



Dallas Military Order News



FEBRUARY 2025

BEST LARGE MOWW CHAPTER IN THE NATION

Volume 33, No. 8

This Month's Speaker



Marc Liebman

Dispelling the Myth of the Palestinian Claims to Territory

Marc is a combat veteran of Vietnam, the Tanker Wars of the 1980s, and Desert/Shield Storm who retired from the Navy as a Captain after 26 years of service.

He is a Naval Aviator with over 6,000 hours of flight time with helicopters and fixed wing aircraft and has been CEO of a \$50M aerospace and defense contractor as well as partner in a boutique consulting firm.

Now, Marc is an award-winning novelist and public speaker. Five of his 17 novels have become Amazon #1 Best Sellers. Marc speaks on an American history Revolution to the War of 1812 as well as selected topics on aviation, foreign affairs and leadership. The Leibmans live in Aubrey, TX

- ❖ **When:** February 4th, 2025
11:15 AM -1.00 PM
- ❖ **Where:** Park City Club 5956 Sherry Lane, Dallas



COMMANDER'S REPORT



My Fellow Companions: I have two exciting pieces of news for our organization. First, I want to remind everyone that our February meeting is a special meeting with the traditional Valentine's Day Luncheon. The roses for our ladies in attendance are reminders that our military order is made up of gentlemen with individual responsibility to our mothers, wives, and daughters. Our staff is happy to announce that we are having a golf tournament at the Courses at Watters Creek on April 16, 2025, at 04:15 PM. The Military Order of World Wars Golf Challenge is organized by Senior Vice Commander CPT Mark Smits and HPM Robert Epstein. Our chapter has not had a golf tournament in many years. Please sign up to make it a fun and successful event so that we can make it an annual fundraising program for our chapter.

Also, in April we will be participating in a commemorative ceremony at the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, Texas on April 30, 2025, to honor our Vietnam veterans. The Vietnam conflict was America's longest war at the time. After eight agonizing years we lost more than 58,000 U.S. service men. America did not treat the veterans that returned home from Vietnam like those veterans that came home from the previous wars. In many cases they were met with disdain and disrespect. Today we have an estimated 600,000 Vietnam veterans who are still alive. Called "A Salute to Vietnam Veterans", the event at the National Medal of Honor Museum is the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, and it is probably the last meaningful opportunity to 'Salute' our Vietnam veterans and give them a 'welcome home'.

Tickets for Vietnam-era veterans and spouses are free. Seating is limited so please go online to get your tickets ahead of time <https://givebutter.com/asalutetovietnamveterans>.

LT Natan Ton-That

DALLAS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

January Luncheon

Marcelyn Atwood, PMP Colonel (Ret) speaking about three generations of women in the military, and military aviators.



From Left to Right: Chuck Daniels, LT, USN (FMR) presenting the December Dallas Community Police Award Committee (DCPAC) presentation to Detective Michael Nunez. Commander Natan Ton-That and Arlington Mayor Jim Ross on Radio Saigon Dallas KBDT 1160 to talk about our joint project at the National Medal of Honor Museum to honor our Vietnam veterans on April 30, 2025.

NATIONAL & HOMELAND SECURITY REPORT

ACQUIRING GREENLAND MAY BE IN THE US NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST

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

Greenland is a self-ruling territory of the Kingdom of Denmark and is the world's largest island. It is part of the North American tectonic plate and has global strategic importance because it borders both the Arctic Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean. Most of Greenland is within the Arctic Circle and is covered in a thick layer of ice up to 10,000 feet with an average depth of 5,000 feet. It has a 27,000-mile coastline which is difficult to monitor or defend. Greenland is the most sparsely populated country in the world with less than 60,000 inhabitants. It has 17 towns with no roads connecting them, and only one commercial airport. Commercial fishing is the primary industry of Greenland. Recently, President Trump has made statements saying the US would like to buy Greenland from Denmark; however, President Andrew Johnson was the first president who discussed acquiring Greenland in 1867. President Taft also tried to buy Greenland in 1910, and President Truman made another offer to purchase Greenland in 1946. President Eisenhower made another offer to buy Greenland in 1955, as did President Trump in 2019.

The US defensively seized and fortified Greenland with Danish permission after Germany invaded Denmark in WWII and has remained in Greenland since. In 1949, Denmark, Greenland, and the US became part of the NATO alliance. The US began to play a greater part of Greenland's defense in the Cold War. In 1943 the US developed Thule Air Base in northwestern Greenland, which was renamed Pituffik Space Base in 2023. Pituffik Space Base is the most northern US base and deep-water port. It is home to a ballistic missile early warning system for North America, space surveillance, space control sensors, and global satellite control network. Greenland became part of NORAD in 1959. Thule was one of the 50 other American bases which performed duties such as tracking Soviet submarines in the Greenland, Iceland, United Kingdom gap (GIUK gap). Pituffik Space Base is also used in lunar research and engineering. Pituffik can only receive heavy supplies by ship in the summer thaw.

The US believes it is vital for it to control Greenland because of its strategic location, space security, the GIUK Gap, its vast mineral deposits, access to the Arctic Ocean, and the Arctic polar ice cap. Denmark cannot defend Greenland and Greenland has no military or defense forces. Russia and China would like access to Greenland's enormous oil and natural gas deposits, rare earth metals, gold, graphite, iron ore, lithium, and uranium. The EU gets 100% of its rare earth metals from Chinese production, while the US gets about 72% of its rare earth metals from Chinese mining production. Rare earth metals are used to manufacture AI, aircraft, computer chips, space, and technology. China has proposed a polar silk road, a Northern Sea Route could become an alternative to the Suez Canal making the Arctic polar region one of the most strategic maritime areas of the world and vitally important to US trade and military interests. China launched a satellite in 2022 to monitor and track Arctic shipping routes and considers itself to be a "near-Arctic state."

The US and China are in a strategic race to dominate the world militarily and economically. Russia is aligned with China, and Greenland is in the center of the shortest route between the US and Europe. This is especially critical if the polar ice melts, making the distance between Russia and the US and Canada shorter. To achieve strategic dominance, a country must control strategic waterways, air, space, and technology. They must have access to rare earth metals, and the ability to mine them. China is increasing investments in Greenland and the Arctic region. Russia already patrols the Arctic Ocean with some of its 40 icebreakers and has 65 submarines compared to 64 US submarines and two icebreakers. China has two icebreakers and 61 submarines. Both USCG icebreakers are currently undergoing repairs. Since Russia and China have ambitions to dominate the Arctic Ocean and lay claim to Arctic islands for mining and fishing rights, buying Greenland may be in the best US national security interests.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Prayer, Science, and Rowan's Gift



My son, Rowan Collier, was born with Biliary Atresia, a rare and deadly liver disease. At just 13 months old, Rowan received a life-saving liver transplant at UPMC Children's Starzl Transplant Center in Pittsburgh on 4 October 2019. Rowan is now 6 years old, in the first grade, playing soccer, and thriving under the excellent care of his post-transplant team led by Dr. Jorge Bezerra, Chairman and Chief of Pediatrics at UT Southwestern/ Dallas Children's.

Rowan's gift highlights the power of communities of prayer, the advancements of medical science, and the burden of genius like the late Dr. Thomas Starzl, the pioneering surgeon known as the Father of Organ Transplantation. Starzl served in the Navy after high school during WWII. After medical school and residencies, Starzl did the first liver transplants in the 1960s in Denver and later founded the liver transplant center in Pittsburgh in 1981. Each piece of this extraordinary puzzle would later play a crucial role in Rowan's diagnosis, surgery, recovery and continued health.

Organ donation made saving Rowan's life possible, and perhaps the life of someone you may know. In any given year in the United States there are 100,000 men, women and children on the organ transplant list, of which only 40,000 receive a life-saving gift. In a country with 335 million people, we must do better. Whether as a living donor, or after your life's last breath, it's a profound act of service and compassion that saves lives, akin to the MOWW moto, "It is nobler to serve than to be served."

It's an honor to serve as your Chaplain, and as a fellow companion, I encourage everyone to consider becoming an organ donor. Together, through prayer, science, and giving, we can offer not only hope and healing, but life to those in need.

Todd Collier, D.Min.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



*"People who have the most birthdays –
Live the Longest"*



- 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



~ Lighten Up ~



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Colonel Kenneth W. Cordier Collection at the Frontiers of Flight Museum



Barbie Cordier, Kenneth W. Cordier's widow unveiled a newly donated exhibit at the Frontiers of Flight Museum: The Colonel Kenneth W. Cordier Collection.

This extraordinary display celebrates the remarkable life of Colonel Cordier, a distinguished fighter pilot and Vietnam Prisoner of War. This incredible collection offers a powerful glimpse into his courageous service and unyielding spirit.

The exhibit will be displayed permanently at the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ❖ February 4th, 2025 – MOWW February Luncheon
- ❖ February 8th, 2025 – 80 Years of the Dallas Navy League
- ❖ February 25th, 2025 – The George Washington Birthday Dinner
- ❖ April 16th, 2025 – MOWW Golf Challenge