

Military Order of the World Wars



Chapter 151 Region XIII August 2025 Newsletter



The Military Order of the World Wars
Colorado Springs Chapter
Post Office Box 2152
Monument, Colorado 80132

COMMANDER'S REMARKS (7 August 2025)

Greetings Companions!!

This is my first newsletter article since returning as Chapter Commander. I want to thank Kerm Neal for his energetic and innovative leadership over the past two years and continuing to serve MOWW replacing me as Department of the Rocky Mountain Commander! I echo Kerm's thanks for the staff who served during his command and who are now stepping down to take a break: Jim Borders (Senior Vice) and Rich Peters (Junior Vice and Adjutant) for their contributions and significant work to continue the vitality and success of our chapter.

Congratulations again to our new slate of officers for the coming Operating Year (OY): Mark Ellis as our new Senior Vice, Ulysses Swift returning as our Junior Vice, and Mike Berendt returning as our Treasurer. We are in great need of volunteers to join our staff to help contribute to, sustain and expand the impact of MOWW with our youth and in the community. Please consider volunteering to serve! Our most pressing need is for an Adjutant to replace Rich Peters. We also need committee leads for First Responders/Public Safety/Law & Order, and National and Homeland Security. These duties can be performed in a few hours each month and can be tailored to fit the passions and capacity of the volunteer. Please let me know if you would like more information regarding these positions and other volunteer opportunities.

As I write this column, Kerm Neal, Mark Ellis and I are at the MOWW National Convention in Tucson. I will have information and updates from the Conference on my return and give kudos to

companions for your contributions to the awards we garnered during the awards ceremony. Additionally, many thanks for the hard work our staff and Order have contributed to serve our youth and community.

Our August dinner meeting will be held on Thursday, 28th August with installation of officers and a presentation by the Denver Chapter Commander, Coy Ritchie. Coy has a very interesting background and history, and the installation and his talk will be very informative! This meeting was postponed in July because we did not have enough companions able to attend. Please also save the date for the MOWW dinner meeting on Thursday, September 25th. This will be a presentation of the recent Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference held in July. Finally, plan now to attend and invite others to fill a table at the RMYL Foundation Fund Raiser on Saturday, October 4th at the World War II Aviation Museum!

I am excited about the year ahead and request you consider how you can contribute your efforts for the good of the order, and to enact the motto "It is nobler to serve than to be served"!

Thank you again for the honor and privilege of being your commander and thank you all for your service!

Steve

It is nobler to serve than to be served

COMING EVENTS

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING 28 AUGUST

- Thursday, 1700hrs
- Location: Patty Jewett Golf Course
- RSVP: No later than noon on 26 Aug to [LTC Mike Berendt](#)

MONTHLY COMPANION INFORMATION

Steve Shambach, Kerm Neal and Mark Ellis attended this year's National Convention in Tucson, AZ. The chapter was successful is garnering several awards. A heartfelt thanks to Chapter companions for making this possible. Below is a list:

Medium Chapter Category

Newsletter-1st place
Public Relations-1st place
Homeland Security-2nd place
National Security-2nd place
Patriotic Education-3rd place
Pershing Award- 3rd place

STAFF MEETING (17 July)

TREASURER'S REPORT INFORMATION

The following tables depict the Chapter's financial status as of 1 August.

Account	Balances
CDs:	\$13,393.79
Savings:	\$104.18
Checking:	\$3,110.65
Reserved:	\$2,307.79
Total:	\$18,916.41

AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING

New officers installment: Commander Coy Ritchie will preside over the installation and present a very informative presentation.

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP)

Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiatives
SG1 Outreach – Consistent impactful outreach programs and activities.	Support Region XIII hosting national MOWW convention in Tucson, AZ. Contact anyone on Staff if you have any suggestions on meeting SG-1. In Progress.
SG2 Strategic Partnerships -	Engage with other veteran organizations to establish strategic partnerships. Contact

[Steve Shambach](#) with any suggestions on meeting SG-2. In Progress.

SG3 Maximize Visibility
Chapter committed to participate in Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade. Please contact [Staff](#) if you have any suggestions for how Chapter can meet this objective.

SG4 Annually grow engaged and sustainable MOWW membership.
Chapter recruiting goal for OY25-26 is three Companions. Please contact [Mark Ellis](#) if you have any prospective candidates.

SG5 Obtain financial resources to fulfill Order's mission.
Regular solicitation of donations from Chapter Companions. Contact [Mike Berendt](#) if you have any questions concerning donations or other opportunities for Chapter fundraiser.

SG6 Increase number of chapters and strengthen existing chapters.
Please contact anyone on Staff if you would like to volunteer your skills or suggestions for meeting this SG (i.e., strengthen recruiting, Chapter social media presence, Chapter branding, etc.

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MOWW dinner meeting on Thursday, September 25th will be a presentation of the recent Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference held in July. Also, plan now to attend and invite others to fill a table at the RMYL Foundation Fund Raiser on Saturday, October 4th at the World War II Aviation Museum!

ROTC/JROTC

School is back in session for most of our local high schools and our Department Commanders are reorganizing their ROTC/JROTC units with new cadet leadership and members. We are updating our contact information to reflect changes in Military leadership and phone numbers in preparation for spring award ceremonies. With the recent changes to MOWW Membership policies, we are also encouraging our retired Non-Commissioned officers to join our Colorado Springs MOWW chapter.



Kerm Neal receiving Pershing Award from MOWW Commander. Best medium sized chapter.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Companions consider volunteering for the following Chapter vacancies for OY25-26:

- Newsletter Editor
- Adjutant
- Historian
- Marshall
- Chaplain
- Surgeon General
- Public Relations Officer
- National Security Chair
- Veterans Affairs Chair



AUGUST COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

MAJ William A. Cross, MAJ Tishakim Ellis;
Col Robert H. Emmons; Ms. Margaret L. Clay;
COL Elmer James Mason; Col Michael R.
Helms; Mrs. Linda C. Rowe

SEPTEMBER COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

LTC Francis Wynne; CPT George Gay; Mr.
Lawerence Shinnick; COL Michael Talbott, Mr.
Curt Reus; Ms. Stephanie Johnson; COL Mark
Ellis; COL Stephen Shambach; COL Edward
Fisher

MOWW Membership Application



Please use this link to submit an electronic application: <https://moww.org/become-a-companion/>. Please see Staff for paper membership application or this link to print your own application: <https://moww.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/MembershipApplication-MOWW-1.pdf>

PREAMBLE

To cherish the memories and associations of the World Wars waged for humanity;
To inculcate and stimulate love of our Country and the Flag;
To promote and further patriotic education in our Nation;
Ever to maintain law and order, and to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;
To foster fraternal relations among all branches of the Armed Forces;
To promote the cultivation of Military, Naval and Air Science and the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of National Security for the United States of America;
To acquire and preserve records of individual services;
To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of Memorials of the World Wars;
And to transmit all these ideals to posterity, under God and for our Country, we unite to establish The Military Order of the World Wars.