, USA (Ret) N TX Water District  
*"The Omnipresent Threat of Flooding"***

**6 Oct 20 –Tom Clark, Attorney at Law  
*"The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals "***

### Veterans Helping Veterans

## Air Force Assn gives to local Vet Organizations

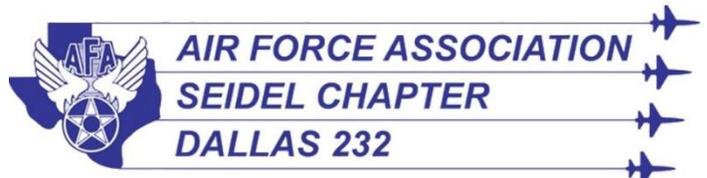
The Seidel Chapter of the Air Force Association was in the middle of a successful Golf Tournament fundraiser when the coronavirus hit. Chapter President, **Lt Gen John Campbell**, convinced his chapter to commit to using the funds to support local nonprofit charities that aid our veterans, during the crisis.

Thanks to his chapter's support, the AFA has thus far distributed **\$5,000** to the Veterans Center of North Texas and to the Dallas Veterans Resource Center.

*If you are willing and able, General Campbell invites you to add your gift to AFA's philanthropy which will benefit military veterans, who are in desperate need.*

**The Seidel Chapter will match your donation!**  
**(Double the bang for your bucks)**

To contribute go to: [www.afadallas.org](http://www.afadallas.org)



LT Gen John Campbell, current President of the Seidel Chapter of the Air Force Association

## Threats to the United States Space Force

by Michael Menefee, LtCol, USMC (Ret)

In 2019, a DIA report stated China and Russia are developing capabilities and systems intended to directly challenge or threaten US space dominance. In 2018, there were over 1,800 active satellites in orbit. Nine countries and one international organization have the capability to independently launch orbital spacecraft. These countries are: US, China, Russia, Japan, India, Israel, South Korea, North Korea, and Iran. The international European Space Agency has launched satellites, independently, from French Guiana.

China and Russia are developing systems to defeat or counter US dominance in space-based systems. Many US military operations are dependent on space capabilities and operations. Among them: communications, geolocation, missile launch warning, global navigation, targeting, and tracking adversarial actions.

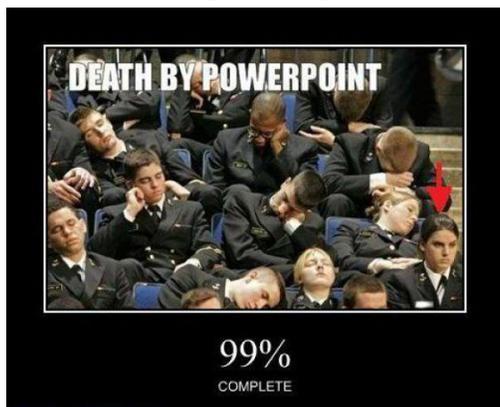
China is rapidly growing its space programs and militarizing its commercial space technologies. DIA is also concerned that China is developing programs for its military satellites, namely antisatellite weapons, cyber threats, directed energy weapons, electronic warfare, kinetic energy threats, orbital threats, and space situational awareness.

China is also planning to expand its human spaceflight and lunar exploration programs. China expert, Dr. Michael Pillsbury, has said Chinese engineers appear to have intentionally built their space station so it will not interface with US counterparts. They do not want to collaborate with the US in space operations.

In 2007, China used a ground-based antisatellite weapon to blast a weather satellite out of orbit. China gave no warning of its action but had repeatedly told US intelligence officials they did not have the capability, nor were they developing one.

### Humor in Uniform

#### As seen through the eyes of the Warriors



China's military strategy is to dominate a "maritime military struggle" outside of its borders by conducting joint air, land, sea, space, cyberspace, and electromagnetic operations. China believes space superiority is a key component to dominate the information sphere.

Russia has a more restricted space program budget than China. It sees its long-time space history as an international symbol of its global leadership. Russian doctrine employs air, ground, and space-based systems to target an adversary's satellites by jamming, sensor blinding, and destroying enemy spacecraft. They also target infrastructure to deter aggression by an adversary whom they deem is reliant on space.

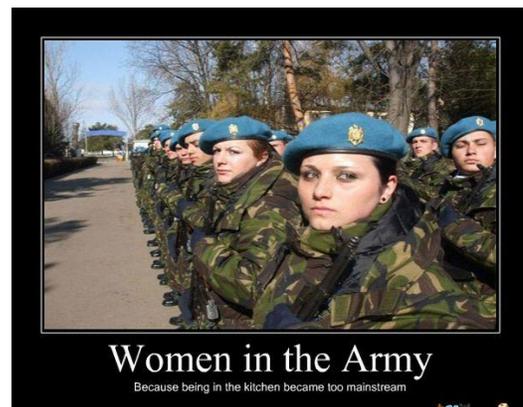
The Russians plan to use selective targeting of space systems to prevent escalation of a conflict, and deny communications, EW, photo imagery, and navigation. Russia considers space as a warfighting domain and may be developing ground-based missiles capable of destroying orbiting satellites.

Russia believes space forces will expand and are concerned about space weaponization. The Russians created their own Space Force in 2015 by merging the Russian Air Force with their Aerospace Defense Troops.

China has the second largest number of operational satellites and its development of dual-use technologies makes it more difficult for our intelligence community to discern hostile or peaceful intent. Both China and Russia have developed strong and capable space services. These capabilities include cyberspace, jamming, directed energy weapons, and ground-based antisatellite missiles. These proficiencies enable them to monitor, track, and target the US, and its allies. DIA is concerned about US space vulnerabilities and understands space dominance is a national security necessity.

### Humor in Uniform

#### Not Politically Correct



# Happy Birthday, Companions

**“People who have the most birthdays –**

**Live the longest”**

1 May`	LTC Guillermo Cisneros
1 May	Col Robert Lanham
1 May	HPM Sharon Sexton
2 May `	LT Jack Coleman
3 May `	MR Christopher Adams
3 May `	MR Eric Bradford
4 May	LTC Gilbert Collins
4 May	LT Charles Daniels
7 May	LT William Ferrill III
8 May	Capt Thomas Jones
10 May	Lt Col Paul Pfrommer
10 May	HPM Donna Starnes
11 May	Lt Col Donald Saddler
12 May	HPM Hal Moore III
14 May	MR Terry Brown
14 May	MR Ryan Moss
14 May	Lt Col Don Payne
14 May	LTC James Sammons
15 May	Capt Matthew Neyland
17 May	LTG Ricardo Sanchez
18 May	COL Pete Malik
19 May	MR James Applewhite
19 May	LTC Robert Brown
19 May	LCDR Howard Custer
19 May	LT James Gooch
20 May	Lt Col Phelicia Geary
20 May	Col Christopher Kulas
21 May	MR Robert Epstein
26 May	LTC John Byrns
27 May	LtCol Norm van Gilmore
29 May	MRS Diane Johnson
30 May	MAJ Jack Coleman
30 May	COL Emmett Dubose
31 May	MR William Bradford
31 May	MAJ Beverly Johnson



## National Security awards

### Chapter salutes Dallas' Officers in Blue

On 2 Apr 20, Chapter Commander, Capt (USAF) Paul Brown, was scheduled to give Senior Corporal **Timothy Cordova** (#9309), our Outstanding Service Citation for his selection as Dallas Police Department **Officer of the Month**.

Senior Corporal Cordova is currently assigned to the Traffic Unit as an Accident Investigator.

He has distinguished himself by his exceptional ability to quickly gather information, analyze the scene of the accident, conduct field sobriety tests, and submit comprehensive, accurate reports. He is a superb instructor, who has trained hundreds of recruits in how to perform these critical tasks, while simultaneously, serving as a member of the Dallas Police Choir.

Senior Corporal Cordova is a shining example of why the Dallas Police Department continues to be one of the finest in the Nation

## Companion Down

### When it rains, it pours

Hereditary Perpetual Companion Pat Teipel, former US Army, and most recently, Chairman of the Greater Dallas Veterans Day Parade, entered the hospital to remove some dangerous kidney stones.

Attention seeker that he is, Pat was not content to just undergo surgery, he doubled down by coming up with a laboratory diagnosis of a relatively rare blood infection.

Following several days of constant injections of a cocktail of lethal antibiotics, the angels in white (doctors and nurses) declared him fit to return home, with the requirement to continue consuming large doses of *yucky* pink stuff.

Pat has been one of our most staunch supporters for more than a decade and has been awarded numerous accolades for his contributions to the Chapter, the City of Dallas and the North Texas community at-large.

He can be reached at **469-583-8714**. Give him a call.

The presentation of the MOWW Certificate of Merit has been delayed because Dallas Police Officers have been restricted from attending any non-essential meetings because of COVID-19. The Chapter will deliver the Certificate to the DPD Liaison Officer for delivery to Senior Corporal Timothy Cordova.



Pat Teipel presenting a Dallas Parade coin to the legendary US Rep Sam Johnson

**Notice: Next Commander's Staff Meeting will be held, virtually, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in May, pending the lifting of restrictions caused by the Corona virus.**



## The Lord is my Shepherd

How is your faith holding up in this time of quarantine, social distancing, and economic turbulence?

When shaken or unsettled, it is best to turn to the anchors in our lives, including our favorite passages of Scripture.

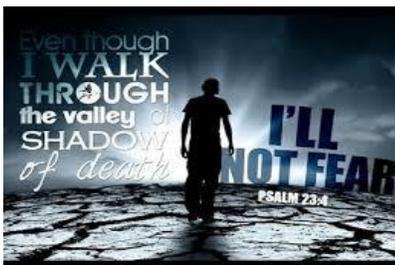
For generations upon generations, people of faith have turned to **Psalm 23** to still their troubled hearts.

This Psalm of David reminds us that as our Shepherd, the Lord will provide us with everything we need; that no matter what our circumstances, we can find rest beside quiet waters; and that eternal life in the Lord's house awaits us, if we choose to believe.

David was no stranger to strife, suffering, or sin. Yet his intimacy with God brought him peace.

May God's peace, likewise, dwell in each of your hearts.

*Jamie Malakoff*  
Chapter Chaplain



## Another Companion Down

**MG McCarter is recovering**  
Dallas Perpetual Companion, Major General Harvey McCarter (USAF, Ret), at the tender age of 86, is battling arterial fibrillation (*a-fib*) and blocked arteries.

He and the doctors are debating the pros and cons of by-pass surgery.

Meanwhile, according to his wife, Marilyn, he is back from the hospital and meaner than ever.



Maj Gen McCarter rendering his Committee Report at a recent Chapter Luncheon

Harvey enjoys hearing from friends, which is your invitation to pick up the phone and give him a call. Or send him a text, message, or email.

Follow the AT&T motto:  
"Reach Out and Touch Someone..."

Stop what you are doing and make the call! You will be happy you did:

**Harvey McCarter**  
[hjmccarter@grandecom.net](mailto:hjmccarter@grandecom.net)  
**972-549-1003**



Commander-in-Chief LTC Chuck Chamberlin pins an MOWW lapel insignia on Major General Harvey McCarter in recognition of his induction as a **Perpetual Companion** of the Dallas Chapter.

## Command and Staff, FY 2020

**Commander**  
Paul Brown  
Capt, US Air Force  
214-514-5405  
[paul@paulwbrown.com](mailto:paul@paulwbrown.com)



**Senior Vice Commander**  
Mark Kipphut  
Col, US Air Force  
520-668-2216  
[Mark.kipphut@msn.com](mailto:Mark.kipphut@msn.com)



**Junior Vice Commander**  
Charles Daniels  
LT, US Navy  
972-396-1883  
[Cdaniels1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cdaniels1@sbcglobal.net)



**Adjutant**  
Russ Hooper  
LTC, US Army  
214-566-1927  
[rlhooperent@aol.com](mailto:rlhooperent@aol.com)



**Asst Adjutant**  
Quint Avenetti  
CWO5, USMC  
580-583-0000  
[Jbloraine3@gmail.com](mailto:Jbloraine3@gmail.com)



**Treasurer**  
Bill Coleman  
MAJ, US Army  
214-771-1179  
[bill.coleman@php-agent.com](mailto:bill.coleman@php-agent.com)



**JAG**  
PJ Putnam  
Capt., US Air Force  
972-697-5546  
[pjputnam@TexasBizLawyer.com](mailto:pjputnam@TexasBizLawyer.com)



**Marshal**  
Pat Teipel  
Perpetual Hereditary  
469-583-8714  
[tomgarriss@gmail.com](mailto:tomgarriss@gmail.com)



**Surgeon**  
Fred Aurbach  
CPT, US Army  
214-793-2065  
[drfred@drfredaurbach.com](mailto:drfred@drfredaurbach.com)



**Chaplain**  
Jamie Malakoff  
CPT, US Army  
212-203-9260  
[jamie.malakoff@gmail.com](mailto:jamie.malakoff@gmail.com)



**Special Operations**  
Don Munson  
LTC, US Army  
972-471-3499  
[don.munson@tx.rr.com](mailto:don.munson@tx.rr.com)

