



Dallas Military Order News



Volume 26, No. 8

Best Large Chapter in the Nation

February 2018



The Dallas Veterans Day Parade Committee (composed almost entirely of Dallas Chapter Companions) presented awards to the top units in 5 categories. Voted Numbers One, Two, and Three in the active duty category were the Band, Horse Detachment and Honor Guard of the 1st Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, seen here with Chief of Staff of the Army, GEN Mark Milley, & 1st Cav Division CG, MG Paul Calvert.

This Month's Program, February 2018

“Crew 713”, the movie; ...based on a True Story

On July 31, 1944, a B-24 *Liberator* bomber nicknamed *The Irishman's Shanty* returned safely to her home base at North Pickenham, England. Inside she carried the jubilant **Crew 713**. These men had just become the first crew from the **492nd Bomb Group** to complete a 30-mission combat tour.

Seven days later, on August 7th, 1944, the 492nd Bomb Group was removed from combat status. The 492nd had suffered staggering losses. Several deadly missions and old fashioned bad luck combined to plague the Group beginning with their first mission on May 11, 1944. The Group was only in action **89 days**, ...less than 3 months. Of the original 71 crews who arrived at North Pickenham in April of 1944, only 36 crews remained, 3 months later.



To this day the 492nd stands alone as the only heavy American bombardment group to be removed from combat during WWII and remains the only heavy bomb group removed from combat, *due to high losses*, in the proud history of the United States Air Force.

Crew 713 tells the story of this historic crew. The tale of the sad, short and violent history of the 492nd Bomb Group and the men of Crew 713 returns us to the days when massive air armadas went forth to do battle with an implacable foe over the dark skies of Occupied Europe. It is the history of the most mass produced American military aircraft of all time; the Consolidated Manufacturing **B-24 Liberator** bomber, and the courageous men who flew them through terrifying hardships.

Commander's Corner

The ROTC Award of Merit Program is one of the Dallas Chapter's most important functions. The visibility given to our chapter at the high school and university award ceremonies, goes a long way to enhance the image of both the Chapter and our Military Order. Your presence at one of these award programs builds appreciation and good will among parents, community leaders, school administrators, as well as the ROTC and JROTC Instructors, many of whom are either members (or potential members) of our chapter.



We currently support Junior ROTC programs in approximately 60 high schools across the region and Senior ROTC programs at 5 different Texas universities. (Texas A&M offers all four programs (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force).

We need **YOU** Companions to volunteer to assist in presenting medals and Certificates to these outstanding Cadets. We need your help to reach our goal of making all 65 presentations.

Our Chapter has been recognized each year for the past fifteen years for our superb ROTC/JROTC Awards Program. It is up to you to ensure our chapter continues to earn the title of the **Best Large Chapter in the Nation**.

I am asking for you to help in making these presentations. Step up, stand tall, and volunteer to serve.



Recognizing Excellence

The Dallas Chapter will once again present Certificates to as many as **250 Gold Girl Scouts** during the annual Awards Day Breakfast for GS Northeast Texas Council, in *April*. The GSNETX Council supervises the largest collection of GS Troops in the nation.



2017 Girl Scout **Gold** recipients of GS Northeast Texas Council

All the girls who have attained the Gold rank during the previous year, receive their awards during a single ceremony in the Spring. If you would like to attend this colorful affair, contact Chapter Commander LTC Jim Blunk or Vice Commander MG Gary Bunch to ensure a reservation. Admittance is by invitation, only.

Meanwhile, Chapter Scouting Committee Chair, **William Farmer**, continues to set new records in handing out MOWW **BSA Eagle Scout** Citations to troops in both the Lone Star and Circle Ten Councils. Bill is, coincidentally, a member of the Board of both Councils.



Steve Ricks and his Dad, Troop 423, McKinney



Seth Tull and Bill Farmer, Troop 303, Melissa



Some of the **35 BSA Eagle Scout** recipients of the Lone Star Council, Jan 2018

Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

- 6 Feb 18 – Alex Mena, Motion Picture Director**
The Making of the movie: *“Crew 713”*
- 6 Mar 18 – Marc Liebman, Author of Josh Haman series**
“Storm in the Desert, 1991”
- 3 Apr 18 – John Guandolo, National Security Analyst**
“Understanding the Islamic Threat”
- 1 May 18 – BG Paul Owen, CDR, SW Engineer Division**
“Our [Next] Most Precious Resource”
- 5 Jun 18 – LTC Jim Blunk, Chapter Commander**
“Installation of Incoming Command & Staff”
- 3 Jul 18 – Larry Kryske, NY Times Bestselling Author**
“Churchill - from Warrior to War Leader”

Officer of the Month

Chapter salutes Dallas' Finest Officers in Blue

On 26 Jan 18, Past Chapter Commander, Captain Paul Brown, presented Dallas Senior Corporal **Jeff Johnson** (#9564), our Outstanding Service Citation for his selection as January's *Officer of the Month*.

Officer Johnson has served with distinction in the North Central Patrol Division. His actionable intelligence led to the arrests of numerous violent criminals throughout the DFW Metroplex, while his innovations in interdepartmental communications resulted in reduced response times and increased apprehensions in mutual support of other DPD Divisions.



Captain Paul Brown presents the MOWW Certificate of Commendation to Dallas Police Senior Corporal **Jeff Johnson**

Attention Chapter Staff:

The Chapter Command and Staff meeting will be held in the Frontier of Flight Museum Conference Room, on Thursday, 15 FEB 18, at 1:30 p.m.

Please make every effort to attend this Command and Staff Planning Session.

KNOW YOUR COMPANIONS

Captain Barbara Butcher, US Army

Barbara Carr Butcher was born in Aurora, Colorado, but raised in M Midwest City, OK, just outside of Tinker AFB. She attended the University of Oklahoma on an Army ROTC scholarship. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Microbiology and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps.



LT Butcher was an Ambulance Platoon Leader and Company Commander in the 5th Medical Battalion, Fort Polk, LA, from 1980-1982. Following graduation from the Walter Reed Army Medical Center; she became a Certified Medical Technologist and was assigned to Raymond W Bliss Army Medical Center, Fort Huachuca, AZ, as a Laboratory Officer.

On 13 June 1988, her husband, Jeff proposed, and she resigned her commission. Since leaving the Army, she has spent 20 years in service to the Boy Scouts, four of her sons are Eagle Scouts. She currently serves as a Genealogy Merit Badge Counselor and a Cub Scout Wolf Den Leader. For over 30 years, she has been a Mentor for the Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome Foundation, helping others learn how to live with a heart defect called *Long QT Syndrome*.

Barbara is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, a graduate of *Leadership Plano*, and a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. She teaches, tutors, and supports band, theater, choir, sports, and work activities.

Barbara and her husband, Jeff, have been married for 30 years, and have 8 children. The youngest graduated from high school, last year. Two of their sons are currently serving in the military. Daniel, an Air Force Academy graduate, is stationed at Davis Monthan AFB, AZ as a Civil Engineer. Timothy is an Army Combat Medic stationed at Fort Benning, GA.

Barbara's father was a pilot in the *Army Air Corps* and her oldest brother, a graduate of the Air Force Academy, flew F-111's. Her second brother flew C-130's for the Air Force and Air National Guard until his premature death.

Captain Jeff Butcher, US Army

Captain Jeffery Butcher was born in Tampa, FL and raised in Massillon, OH. He graduated from West Point in 1985, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Field Artillery. He later earned a Master's degree in Systems Management from the U. of Southern California.



After Artillery Officers Basic Course, Jeff was assigned to Augsburg, Germany, in a Corps Artillery 8-inch howitzer battery, as a battery Fire Direction Officer, Platoon Leader, and Battery Executive Officer. His greatest accomplishment in Germany was meeting, and marrying, the beautiful Captain Barbara Carr!

Upon his return stateside, he branch-transferred to Quartermaster Corps and attended the QM Officers Advanced Course at Ft. Lee VA, after which he was assigned to the Eagle Support Brigade at Fort Campbell, KY, in support of the 101st Airborne Division, initially as the Battalion Operations Officer, later as Commander of the Headquarters Company for the Brigade, which he led during Operation Desert Storm, in 1991. After returning from Desert Storm, he was as an Associate Professor of Military Science at the U. of Arizona.

Jeff resigned his commission in 1992 and took a job as an energy analyst for Fina Oil and Chemical Company of Big Spring, TX. He transferred to their corporate office in Dallas, in 1994. Next, he joined Texas Instruments where he worked for the next 22 years. In 2017 he became a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones.

Like Barbara, he has been involved with Boy Scouts for nearly 30 years. He, too, is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and is currently serving as the Bishop for the 7th Ward in Plano.

Jeff's father graduated from the US Army Jump School, exactly 30 years, to the month, before Jeff earned his wings. His Dad was a paratrooper in the famous 101st Airborne Division, during the Korean War.

Happy Birthday, Companions

“With Age, Wisdom comes” Yoda



- 1 February LT COL Bob Little
- 2 February BG Thomas Kula
- 2 February MR Stephen Neumeier
- 3 February CPT Al Lisi, Jr
- 4 February COL James Vineyard
- 7 February MAJ Lannie Hughes
- 7 February MAJ GEN Harvey McCarter
- 7 February LTC Allen West
- 9 February LTC Edwin Dumas
- 9 February CAPT John Kutch
- 10 February MAJ William Coleman
- 15 February MAJ Robert Pierce, Jr
- 16 February COL Paul Beaty
- 16 February COL Ken Cordier
- 18 February CAPT David Darelius
- 18 February COL Roger Neumann
- 19 February LTC Thomas Donnelly
- 19 February CAPT Richard Lethe
- 20 February CAPT Claude William
- 21 February LTC Kenny Bierman
- 25 February LT Lewis Willis



27 February 1928 BGEN J. R. Brown

VALENTINE'S DAY



BECAUSE LOVE ISN'T QUITE COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IT IS.

Companions Down

Keep them in your Thoughts and Prayers

Past Chapter Commander Captain Bill Fox, has returned from his brief hospitalization resulting from difficulty breathing and other symptoms related to a possible heat attack. He has dropped his plans to run in the White Rock Marathon, this year.



Past Chapter Commander Captain Paul Brown's wife, Cathy, underwent surgery to repair an arrhythmia of her heart. Paul is sympathetic and supportive but tells me he still expects her to finish unloading the boxes left by the movers in their new house.



Senior Vice Commander MG Gary Bunch is suffering a severe attack of Shingles. Those who have ever experienced the intense discomfort of shingles will understand why Gary is debating cutting off his arm to ease the pain. He is eschewing bedrest and intends to rub some dirt on it and get back to work.



1st Annual Patriots' Golf Tournament

Fundraising the Fun Way

Join me in congratulating the Companions who are preparing to conduct the First Annual Patriot's Golf Tournament in support of the many activities of your Dallas Chapter.

Chapter Senior Vice Commander MG Gary Bunch has assembled a dynamite team to assist him in planning, organizing, advertising, marketing, and conducting this premier fundraising effort.

The Golf Committee will do the “heavy lifting” to locate sponsors, assemble the foursomes, host the tournament and award the prizes, but they cannot succeed without your help.

YOU are critical to the success of this venture. Please contact Gary (804-721-3818) and let him know that you will contribute an hour, a day, or a pint of blood. Help to make this a *Team Effort*.



The American Patriot Golf Tournament

Friday, April 27, 2018
Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club

Supporting Chapter Programs, the Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas, Inc and The USO, Dallas-Fort Worth



Sponsorship Opportunities

- Alvin York Brigade ---- \$10,000 Level----Sporting Clays Shoot for Three, Pistol Clinic, Archery Clinic & Golf for Three at Canyon Creek
- Frank Galtney Brigade ---- \$5000 Level----Pistol Clinic, Archery Clinic & Golf for Three
- Henry Johnson Brigade ---- \$2500 Level----Archery Clinic & Golf for Three
- Freddie Stowers Brigade ---- \$1000 Level----Archery Clinic
- Wild Bill Donovan Brigade --- \$500 Level



Presented by the Dallas Chapter of The Military Order of the World Wars

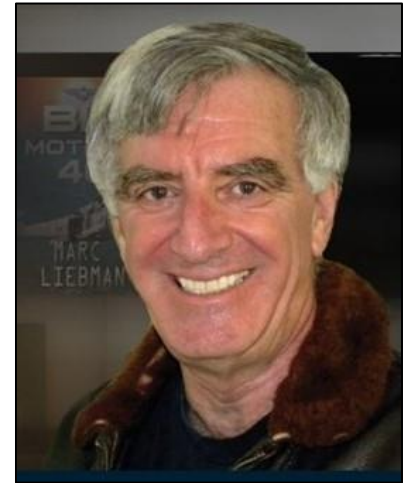
Chapter Activities in the month of January



Lt Col Kevin Hanford (USAF) was inducted as a Perpetual Companion. He served from 1983-2003. He and his wife, Paula, live in Fate, Texas. His Sponsor is Keith Barrett



Capt Tom Nowak (USAF) was inducted as a Perpetual Companion. He has served since 2012. He and his wife, Christine, live in McKinney, Texas. His Sponsor is Mark Liebman



CAPT Marc Liebman (USN) was inducted as a Regular Companion. He served from 1968-1991. He and his wife, Betty, live in Savannah, Texas. His Sponsor is Allen Clark.

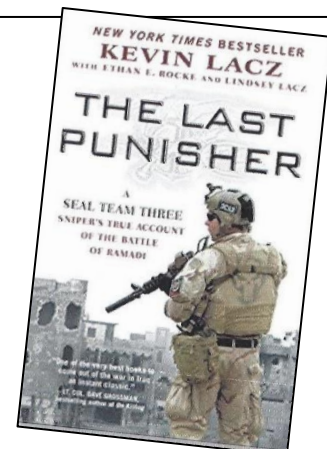


Our Chapter continues to grow. With the Induction of these three new members, we now have 331 *living* Perpetual Companions and 84 Regular Companions, for a grand total of **415**. When you add the **221** *deceased* Perpetual members (who remain on our rolls, in perpetuity), our GRAND TOTAL is **636**, making us the **largest chapter** in the Military Order of the World Wars.

Take a bow, DALLAS. Now bring a former officer with you, next month, & invite him (or her) to join the Best Large Chapter in the Nation.

If you are an avid reader of military non-fiction, Dallas Chapter Companion Robert Epstein would like to extend an invitation for you to join his small group of like-minded history buffs, by attending his periodic Monday morning Book Club Breakfasts at the Canyon Creek Country Club. Meetings are informal and allow participants to share their thoughts on the book of the week, as well as reminiscences of their personal participation in those or similar battles.

You can contact Bob at 214-789-4408 or macabee1948@aol.com





Veterans Aid & Assistance

Over 10 million members of the Baby Boomer generation served in the US Armed Forces.

Attention! The VA has set aside benefits for their care, called *Aid and Attendance* (A&A) benefits. **And, they are largely unused.**

The apparent reason is that most veterans do not know about them, or wrongly assume that they do not qualify.

As the founder of a company that focuses on senior care for veterans, I find this deeply troubling because these benefits can be enormously valuable! They can pay for home care assistance, rent for an Assisted Living facility, and a host of other services that seniors need. Moreover, surviving spouses can qualify as well, even if they were not married to the veteran during his or her time of service.

If you have any questions about your eligibility for A&A benefits, please visit www.va.gov.

Or, please feel free to contact me at jmalakoff@wellspringssenior.com or call me (212) 203-9260 and I will be happy to have this conversation with you. It is an honor to serve as your Chaplain.



Last Month's Program, Jan 2017

"Soldiers Blood..."

Dallas Chapter Perpetual Companion Captain Allen Clark, US Army (Ret), presented a scorching overview of the research that he will include in his soon-to-be-published book, *"Soldiers Blood and Bloodied Money"*.



Capt Allen Clark served in the Department of Veterans Affairs during the Reagan Administration. He is the author of two books on the Vietnam conflict and is preparing to publish three more. He travels extensively speaking to veterans' groups, churches, and civic organizations, and he is the founder of **Combat Faith**, a testament to his deep-seated Christian

His book (the first of a trilogy) presents little known facts relating to the casualties suffered by America's youngest warriors and it highlights the often intentional collateral damage inflicted on innocent civilians.

According to Allen his research reveals the dark side of conflict that involves the machinations of arms merchants, ruthless politicians, international bankers, and the intrusive reportage of today's print and visual media,

Volume 1 of Allen's trilogy is scheduled for self-publication in early 2018.

Command and Staff, FY 2018

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