



Dallas Military Order News



Volume 30, No. 6

Best Large Chapter in the Nation

December 2021



The flood gates have opened on new recruits. The Chapter proudly welcomes a trio of distinguished officers, each of whom have elected to join as *Perpetual* Companions. (left to right) LCDR Chris Cooper standing next to his sponsor, LTC Don Munson; HPM Tracy Fisher, who sponsored CPT Mark Smits, and Texas' newest Major General Chuck Aris (Commanding General of the 36 Infantry Division, Texas National Guard), next to his sponsor, newly promoted Brigadier General Mike Wallace (who is MG Aris's Assistant Division Commander). LtCol Michael Menefee, USMC, (right) officiated the inductions

This Month's Program, December 2021

"BOHICA, this time it's Omicron"

As we pause to count our blessings, let us give thanks that we have made it through another journey around the sun.



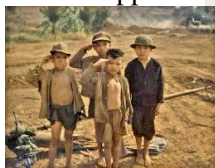
Most of all, let us remind one another of "The Reason for the Season." **Merry Christmas**, everyone.

The year 2021 teased us into believing that the danger of Corona virus 19 had been diminished, only to be advised that, like all viruses, it has morphed into a new variant, dubiously named "Omicron" (literally, the little O).

While more communicable, Little Oh has initially been reported to be less deadly. On that happy note, we will gather at the Park City Club, this Tuesday, to celebrate the joy of the holiday season with family, friends, and comrades in arms.

Musical entertainment will follow the Banquet.

Please bring an unwrapped gift (<\$25) for a child, who you will never meet, but whose heart you will fill with happiness upon learning that dreams can still come true. Our gifts this year will be donated to the US Marine Corps' "Toys For Tots" drive and Dallas' Special Forces party for the children of local Montagnard families.



Commander's Comments

The Commander's Report

Companions, our chapter has had many accomplishments this year and participate in multiple events this month. We still have several opportunities to serve in multiple areas. If you would like to serve on the staff or on one of our committees, please call me at **817.368.7799**, or contact any staff member.

Cathy and I had the honor to see BG J. Mike Wallace pin on his star at his promotion ceremony in Austin. MG Aries gave a warm speech during the ceremony.

CPTs John Wagner, Jim Runzheimer, and I attended the Arlington Veterans Day Ceremony. Many other Companions attended the Dallas Veterans Day Ceremony, while still others attended Veteran's Day Ceremonies across the Metroplex.

Lt Gen John Campbell and LT Chuck Daniels were recognized with Congressional Certificates for outstanding service to our country.

Upcoming **December** events include: **2021 Christmas Banquet (07 Dec); Wreaths Across America (18 Dec), and toy drives for the Special Forces Association, and the US Marines Toys for Tots.**

(continued page 2)



Commander's Comments continued

We are looking forward to making 2022 an even better year for your chapter – by helping to host the 2022 Regional Conference and continuing to serve more youth and veteran activities in support of our Constitution.

As always, one of our highest priorities is to recruit more Companions to complete our important missions. Thank each of you for your arduous 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 would not happen!*

Merry Christmas,

Michael W. Menefee

LtCol USMCR (Ret)

Commander, Dallas Chapter MOWW

Veteran's Day, 11 Nov 21

Panel discussion on “Enduring Freedom”

In lieu of our massive Parade, which traditionally attracts thousands to downtown Dallas each year, the Mayor chose to discourage such a large gathering at City Hall, considering the recent emergence of yet another variant of the contagious Corona 19 virus.

Instead, the event moved to Love Field, where a smaller gathering of officials commemorated the end of the nation's 20-year involvement in Afghanistan, known to the military as *Operation Enduring Freedom*.



Moderator Scott Murray posed questions to MG Al Zapanta, LTC Don Munson, and LCDR Chris Cooper

Following a formal Eleventh-Hour ceremony, guests were invited to attend a discussion of the military and political consequences of the past two decades, led by a panel of officers who were personally and professionally involved in planning and execution of those combat operations.

Each year the Parade Committee creates a challenge coin to symbolize the theme of that year's Parade. This year's coin bears the image of the 18-foot-tall bronze *Horse Soldiers* statue that has been erected in New York City, at the site of the Twin Towers memorial.



In Honor of the Horse Soldiers of Afghanistan

The Horse Soldiers, by Doug Stanton, recounts the actions of the first combat unit that deployed to Afghanistan, within a week after September 11, 2001. That Special Forces A-Team is credited with causing the collapse of the Taliban regime – less than 30 days after its arrival in country.

National Security

Quarterly National Security Briefings

The *third* briefing in the 4-part series was held on **December 5**, at 5:00 p.m., in the Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club, (465 Scenic Ranch Circle, Fairview, TX 75069) in McKinney, TX, and drew a crowd of over two hundred.

This *third* briefing featured presentations by two distinguished military leaders, both of whom held top level command assignments in Europe. First up was General Tom Hobbins, former Commander of all US Air Forces in Europe, who summarized the potential threats to NATO while emphasizing the strength we gain from our alliance that now includes 30 European nations, some of whom were previously members of the Warsaw Pact.



Gen Tom Hobbins

Lieutenant General Steve Shepro, former Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee, now with Southern Methodist University's Tower Center Council on Foreign Relations briefly touched on the situation in Ukraine and addressed the decline in what was once NATO's air supremacy.



Lt Gen Steve Shepro

The series is jointly sponsored by the **Dallas Chapters of the Military Order of World Wars**, in cooperation with:

the Dallas Council of the Navy League of the United States, the Seidel Chapter of the Air Force Association, and the Dallas Chapter of Jewish War Veterans.

The 4th Quarterly National Defense Security briefing will be held in March of 2022 and will provide a global wrap up of the first three sessions. Exact date, time, and place will be announced in early February.

Congratulations to Dallas Companion Chuck Daniels for his efforts in coordinating these events. Also to Companions LTG John Campbell, MG Al Zapanta, and HPM Scott Murray for their support. These briefings have successfully raised funds which will be divided between the five veterans' organizations to support their Outreach programs.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



Speaker Programs Just Keep Getting Better

**7 Dec 21 – Annual Dallas Christmas Banquet
“Remembering Pearl Harbor”**

**4 Jan 22 – MAJ Marshall Miles, US Army (Ret)
“The Elegance of Ruthlessness”**

**14 Feb 22 – CAPT Marc Liebman, US Navy (Ret)
“Evacuation of Non-Combatants from Kabul”**

**1 Mar 22 – ADM Patrick Walsh, US Navy (Ret)
“China and the future of Taiwan”**

**5 Apr 22 – BG Christopher Beck, US Army (ACE)
“Flood Control in North Texas”**

National Defense

Analysis of the Pacific Rim

Mark your calendar for March 2022. Former Commander of the Pacific Fleet (and Vice Chief of Naval Operations)



Fleet Admiral Pat Walsh and the Prime Minister of Japan

Admiral **Patrick Walsh** has accepted our offer to speak to the chapter on one of the most volatile regions in the world today. The sale of US nuclear submarines to Australia is just one example of strategic military thinking regarding the rising power of the Chinese and

the current vulnerability of our Asian and Pacific allies.

Farmer Does it again

He keeps breaking his own records

Scouting Chairman Bill Farmer has broken his own record for *distance traveled* to present an Eagle Scout award. This time he went from Granbury, Texas, to Charlotte, North Carolina to recognize Eagle Noah Teague for attaining Scouting’s highest achievement.



Noah Teague, Eagle

Bill has single handedly raised the bar by which all other Scout leaders are measured. He is a recipient of numerous BSA accolades, including the prestigious Order of the Arrow and Silver Beaver award for outstanding contributions to Scouting.



Bill Farmer, Silver Beaver

The Scourge of Human Trafficking

Jeremy Mahugh spent 10 years in US Special Operations, training and deploying as a Navy SEAL Sniper.



Jeremy Mahugh
US Navy SEAL

After his time in the military, Jeremy returned to the Middle East as an operative for a National Level Intelligence agency for an additional five years. More than seventeen deployments later, Jeremy returned home.

He is currently the Senior Vice President and Co-founder of: **Deliver Fund**, composed of former special operations and intelligence operatives and is dedicated to stopping human trafficking, which is rampant within the heartland of America, often ensnaring innocents in their early teens, who are virtually powerless to resist and afraid to seek help

Law and Order

Chapter salutes Dallas’ Finest Officers in Blue

On 9 Dec 21, our Law & Order Chair, LT Chuck Daniels will present the MOWW Citation for Outstanding Service to Dallas Police Officer Robert Debenport (#R400), for his selection as DPD’s *Officer of the Year*. When Hurricane Mario leveled large parts of Puerto Rico, Officer Debenport organized food and emergency supply campaigns and arranged to have them flown to San Juan. He is an outstanding example of why the Dallas Police Department is one of the Finest in the Nation.

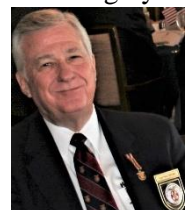


Officer Robert Debenport and his wife pose with our own, LT Chuck Daniels

Companions Down

Life is a marathon, not a sprint

Paul Brown is home, recovering from open heart surgery to repair multiple blocked arteries and a faulty valve. He reports that it has put a crimp in his plans to run the Frisco Santa Claus marathon, this year, but it won’t stop Cathy from urging him to get outside and mow the lawn.



Terry Thorsen continues to devote his recovery from a stroke by adhering to a diligent physical therapy regime. He is determined to prove the doctors wrong when they say he may not fully recover from the paralysis that lingers in his left side.



Keep these gentlemen - and all our other Companions - in your thoughts and prayers.

Know Your Companions

Paul Brown, Captain, US Air Force

Paul Warren Brown is a native Texan. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration at SMU, Master's Degree in Business Administration at the University of Missouri, and Juris Doctor Degree at Southern Methodist University. He received a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Air Force in 1967.



Paul's first active duty assignment was at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, in Strategic Air Command. He was assigned to the 351st Strategic Missile Wing as an ICBM Minuteman Missile Launch Officer, from 1968 to 1971. Following that, he was the Strategic Missile Wing's Nuclear Safety Officer.

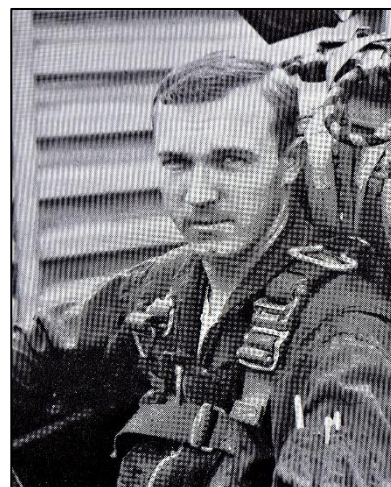
His next assignment was at Barksdale AFB, LA, in Strategic Air Command's 2nd Bomb Wing (the oldest Bomb Wing in the US Air Force), where he served as the Logistics Plans Officer. He was responsible for the deployment of B-52 Stratofortress aircraft, equipment, and personnel from US Air Force bases on the East Coast to the island of Guam. Units of the 2nd Bomb Wing conducted the bombardment of North Vietnam, from 1972-1973.

Paul separated from Active Duty at the rank of Captain in 1973. He moved to Dallas, TX, where he formed the Law Office of Paul W. Brown, P.C. Prior to that, he was an Instructor in Legal Research and Writing at SMU, a Business Law Instructor at Dallas Baptist University, and a Briefing Attorney for the 5th District Court of Appeals for the State of Texas. He has practiced law in Texas for the past 30 years.

Paul and his wife, Cathy, have been married for 40 years and currently live in Dallas. They have two grown daughters and one adorable grandchild.

Terry Thorsen, Maj, US Marine Corps

Terry Lynn Thorson was born in Beloit, Wisconsin in 1943. At age twelve, his family moved to Arlington, Texas, when his father was hired by Chance Vought Aircraft Manufacturing Company. He graduated from Arlington High School and four years later graduated from Arlington State College (now the University of Texas, Arlington), receiving a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the US Marine Corps.



He spent his first three years in the Marines assigned as a Radar Intercept Officer (RIO) in the rear seat of McDonnell Douglas F-4 (*Phantom*) jets. He was then assigned to VMFA-232 (*Red Devils*) squadron, at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in southern California. The "*Red Devils*" squadron is the oldest and most decorated fighter attack squadron in the Marine Corps and from the time he joined it, he prepared for combat.

On 1 April 1969, the squadron began flying combat sorties throughout I-Corps South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Gulf of Tonkin and some escort missions into North Vietnam. Terry flew 123 combat missions, sixty percent of which were close air support, earning 10 Air Medals, one Bronze Star Award, two Navy Unit Commendations, and numerous Vietnam Service awards. Halfway through his overseas tour, the squadron was transferred to Japan as a deterrent to North Korean aggression.

In civilian life, Terry has been a Professional Photographer, a Crime Scene Investigator, a Crime Scene Supervisor, and a Crime Lab Director.

In 2019, he became the author of "*Phantom in the Sky: A Marine's Back Seat View of the Vietnam War*", published by the University of North Texas Press and released 15 Mar 19. It covers his USMC experience and his combat tour in Vietnam.

Terry and his wife, Andrina, live in Mansfield, Texas.

American Military Readiness

National Security issues

AMERICAN MILITARY READINESS CONTRASTED WITH RECENT CHINESE AND RUSSIAN AGGRESSIONS

By: LtCol Michael W. Menefee, USMCR (Ret)

Until recently, the focus of American leadership and military preparedness was on defeating and destroying the enemy in any engagement. Today, American military leadership seems to be focused on policies like climate change, racial divisiveness, vaccines, gender confusion, and other politically correct topics.

The current administration is separating highly trained military personnel if they have not been vaccinated for COVID-19, even though the vaccine does not have FDA approval and is still undergoing tests. Many servicemembers may have immunity after



being infected with the virus.

At the same time, the US has an open border policy for our southern border, letting more than 1.7 million illegals into our country without COVID-19 testing.

Few of these illegals speak English, and most lack familiarity with American culture, history, or government. But hundreds of Americans and thousands of Afghans with green cards were left behind in Afghanistan, when the US withdrew. Our leadership should not be surprised that our adversaries are testing American military readiness and diplomatic resolve.



Our adversaries have been buoyed by the \$90 billion windfall of US equipment left behind and modern bases left intact throughout Afghanistan. US intelligence analysts believe some of this equipment could be used to further radical Islamic aggression in the Middle East against US allies and even conduct attacks inside the US.

China, Russia, and Iran are increasing their combat readiness by reverse engineering captured US weapons. American imagery shows Chinese mock-ups of US warships in the desert moving on railroad tracks.

In the last two months, China, then Russia, launched hypersonic missiles able to travel at MACH-5 using US chip technology. This technology was abandoned by the US because of its great cost, and now the US is in a technological catch-up mode.



Russia has 90,000 troops poised to attack Ukraine on its border, and China is practicing air strikes to invade Taiwan, only one hundred miles away. Chinese jets recently entered the Air Defense Identification Zone



of Taiwan, as US officials were visiting the country. Taiwan is the ninth largest trading partner with the US and its huge semiconductor industry makes most of the world's computer chips.

Russia just copied China by exploding a satellite in orbit. The space debris endangered the international space station. China and Russia are aggressively challenging the US in space, and its military preeminence on Earth.



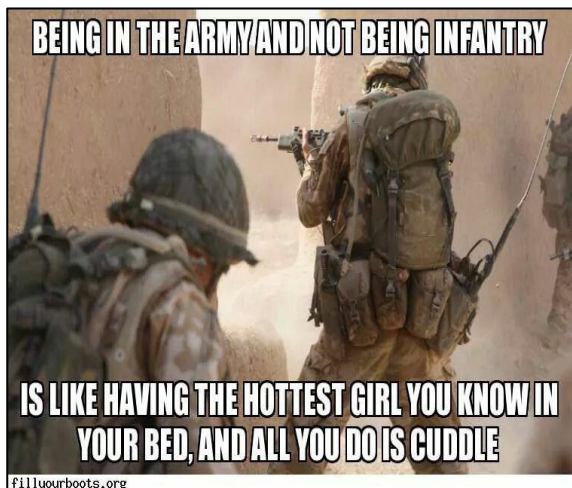
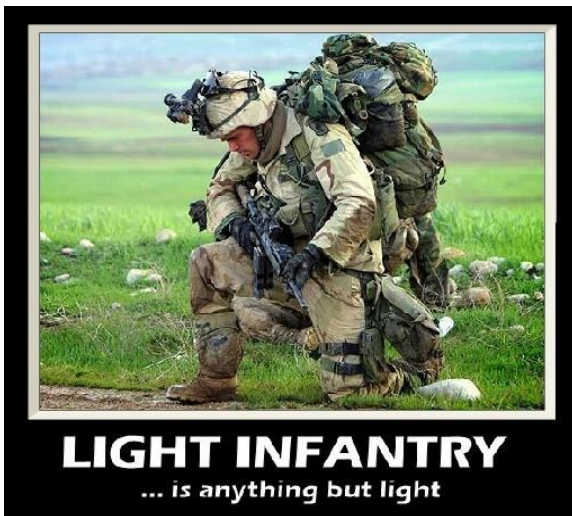
Our adversaries are not focused on climate change, vaccine mandates, gender, or racial issues, as is the US. Their focus is on military victory and gaining strategic advantage. Together, China and Russia pose a significant threat to our economy, military, and freedom. Last month, they formed a joint military alliance.

Our enemies view current US civilian and military leadership as weak and ineffective. They view our *wake* policies as strategic insanity and militarily absurd but are willing to exploit any current American weakness to test our military readiness and resolve.



Information for this article was gathered from Open Sources - media, published articles, websites, and general knowledge of the author. There is no classified information in this article, and no known quotations from any source. The 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.

Military Memes



- 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 HRM Ron Banks**
- 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 2021.



MAJ Doug Gagliano (seated left) was this year's Chairman of the Dallas Veterans Day Parade. He is seen here presiding over the 11th Hour ceremony held at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Scott Murray was his usual superb Master of Ceremonies, introducing Hizzoner the Mayor of Dallas, Eric Johnson. Seated next to the mayor is our Perpetual Companion, Major General Chuck Aris, the Keynote Speaker for the event. Following this event, Doug and the members of the Greater Dallas Parade Foundation were guests at *Al Biernat's Steakhouse*, at which Al pledged to continue to host them every year that they continued to honor the military by conducting the largest Veterans Day Parade in Texas.

MG Chuck Aris did double duty on Veteran's Day presenting the keynote address at the Museum and then giving an interview on Fox News, that evening. Chuck is currently the Commanding General of the 36th Infantry Division, Texas National Guard. He recently returned from overseas deployment in Afghanistan and graciously shared his insights on the courage and professionalism of the soldiers who served under him. The theme of this year's Parade was "*Commemorating Operation Enduring Freedom*" (the military's title for the 20 years of US conflict in Afghanistan).



①

Chapter Commander LtCol Michael Menefee presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Navy SEAL Jeremy Mahugh and complimented him on his organization's efforts to protect the innocent victims of human trafficking.



Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson spoke of the need to ensure that our nation's military remains the bulwark of freedom in the world



Past Commander Capt Chuck Daniels received a Congressional Citation from US Representative Van Taylor, of Collin County's 3rd District

Notice: Next Commander's Staff Meeting will be held Thursday, 17 Dec 2021 at 1:00 p.m., in the Frontiers of Flight Conference Room, 6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas, TX, adjacent to Love Field.



The Fruit of Silence

Mother Theresa wrote in her book, *The Simple Path*, that “The fruit of silence is prayer, the fruit of prayer is faith, the fruit of faith is peace.”

According to this saint, it all starts with silence. But for many, silence is hard to come by. We live in a time of alarming headlines, cutting sound-bites, and 24-hour news cycles.

We face countless entertainment options at our fingertips. The cell phone has put us “on call” 24/7

But there is indeed a simpler path. God speaks to us in our silence. When we silence our minds and hearts before God, we begin to experience his presence, discern his will, and find the peace that only he can give.

The most fruitful prayer is often just silencing yourself and opening your heart for Him to speak. If you are waiting to find time to be silent before God, it may never come.

You must each be deliberate in setting aside such time to be silent before him. This is especially important during this Holy Season, in which the tempo of life is often highest.

God bless each of you. May each of you, by God’s grace, walk in obedience and live by truth.



Jamie Malakoff
Chapter Chaplain

Wreaths Across America

Blessed are the Peacekeepers

Take a bow Companions, you continue to be the Gold Standard by which all others chapter are measured.

Your Chapter **exceeded** its goal of two hundred Christmas Wreaths to adorn the headstones of the servicemen and women who are at rest in DFW National Cemetery.

This year, every donor funded at least three (3) wreaths and multiple donors gave enough to purchase **fifteen** (15)!

Once again in 2021, there will be a Wreath on every headstone, this Christmas season.

I am sorry to be the bearer of sad tidings, but Cemetery officials denied our request to top off the day with a celebratory party.

Initially the reason was that it would detract from the solemnity that many feel a visit to a national cemetery should embrace.

Officials later confessed that the real reason was that it would set a precedent that would lead others to follow the idea and turn the cemetery into a scene from the parking lot of a Dallas Cowboys football game,

Not to worry. We will simply meet at **1100 hrs** on **18 Dec 21** to lay the wreaths at our designated section (Section 99) and agree on a more appropriate time and place to share the Joy of the Season with one another.

This is a wholesome family event. Add it to your list of Christmas *traditions*. Bring the family. It is a valuable teaching moment for children of all ages.



Command and Staff, FY 2021

Commander

Michael Menefee
LtCol, USMC
817-368-7799
michael.menefee@ampf.com



Senior Vice Commander
(Temporarily Vacant)

Junior Vice Commander
(Temporarily Vacant)

Adjutant

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



Treasurer

Bill Coleman
MAJ, US Army
214-771-1179
bill.coleman@php-agent.com



Judge Advocate

John Von Buskirk
MAJ, US Army
214-321-5101
johnc47@tx.rr.com



Marshal

Pat Teipel
Perpetual Hereditary
469-583-8714
Patteipel8714@gmail.com



Surgeon

Fred Aurbach
CPT, US Army
214-793-2065
drfred@drfredaurbach.com



Chaplain

Jamie Malakoff
CPT, US Army
212-203-9260
jamie.malakoff@gmail.com



Special Operations

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



dallasmoww.org