

Military Order of the World Wars



Chapter 151 Region XIII August 2026 Newsletter



COMMANDER'S REMARKS (August 2026)

Companions,

We had a wonderful membership dinner on 30th of July! We inducted two new members, SGT Warren C. Gerig, US Army (Fmr) and Col (Air Force, ret) Dave Saffold. LCDR Coy Ritchie, Department of the Rocky Mountain Commander, swore in the staff for the upcoming year. Bill Hybl gave a terrific presentation about El Pomar. He was awarded the Outstanding Service Medal and Mike Talbott was awarded the Outreach Service Medal.

This is a reminder of how important it is for you, our members, to get involved in our chapter activities. We need *each of you* to volunteer to help with our various committees so we can sustain and improve our outreach! Our program leads have been laboring for several years and we would like to have new members to help. We are looking for a small contribution of your time and talents to assist with our programs, for as little as one to two hours a month:

- Patriotic Education, including our annual Youth Leadership Conference and educating our youth about Patriotism
- Boy and Girl Scouts, including presenting awards to Eagle and Gold Scout awards
- National Defense and Homeland Security
- Veterans' programs, including participation in recognition events such as 4th of July, 9/11 Memorial, Memorial Day and Veterans Day

This is a great year to get involved as we continue to celebrate America 250 as well as to fulfill your pledge that it is nobler to serve than to be served. You will find contact information at the end of the newsletter for the lead for each program. Upcoming in August is our next MOWW Dinner featuring the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference report and comments from student participants. Save the Date for Thursday, August 27th, 1700-1915 at the Patty Jewett

Golf Course. In addition, the annual MOWW/RMYLF Fund Raiser will be on Saturday, October 3rd at the WWII Museum of Aviation. Plan to attend and bring friends.

Finally, I will be attending the MOWW National Convention in San Antonio, 12-16 August.

It is an honor to serve you and enjoy our fellowship and camaraderie. Bring new members into our fold!

Steve

sashambach@gmail.com

(719)447-5505

It is nobler to serve than to be served.

ROTC AND JROTC

Kirk Brown has volunteered to assist Ulysses Swift as a chairperson of this committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT **INFORMATION**

The following table depicts the Chapter's financial status as of 3 Aug 2026.

Account	Balances
CDs:	\$13,900.87
Savings:	\$105.39
Checking:	\$6,046.82
Reserved:	\$1,343.89
Total:	\$21396.97

COS MOWW Recognizes Mr. Bill Hybl, El Pomar Foundation

The Colorado Springs (COS), Colorado Chapter of MOWW was honored to award the Outstanding Service Medal to Mr. William J. Hybl, Chair Emeritus El Pomar Foundation, at our monthly Companions Dinner on Thursday, 30 July 2026. Mr. Hybl provided an excellent overview of the History, Founder's Intent, and Philanthropic Work that the El Pomar Foundation does in support of the people, businesses, non-profit corporations, and

local governments throughout Colorado. Since 1937, the El Pomar Foundation has provided over \$790 Million in grants to 4,000+ organizations representing all 64 Colorado counties thanks to the benevolence of Spencer and Julie Penrose, who established the El Pomar Foundation to "assist, encourage, and promote the general well-being of the inhabitants of the State of Colorado".

Mr. Hybl serves as Chair Emeritus and a charter member of the board of Trustees of El Pomar Foundation, having served for 30 years as Chairman and CEO. Under his leadership, El Pomar distributes over \$30 Million annually in funding for grants while managing over \$760 Million in assets and providing programs and services in support of Colorado Springs, the Penrose's' long time residence. In 2008, Mr. Hybl was confirmed by the United States Senate as Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Public Diplomacy, a position he was appointed to by President George W. Bush and still serves as Vice Chairman. He also serves as Chair Emeritus of the U.S. Olympic Endowment and is President Emeritus of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). He has also been engaged in a variety of public service activities currently serving as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (Senior). William J. Hybl, a MOWW Companion, truly lives out our motto - It is Nobler to Serve than to Be Served.



COL Steve Shambach presents the MOWW Outstanding Service Medal to Mr. William J. Hybl, El Pomar Foundation

LTC Mike Berendt (Ret), Treasure; and Lt Col Kirk Brown (Ret), Adjutant.



COL Steve Shambach inducting SGT (Frm) Warren Gerig and Col (Ret) Dave Saffold as new members

Chapter 151, Region XIII, 2026-2027
Officers Sworn-In, Two New Members
Inducted, Presentation of the Outstanding
Service Medal and Outreach Service Medal
at July MOWW Monthly Dinner



LCDR (Ret) Coy Ritchie Swearing-In the 2026-2027 Chapter Commander and Staff. Right to left, COL (Ret) Steve Shambach, Commander; Lt Col (Ret) Ulysses Swift, Junior Vice Commander,



COL Steve Shambach presents the MOWW Outreach Service Medal to COL (Ret) Mike Talbott.

MILITARY HUMOR

How do different military branches use stars? The Army sleeps under the stars. The Navy navigates by the stars. The Air Force chooses hotels by the stars.

COS MOWW teams with Wreaths Across America

On December 19, 2026, the Wreaths Across America (WAA) program will distribute truckloads of wreaths to Veteran's Cemeteries across the world to be placed on US Military Member graves in remembrance of their service and sacrifice. Beginning this year, COS MOWW has teamed with WAA to support the purchase of wreaths for placement at the Pikes Peak Veterans Cemetery in Colorado Springs. Many of us already donate to this worthwhile program and this is an opportunity to receive a \$5 payback for COS MOWW for every \$17 wreath you donate for placement on a gravesite. If you are already purchasing wreaths for another veteran's cemetery, please consider ordering them through the COS MOWW website <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/CO0345P> - and our local Chapter will benefit from your generosity. If you have never participated in this program, please consider doing so. You can donate at any participating veteran's cemetery listed in the dropdown list and can even specify that your wreaths be placed on a specific grave (i.e. a parent, friend, or battle buddy). Any wreaths that you purchase through the COS MOWW website above qualify for the \$5 payback. Thanks, in advance, for remembering our fallen heroes and for supporting the COS MOWW operating fund through your generous donation. LTC Mike Berendt and Lt Col Ulysses Swift, WAA co-chairs

Website and Facebook Page

The chapter has both a website and a Facebook page. To access the website, go to www.cos-moww.org. To access the Facebook page, go to MOWW Chapter 151

AUGUST COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

Col Robert L. Browning, Ms. Margaret L. Clay, MAJ William A. Cross, MAJ Tisha Kim Ellis, Col Robert H. Emmons, Col Michael R. Helms, COL Algin J. Hughes, COL Elmer James Mason, Mrs. Linda C. Rowe

SEPTEMBER COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

COL Mark A. Ellis, COL Edward C. Fisher, CPT George R. Gay, Ms. Stephanie L. Johnson, Col Roy W. King, Mr. Curt G. Reus, COL Stephen A. Shambach, Mr. Lawrence W. Shinnick, COL Michael Talbott, LTC Francis E. Wynne

The Military Order of the World Wars Colorado Springs Chapter (151) 2026-2027 Chapter Action Plan

The main effort this year is to build on the successes of 2025-2026, continue to grow, extend our outreach to the local community, and create a sustainment plan for continuous improvement of our local Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) chapter. It is essential to institute a true plan that provides a roadmap that (a) sets goals for what must be done, (b) establishes priorities of what can be done, (c) sets up a manageable and realistic schedule on when the goals are to be accomplished, and (d) highlights opportunities for the chapter to provide service to others, (e) establish leadership succession plan. Having these key elements established will facilitate the effort to acquire and oversee those willing, available, and able companions who will follow through in accomplishing the tasks required to meet the goals.

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP) 2026 - 2027	
Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiative
SG1 Consistently develop and deliver attractive, and high impact community outreach programs and activities	Increase the number of Companions who are actively involved in chapter outreach programs Continue to support and maintain the viability of the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Foundation and Conference Coordinate and strengthen ties with other organizations and VSOs to seek new outreach opportunities
SG2 Expand our impact through alliances and strategic partnerships with organizations that align with our mission	Increase alliances with other organizations with missions that align with MOWWs Strengthen alliances with those organizations that we currently are aligned with Increase and strengthen communication processes with other VSOs
SG3 Increase visibility of the Order at the national and community levels through focused communication, marketing strategies, and local community engagement	Grow chapter visibility in the community and among other VSOs through focused communications and social media Seek out methods to increase and multiply our social media avenues/efforts

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP) 2026 - 2027	
Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiative
	Host the COS-MOWW.org website, promptly post chapter information and events, and maintain and grow our social media presence to keep members informed and communicating
SG4 Annually grow engaged and sustainable MOWW membership	Meet or exceed national recruiting goals Increase the number of new Companions recruited (excluding membership renewals and reinstatements); emphasize perpetual memberships vs. annual memberships when possible. Sustain 85% of Regular and Hereditary members renewing membership Continue to exceed the 75% threshold for veteran Companions Increase the attendance of Companions at regular chapter meetings Hold a minimum of 9 Chapter meetings per year Host the COS-MOWW.org website, promptly post chapter information and events, and establish a social media presence to keep

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP) 2026 - 2027	
Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiative
	members informed and communicating
SG5 Increase adequate financial resources to fulfill the Order's mission	Partner with RMYLF for fund raising activities and initiatives Continue to receive contributions from RMYLF to divide the per student, per night stipend paid by MOWW YEF. Seek sponsorship from individuals and organizations who support Veteran's organizations. Encourage Chapter companions to support the annual CINC Solicitation Partner with Wreaths Across America (\$5 Payback Program) and encourage members to contribute wreaths through the COS MOWW website Solicit funds at chapter meetings and thru the monthly newsletter
SG6 Increase the number of chapters and strengthen existing chapters	Increase Companion recognition program Ensure succession plan is in place and is viable Ensure Companions are prepared to assume Chapter leadership roles

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP) 2026 - 2027	
Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiative
	Continue to support the Denver Chapter by attending their membership meetings and sharing speakers and information Recruit committee members to assist chapter program leads; at least one additional member on each committee. Ensure updated contact information for each member, email preferred, with an emphasis on those in the Colorado Springs area.

AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 27th of August, 1700-1915 at the Patty Jewett Golf Course. The program will feature the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference report and comments from student participants. Reservations required. RSVP to LTC Berendt, berendt478@aol.com, (410) 908-6777 NLT 24 August 2026.

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.

[Link to MOWW Preamble](#)

Chapter Website: www.cos-moww.org

Chapter Facebook: [MOWW Chapter 151](#)



SAVE THE DATE

For the 34th Anniversary Celebration
of the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference



Make it an America 250 Day!
JOIN US after Air Force vs Navy Football!



DATE: Saturday, October 3, 2026

TIME: 4:30pm - 8:30pm

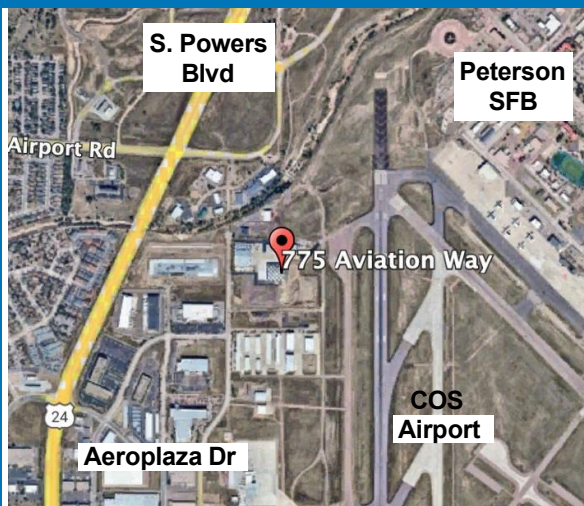
LOCATION: National Museum of WWII Aviation
775 Aviation Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80916



AGENDA: All museum exhibits, tours, simulators, food, beverages & more.

TICKETS: Available NOW at RMYLF.ORG

Sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Foundation (RMYLF)
and the Colorado Springs Chapter, Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW)



THE NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF WORLD WAR II AVIATION
★ ★ ★
COLORADO SPRINGS

775 AVIATION WAY
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80916
719-637-7559



CONTRIBUTION OR PLEDGE

Yes, I am making a tax-deductible contribution or pledge to the Colorado Springs Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars.

I wish to contribute or pledge \$_____ to the Patriotic Education Fund.

I wish to contribute or pledge \$_____ to the ROTC Fund.

I wish to contribute or pledge \$_____ to the Boy and Girl Scout Fund.

I wish to contribute or pledge \$_____ to the Law & Order Fund.

I wish to contribute or pledge \$_____ to the Operations Fund (postage, bulletin, directory, recognition programs – plaques, medals, etc.)

Name

Please make checks payable to Colorado Springs Chapter, MOWW. Send to:

LTC Mike Berendt (USA, Ret), 1230 Bowstring Road, Monument, CO 80132