



Dallas Military Order News



NOVEMBER 2024

BEST LARGE MOWW CHAPTER IN THE NATION

Volume 33, No. 5

This Month's Speaker



Lieutenant General John Campbell retired from the US Air Force in 2003 after a 32-year career. In his last military assignments, he served as:

- Commander, 31st Fighter Wing, Aviano Air Base, Italy
- Commander, 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall Air Force Base, FL
- Deputy Director for Operations, Joint Staff, the Pentagon
- Associate Director of Central Intelligence Agency, Langley VA.

Prior to his Washington assignments, he served around the world, including overseas assignments in Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Germany and Italy. He commanded the largest fighter squadron in the Air Force, a fighter group, and both F-15 and F-16 fighter wings. He is the recipient of numerous awards and decorations,

John serves on several boards and community organizations. He is active in the Air & Space Forces Association (AFA) and is the Chair of AFA's national Recruiting Task Force, designed to leverage the national reach of AFA to assist the Air Force Recruiting Service. He is a resident of McKinney, TX. He and his wife, Marky, have three children and five grandchildren and are members of the First United Methodist Church of McKinney.

At check-in, please purchase raffle tickets from Marshal Teipel to support our YLC programs.



Help Our Heroes Annual Luncheon

COMMANDER'S REPORT



Companions and patriots, November is the month with one of the most important holidays in our history, Veterans Day, or Armistice Day (November 11). Marking the anniversary of the end of the Great War (now known as World War I) at the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11 month of the year, Veterans Day honors all our nation's veterans since 1918. Also, on November 10 we celebrate the 249th USMC Birthday. The Continental Marines, the second oldest branch in the U.S. military, were formed on November 10, 1775, in Philadelphia as a service branch of infantry soldiers capable of fighting both at sea and on land. Like all other military service organizations, the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) celebrates patriotism, the U.S. Constitution, our military services, statues, memorials, history, government, and American culture.

Therefore, the Month of November is a very busy month for our Chapter and all veterans around our nation.

For the past twenty-seven years, our Chapter has sponsored and participated in the annual Dallas Veterans Day 11th Hour Ceremony and Parade in Dallas, one of the nation's largest tributes to show appreciation to the thousands of men and women who fought and died to preserve our freedom.

In addition to the Dallas Veterans Day Parade, our Chapter will also sponsor and participate in the inaugural annual Texas Veterans Day Parade in Arlington on November 11, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.

LT Natan Ton-That

NOVEMBER KEY DATES

- ❖ November 5th – Election Day
- ❖ November 11th – Veteran's Day
- ❖ November 11th – Veteran's Day Parades – Dallas & Arlington
- ❖ November 23rd – Terrell Rifle & Pistol Club - Terrell

DALLAS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

October Luncheon Speaker

Navy Admiral (Ret.) Dr. Patrick M. Walsh, President of Cristo Rey Dallas College Preparatory School speaking during Awards Day for the Youth Leadership Conference students.



Awards and Recognition Ceremonies



NATIONAL & HOMELAND SECURITY REPORT

THE ECONOMY AND POPULATION GROWTH ENDANGER AMERICA'S FUTURE

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

The uncertainty of inflation, an eroding job market, crime, open borders, interest rates, and declining educational value of diplomas and degrees are combining to persuade young people not to have children. Inflation has increased 2.5% this year and 20.5% in the past four years. The US dollar has lost 88% of its value since 1971, largely because of inflation. A 1971 dollar would buy \$7.80 of goods and services in 2024, but a 2024 dollar would buy only \$0.12 of goods and services in 1971. DOJ data shows crime has increased 37% in the past three years, especially in states which have lost many of their police forces, and where substantial numbers of illegal aliens have congregated. Due to the open border policy, drug deaths and violent crimes have increased, and one-in-50 Americans have been victims of violent crime. Taxes will rise dramatically if the current tax cuts are allowed to expire. Illegal alien children, most of whom do not speak English, are overcrowding schools, doctor's clinics, from small towns to large cities throughout the US. Higher interest rates are preventing young people from purchasing real estate, or in some cases, even securing an apartment. Though the Federal Reserve lowered interest rates last month, many young people still live with their parents. Restoring border security, and the US economy will increase employment and reduce inflation. A strong economy incentivizes young people and will significantly improve career opportunities.

According to a July 2024 Massachusetts Mutual Life survey, both the millennial generation (ages 27-42) and generation Z (ages 12-27) are not planning to have children. There is a 60% decline in marriage since the 1970s. Twenty-three percent of these young people are not planning to have children because of financial costs. When these young people are surveyed, they cite inflation, interest rates, lack of good paying jobs, and the devaluation of their diplomas and degrees. These young people have lost hope in the American dream of rising to the upper middle or upper class economically, because they believe they cannot afford to have a similar lifestyle to their parents or others. According to a government report, the birth rate dropped in 2020, the largest one year drop in almost 50 years. Good Housekeeping reports that the cost of raising one child to age 18 is \$237,482. The US birthrate fell two percent in 2023. Consumer Price Index numbers show, baby formula has increased 26.5%, daycare has increased 16.3%, and baby clothes 11.1% from August 2021-2024. Bringing back traditional Judeo-Christian family values will instill hope and help to persuade young people the value of marriage and having children.

Fewer international students, and more American young people are not attending US colleges and universities because of the excessive costs, political correctness, and the declining value of certain degrees. As proven by falling standardized test scores, secondary schools are not preparing students for college or university demands. Returning meritocracy to schools and colleges will repair the damaged value of American educational diplomas and degrees, which have been eroded by the failed radical politics of affirmative action, CRT, DEI, and gender identity.

A falling US birth rate negatively impacts military recruiting, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid solvency. The US economy, national debt, stock, and bond markets are all negatively affected with declining birth rates. Conservatives have proposed a new bill "the SAVE Act" to reduce illegal voting. It will require voter IDs, scrubbing voter rolls of non-citizens, dead people, and citizens who have moved from the voting district or state. Over 81% of US citizens support this legislation, but it is opposed by liberals, socialists, and progressives who want unlawful voters to vote in US elections. The US needs legal immigrants who speak English, have education or job skills to contribute to the economy and society, desire to assimilate into the American culture, respect and obey US laws, and follow our Constitution. Data shows illegal aliens are a substantial financial, cultural, and societal burden to US taxpayers. They take jobs from low skilled citizens, do not pay income taxes, and add significant costs to healthcare, public schooling, and housing. Veterans should not be sleeping on the streets while illegal aliens sleep in taxpayer-funded hotels. The US cannot afford this financial burden, at a time when the country has the highest national debt and deficit in its history, and the interest on the national debt is greater than the budget for the DOD.

DALLAS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Army Scholarship Foundation's 2024 Help Our Heroes Luncheon

October 30th, 2024

Frontiers of Flight Museum



From Left to Right - Photo 1: Commander Natan Ton-that, Chairman and CEO of Army Scholarship Foundation, MOWW companion Jeff Gault and Adjutant Ramon Ramos. Photo 2: Medal of Honor Recipient Captain Florent Groberg and Commander Natan Ton-That.



From Left to Right - Photo 1: Past Commander Don Munson, Medal of Honor Recipient Captain Florent Groberg and Adjutant Ramon Ramos. Photo 2: Commander Natan Ton-that and master of ceremonies Mark Davis.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPANION OBITUARY

Chapter Past CINC

CAPT Rollin "Rollie" M. Stevens II

November 25, 1934 – October 25, 2024



IN THE CARE OF
Ted Dickey West Funeral Home

Rollin "Rollie" M. Stevens II of Dallas, Texas, passed away on October 25, 2024. He was 89 years old, one month to the day shy of his 90th birthday. Rollie was born in Des Moines, Iowa to parents Rollin and Cora Mae. He graduated from East High School in Des Moines in 1953 and went on to the University of Iowa where he graduated with a B.S. in Science in 1957. On May 17, 1958, he married Jean Ann Olson of Kanawha, Iowa, and they remained married for 66 years.

Rollie joined the Navy in 1957 and was on active duty for 7 years, deploying on the USS Ticonderoga aircraft carrier. He remained in the Navy for more than 30 years in the Navy Reserves, spending a weekend each month and two weeks each year on various duty details. After his active duty in the Navy, Rollie began his career in sales with American Hospital Supply Corporation, which was later acquired by Baxter. His area of expertise was in the hospital clinical laboratory where he sold instruments and their supplies.

After retiring from Baxter, Rollie was actively involved in civic duties including his membership in the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) where he was the national Commander in Chief in 2002, a member of his homeowners' association where he was president, and a volunteer at Medical City Denton Hospital, helping rehabilitation patients.

Throughout his entire life, he was always a member of his church choir and loved to sing, making many life-long friends along the way. He enjoyed early morning coffees with Jean on his back porch overlooking Lewisville Lake, declaring "a Navy man lives by the water". He also loved his favorite sports teams including the Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers, Iowa Hawkeyes, and even the local Lake Highlands High School where all of his children graduated. He is survived by Jean, his wife, his daughter Kyle Vandeven (John), son Jeff Stevens (Stanna), daughter Kim Stevens, three grandchildren Andrea Stevens, Samantha Stevens, Joshua Stevens, and two sisters Nan Keith and Shari DeCook of Iowa.

Rollie will be interred at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Dallas. To leave an online condolence to the family, please visit our website www.teddickeywestfuneral.com

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

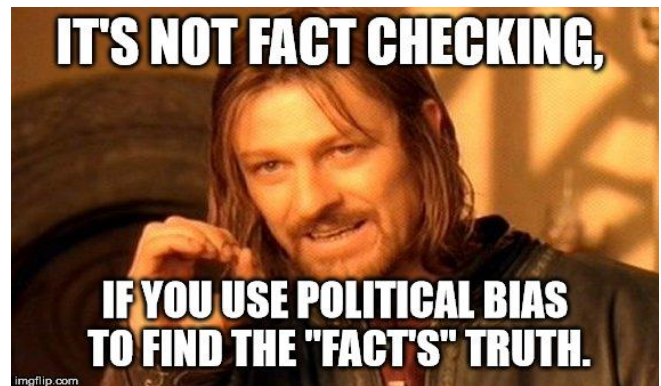
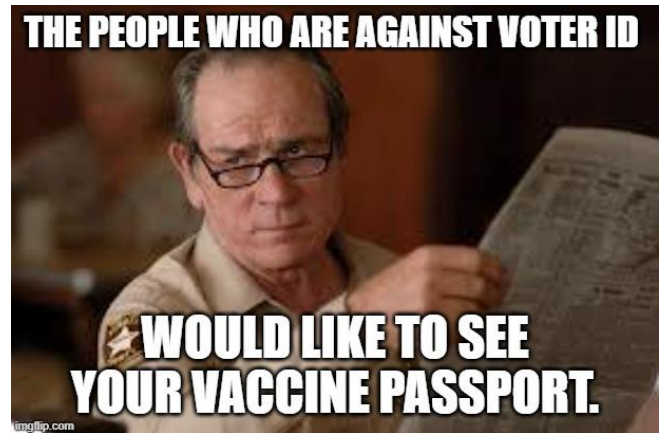
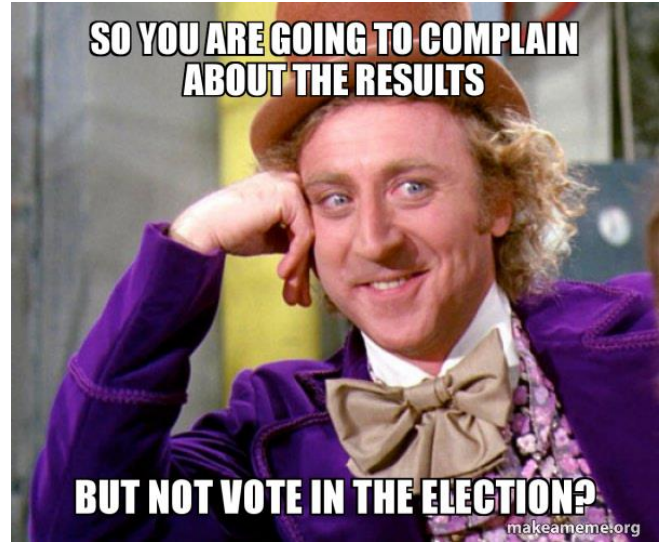


*“People who have the most birthdays –
Live the longest”*

1 November	HPM Angelesa Ward
2 November	COL Earl Buys
3 November	HPM Adele Chamberlin
3 November	LTC Earl Dunnington III
5 November	HPM Georgeann Moss
7 November	Lt Col David Portillo
7 November	COL Anthony Wood
8 November	Col Robert B. Douglass
9 November	LT Raymond Adams
9 November	Maj Arden Blaylock
9 November	CPT Ronald Williams
11 November	HPM Joseph Latimer
11 November	LtCol Kurt Pedigo
11 November	LT Natan Ton-that
14 November	CW3 James Hume
14 November	MAJ Cedric Ingram, Sr.
15 November	Lt Col Phil Hardin
15 November	Capt David Wallace
18 November	HPM Nicholas Paleschic
19 November	HPM Katherine Merbler
20 November	HPM Martha Nelson
21 November	CPT Dennis Sheridan
21 November	MAJ Thomas Stanzel
22 November	COL Larry Greene
23 November	MAJ Jimmy Cox
23 November	Capt William Harper
23 November	CPT John Waldrop
24 November	Brig Gen George Schulstad
25 November	HPM Janie Paleschic
25 November	CAPT Rollie Stevens
30 November	HPM Katherine Grogan



Lighten Up



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024-2025 – CHAPTER CHAPLAIN NOMINEE

Todd Andrew Collier, D.Min., M.Div.

Todd Collier is the Director and Founder of Food Source DFW, a local and national food rescue program of the Mnemosyne Institute, a Dallas nonprofit. Raised in Oklahoma City, his Great Grand Parents were pioneers from the Ohio River Valley who braved the Oklahoma land run of 1889. Todd's father landed on D-Day plus 6 and commanded a Battalion with the 83rd Infantry in Normandy through the Battle of the Bulge to the Elbe River, earning the Silver Star and two Bronze stars. He would later command a Regiment with the 45th in the Korean War. Todd spent 5 years in military training as an ROTC scholarship cadet at New Mexico Military Institute from 1970-75 where he graduated high school and Jr. College. He completed advanced camp at Ft. Riley, Airborne Paratrooper School at Ft. Benning, and completed the Army Aviation scholarship for basic flight training while a cadet. Collier finished as a Cadet Captain winning the prestigious annual Harry Morrison Award, and the Commandant's Award for Best Disciplined Troop.

With Vietnam over, the Army was RIFing officers. Collier was honorably discharged from his Army obligation in 1976. Todd's calling would take him in a different direction. After a Christian conversion in 1979, Todd later responded to God's call in Isaiah, "Here am I. Send me." After graduating from the University of Central Oklahoma, Todd earned a Master's at Princeton Seminary, and a Doctorate at Columbia Theological Seminary, Atlanta. In the early 90's Todd spent summers in Guatemala, volunteering at Hermano Pedro Hospital in Antigua. After completing a Chaplain residency in Clinical Pastoral education at Memorial Hospital in Houston, Todd acted on what he felt compelled to do – serve the needs of the poor and destitute in Guatemala. Collier Founded and Directed the medical mission that he named Faith in Practice, leading it in Houston on a volunteer basis until 1997. Todd was ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1994 and advanced Faith in Practice through networking and in the various cities where he served churches – Houston, Florida, Georgia, and North Texas. Today, Faith in Practice sends 1,500 volunteers to Guatemala treating 17,000 patients annually.

Collier retired from volunteer service with Faith in Practice in 2005. He left parish work in 2007 when he was recruited by a nonprofit, The Mnemosyne Institute. Todd founded and currently directs the work of Food Source USA, serving the needs of the poor and destitute in North Texas and nationally during times of disaster. Collier began Food Source DFW in 2013 pulling a U-Haul behind his Honda Pilot. Since that time Food Source DFW has trucked over 28 million pounds of food and beverages, totaling over \$45 million in value. Collier created a logistics network, collaborating with local DFW nonprofits, and World Emergency Relief of California placing truckloads of food and beverages during times of disaster – tornadoes, hurricanes, droughts, collapsed buildings, train wrecks, the latest being Hurricane Beryl on the Texas gulf coast. In 2019, while in Pittsburgh taking care of his son, Collier got a call from PepsiCo Atlanta with an overload of Gatorade. Todd moved thirty-five 18-wheeler loads of Gatorade after Hurricane Dorian to the Bahamas and states along the East Coast.

Todd is married. He and his wife, Brigitte, have two sons. Todd has three grown children from a previous marriage. His youngest son, Rowan, was born with Biliary Atresia, a rare deadly liver disease. Rowan received a "stopgap" surgery at 10 weeks old in Dallas called a Kasai. While the Kasai bought him time, Rowan ultimately received a life-saving liver transplant at 13 months at UPMC Children's Pittsburgh on 4 October 2019. Todd and his family lived there for 3 months in Ronald McDonald House due to post-op complications. The good news is, Rowan is alive and well, though he is never out of the woods. Rowan is now under the care and leadership of Dr. Jorge Bezerra, Chair of Pediatrics at UT Southwestern, and Chief of Pediatrics at Children's Hospital. Dr. Bezerra is well known for liver disease and transplantation research. His goal is to build Dallas into a Center of Excellence for organ transplantation, and, as he stated in a letter to Todd, "I look forward to working with you." In response to Rowan's gift of new life Todd's desire to give back is taking shape in the form of advocacy for organ donation and championing the work of Dr. Bezerra. Todd has been giving inspiring talks to students at UT Southwestern Medical School, churches, nonprofits, and has shared his story with his Alma Maters, the MOWW North Texas Chapter, Donate Life, and just about anyone who will listen.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ❖ November 11, 2024 – Veterans Day
- ❖ November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day
- ❖ December 13th, 2024 – North Texas Wreaths of Honor Wreath Placement
- ❖ December 14th, 2024 – Military History Book Club