



General of the Army Omar Bradley – Colonel Thaxton Hanson Chapter (186)

Our Chapter's Mission: Veterans Support, Patriotic Education, Honoring Our Fellow Veterans

Founded in 1919 by officers who served during World War I under General of the Armies John “Blackjack” Pershing, the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) is a premier patriotic Veterans Service Organization (VSO) “*Serving Youth, Community, and Nation*” that is centered on the idea embodied in its motto that “*It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served.*” MOWW’s founding over one hundred years ago resulted from General Pershing’s request that his officers continue serving America after their military service ended. MOWW promotes and encourages military and public service, good citizenship, and patriotic education nationwide.

Serving the Greater Los Angeles and Orange Counties, the *General of the Army Omar Bradley – Colonel Thaxton Hanson Chapter (186)* proudly promotes a *Youth Leadership and Patriotic Education Program* as a cornerstone of our Chapter’s community outreach: this is in addition to supporting our fellow Veterans and recognizing those we have served with, past and present.

2020 – 2021 Quarterly Situation Report (SITREP) ___ July – September, 2020

Lieutenant Colonel David J. Worley, United States Air Force (Retired), Commander

Commander’s Remarks – It is with great pleasure that we are publishing our inaugural newsletter for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Our order has now moved into its second one hundred years, thus the Chapter is not only broadening its community outreach program to better serve our community, but continuing to place a high degree of emphasis on the values and legacy of our fellow Veterans who fought so bravely and courageously during World Wars One and Two, defending not only the rights and freedoms of this Great Country, but also ensuring that our nation endures for centuries to come.

Our newsletter is in the form of a SITREP, or Situation Report. It is important to not only inform our fellow Companions (members) as well as the general public of who we are and what we do, but to also establish a mindset that as a Chapter our mission is a constant daily endeavor, not something we discuss and plan and then only sporadically engage in until the next meeting or directive. Our mindset is one that is of service as General Pershing charged his officers upon the conclusion of World War One.

You will notice that our SITREPs have a broad “newsletter” appeal to not only or members but also to the general public. Being that our SITREPs will also be electronically sent throughout the general public as part of our overall public affairs approach, information included in the SITREP is both companion-focused as well informative to non-members. Companions are encouraged to disseminate these SITREPS as appropriate; the Chapter will also be disseminating these SITREPS to various individuals and organizations on the Chapter’s overall mailing list.

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In our recently approved *2020-2021 Chapter Action Plan* (which Companions were emailed) we outlined a number of initiatives as part of a detailed roadmap for our future, initiatives that provide the bulk of this quarter's SITREP. You will find there are a number of milestones that will come to fruition by the time we publish next quarter's SITREP; having said that, you will also find that there is a great deal on our plate before the end of this calendar year.

The current pandemic has obviously impacted not only our personal lives but our Chapter's ability to execute its overall functions, such as in person meetings, face-to-face activities throughout the community, and most importantly, our outreach within the schools, youth organizations, and with our fellow Veterans. In the military, we always executed "contingency planning" and constantly sought out solutions that enabled us to circumvent the obstacles before us: our Chapter has already risen to the occasion to seek out and implement needed solutions. As we look to embark upon our robust *Chapter Action Plan* in the forthcoming months, the tenacity and dedication our Chapter Companions have shown, to everything this Order stands for, will continue to carry us through these difficult challenges.

To my fellow Companions: I am most grateful for your continued efforts, and I "Thank You!" for a job well done!

Respectfully,

Dave

SECTION 1 OF 4: CHAPTER NEWS AND NOTES

Calendar of Events – Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events and activities:

Saturday, October 10th – 1300 – 1430 Hours. Virtual Chapter Meeting (Companions Only). Vote on Bylaws and Election of Officers.

Saturday, October 17th – 1300 – 1430 Hours. Virtual MOWW Region XIV Fall Conference.

Wednesday, November 11th. Veterans Day. Chapter distribution of *Operation Gratitude* care packages to Veterans.

Sunday, November 15nd – 1300-1600 (Noon Social). Chapter Meeting. 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant, Van Nuys. **(Revised 10/16).**

Saturday, December 19th – Time TBD. *Wreaths Across America.* Los Angeles National Cemetery. Placement of wreaths.

December Holiday Gathering – Location and Time TBD

January Chapter Meeting – Location and Time TBD

Wednesday, February 17th – Time TBD. Joint meeting with Conejo Valley Chapter. Los Robles Country Club, Thousand Oaks. Guest Speaker: MG Peter J. Gravett (Companion, Bradley-Hanson Chapter).

Saturday, March 20th – Location TBD – All Day. 2021 MOWW Region XIV Convention.

Wednesday, August 4th Through Saturday, August 7th. 2021 MOWW National Convention, Detroit, Michigan.

Chapter Website – I am proud to announce that our Chapter website is 50% complete! I appreciate the inputs from fellow Companions on the "first cut" that has been published (Phase I). Corrections will be made during Phase II which will be the final "proposed" version that Companions can expect to be able to review by November 1st. We are on-track to officially go public well in

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advance of our December 1st target date. Our website is designed to be “a companion” to not only these quarterly SITREPs, but also to our soon-to-be-created *Facebook* page as well as additional social media avenues that we are in the process of piecing together. If Companions have additional inputs, you can review the website at www.mowwlosangeles.com: **please email the Commander your thoughts and recommendations.**

Membership – Want to make a difference? Membership in our Chapter gives one an opportunity to be part of a special mission, supporting our youth, community, and fellow Veterans. Our proud heritage of patriotism and community outreach gives one a sense of patriotic purpose and involvement. Throughout our many outreach programs, there undoubtedly is an area of interest that appeals to you where you can make a difference. Membership is open to all military officers, past and present, as well as their family members and descendants. **For more information:** contact one of our fellow members and/or visit www.mowwlosangeles.com for more detailed information to include membership options, access to our downloadable information brochure, and membership applications.

Honored Friends Of The Chapter – We have many individuals, to include those who are from other volunteer organizations, who believe in our mission, yet are not eligible for membership. Many non-commissioned officers are friends of our Chapter as well. These *Honored Friends Of The Chapter* (affectionately referred to as “Friends”) are involved in nearly all aspects of our community outreach activities, they attend our meetings, and they assist where they can with our Chapter’s overall mission. These friends are vital to success of our Chapter and are welcome with open arms. To learn how you can assist our Chapter, contact a fellow Chapter member and/or access our website www.mowwlosangeles.com to learn more.

VETERANS SUPPORT: Operation Gratitude – On November 11th (Veterans Day), our Chapter will be assisting *Operation Gratitude* in the distribution of care packages to many of our fellow Veterans residing in hospitals, care facilities, and senior homes. Each package is similar to what was graciously donated at our *2019 Centennial National Convention* to include, books, toiletries, snacks, and other items to include a personal letter or card from those in the community who want to express their heartfelt gratitude for the Veteran’s service.

First, it is important that fellow Companions identify those locations we wish to deliver these packages to **NLT Thursday, October 15th**. We will be coordinating with *Operation Gratitude* for an “assembly day” specifically dedicated to our Chapter wherein we will assemble each of the required packages: we will inform Chapter Companions and Friends the day, time, and location of package assembly when it is scheduled. Then on November 11th we will deliver the packages in a way that (of course) complies with current pandemic restrictions.

It is important when identifying hospitals, facilities and homes for package delivery that we have a point of contact at the location as they need to arrange with our Chapter Companions for the actual delivery of the packages. **For more information please refer to forthcoming *Commander’s Updates* subject “Operation Gratitude Update” (updates will be numbered). POCs: Please coordinate all necessary details with the Commander or Adjutant.**

HONORING OUR VETERANS: Wreaths Across America – On Saturday, December 19th, our Chapter will be placing wreaths on the gravesites of our deceased comrades interred at the *Los Angeles National Cemetery*. *Wreaths Across America* is a national program that our Chapter annually embraces and is a key component of our Chapter’s community outreach program. Our goal for this year is to raise enough funds to place 200 wreaths at the cemetery. Wreaths are \$15 each and for every two wreaths purchased we receive a third one at no additional charge. Wreaths can also be requested for and placed for a specific Veteran: if one wishes to have a wreath placed on a specific Veteran’s gravesite at a separate nearby cemetery, one can pick that wreath up at the *Los Angeles National Cemetery* on December 19th. Over the next two months, each and every Companions needs to assist our Chapter in the raising of enough funds/purchases to meet our goal as outlined in our *Chapter Action Plan*. **Our fundraising drive ends on Sunday, November 22nd** (this date was selected as there needs to be enough lead time for the wreaths to be purchased, our Chapter given full credit for the purchases, and to give *Wreaths Across America* time to prepare for the shipment of the wreaths and subsequent

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delivery to the cemetery for the December 19th wreath placement). This Chapter's link for the drive can be found at <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/163220> and is a link that you can forward to friends, family members, and organizations. Wreaths can be purchased online or by check: please forward all checks to our Treasurer who in-turn will purchase the wreaths for which the donation was made for. **For more information please refer to forthcoming *Commander's Updates* subject "Wreaths Across America Update" (updates will be numbered).** POCS: Please coordinate all necessary details with the Commander, Adjutant, or Treasurer.

HONORING OUR VETERANS: VFW Post 3834 World War I Memorial – As you will read below in our *Chapter-In-Action* section, we were part of a rededication ceremony on Flag Day (June 14th) of a 100-year old monument located at VFW Post 3834 (San Fernando). The monument was erected on June 14th, 1920 by the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) in honor of those from the community who served during The Great War. Our Chapter is sponsoring (approved by the Executive Staff) a rededication plaque which will be placed in front of the current monument with a ceremony by year's end (pandemic conditions permitting). The plaque will read "THIS MEMORIAL REDEDICATED IN 2020 TO ALL MILITARY MEMBERS WHO SERVED FROM WORLD WAR ONE TO THE PRESENT ... DONATED BY THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY NSDAR, MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS, AND VFW POST 3834". The plaque verbiage has been approved by the Executive Staff, the San Fernando Chapter NSDAR, and VFW Post 3834 as well. We are in the process of designing and creating the plaque with a reputable company, and coordinating with VFW Post 3834 for placement when complete. Further information about the planned ceremony and actual placement of the plaque will be forthcoming.

SECTION 2 OF 4: ONGOING PROGRAMS

Patriotic Education – This Chapter's *Youth Leadership and Patriotic Education Program* is our primary community outreach program, a program that sets the *Military Order of the World Wars* apart from other Veterans Service Organization (VSOs): Among its other National and community-focused outreach programs, the Order's overall *Patriotic Education Program* focuses on youth education, development, and recognition. Involvement with local Scouting, Senior ROTC, and Junior ROTC programs are a primary focus of every Chapter program nationwide. Additionally, Chapter companions routinely speak at schools and numerous youth groups on a variety of patriotic, historical, leadership, and character development topics. Also, Chapters nationwide annually sponsor, at **no cost to high school juniors and seniors** who are selected to attend, approximately 25 five-day in-residence *Youth Leadership Conferences*: Conference missions are to provide the opportunity for our youth to develop leadership skills, gain appreciation of patriotism, and stimulate awareness of our nation's free enterprise system. Numerous one and two-day *Youth Leadership Seminars* are also conducted nationwide, also sponsored by Chapters at no cost to students, focusing on specific subjects of interest promoting patriotism, leadership, civics, and community involvement. **For more information go to www.mowwlosangeles.com**

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION: Scouting, ROTC, and JROTC - We laud the achievements of our youth who have grown as leaders, embody the characteristics of good citizenship, and demonstrate outstanding character. Our Chapter proudly recognizes Girl Scout Gold Award and Boy Scout Eagle Award recipients with **Certificates of Recognition** through local councils; additionally, we sponsor ROTC and JROTC **Awards of Merit** certificates and medals to cadets enrolled in nearly 70 college and high school programs. **For more information go to www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION: Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation's Character Development Program - Our Chapter proudly promotes this program sponsored by the *Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation* (founded by the *Congressional Medal of Honor Society*) consisting exclusively of the living Recipients of the *Medal of Honor*. The Foundation is dedicated to educating and inspiring Americans about the values embodied in the Medal of Honor: courage and sacrifice, commitment and integrity, citizenship and patriotism. Its living history videos and accompanying lessons teach K-12 students that ordinary people can meet great challenges and make the world around them a better place. **For more information go to: <https://themedalofhonor.com/about-the-cdp/> and www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

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PATRIOTIC EDUCATION: 2021 Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference (TOYLC), June 14th-17th - Each June, our Chapter sponsors at **no cost to high school juniors and seniors** (those who are selected) to attend the *Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference (TOYLC)*, a five-day in-residence Conference on the campus of *California Lutheran University*. The TOYLC mission is to provide the opportunity for our youth to develop leadership skills, gain appreciation of patriotism, and stimulate awareness of our nation's free enterprise system. **To access the student application form and for more information go to www.mowwlosangeles.com and www.toylc.com.**

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION: Youth Leadership Education and Patriotic Education Resources - We also provide on our website numerous links to various resources towards educating and assisting today's youth. We believe it is important to make available through electronic means resources that are readily available to our youth as well as provide comprehensive resources for teachers to utilize in today's modern classroom. **These links can be found at www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION AND HONORING OUR VETERANS: 250th Anniversary of American Independence Celebration - Our Chapter has already begun making plans for our Nation's semiquincentennial celebration that will take place in 2026. The Chapter's celebration events and activities will focus on Patriotic Education for our youth as well as recognition of our fellow military comrades who have paid the ultimate sacrifice over a 250-year period defending the rights and freedoms of this great country. **To read about our ongoing plans please go to www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

HONORING OUR VETERANS: Vietnam 50-Year Commemoration - Our Chapter is a proud *Commemorative Partner* of the *United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration* program. As a commemorative partner, this Chapter honors our comrades-in-arms who served during the Vietnam War. Across the Nation, Americans are uniting to thank and honor Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice: this is the main focus of the National 50th Anniversary Commemoration which was authorized by Congress in 2008. Through our efforts, we also encourage the general public to continue thanking and honoring our Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the Nation. If you know of a Vietnam Veteran that has yet to be recognized, please let us know so that they can be appropriately honored. **For more information go to www.mowwlosangeles.com. POCs: Contact the Commander, Adjutant, or Treasurer.**

HONORING OUR VETERANS: Korean War 75-Year Commemoration - Our Chapter has begun making plans in preparation of the *Korean War 75-Year Commemoration* that will take place from 2025-2028. In recognition of those individuals who served during this three-year conflict, a five-year program is being developed by our Chapter leading up to the 75-Year Commemoration: the intent of the program is to not only recognize those individuals who served during the conflict, but to educate the general public of not only the sacrifices of those individuals who served, but that this post-WWII conflict is technically still ongoing as it was a "cease fire" agreement that ended the armed conflict, with military hostilities between the North and the South still in place today. **For more information go to www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

HONORING OUR VETERANS: Veterans History Project – As described on the project's website, "*The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project (VHP) in 2000 as part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. VHP collects, preserves and makes accessible the firsthand remembrances of U.S. military Veterans from World War I through the more recent conflicts. Anyone, including students ages 15 or older, can volunteer to participate.*" Over the years, high school Junior ROTC cadets have assisted our Chapter in the organization, interviewing, and documentation of Veterans' experiences for inclusion in Library of Congress records: we have also insured that the Veteran and their families receive copies of these most treasured interviews as well. Currently, we are proudly partnering with the Conejo Valley Chapter (195) for the actual interviewing of our Veterans. **For more information go to: <https://www.loc.gov/vets/vets-home.html> and www.mowwlosangeles.com.**

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SECTION 3 OF 4: NATIONAL AND REGION XIV INFORMATION

National Headquarters Updates – The focus of our recently installed 90th MOWW Commander-in-Chief, BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMC (Retired) (member of the Woosley Chapter, Region XIV) was recently outlined in his *Commander's Intent* (please see the September-October, 2020 edition of *Officer Review* magazine). The CINC's main objectives for the Order are: *Strengthen Relationships, Operate in Virtual Environment, Establish Robust Zoom Capabilities, Identify Chapters that Need to be Closed, Identify Chapters that Need Assistance, Identify, Mentor and Grow Future Leaders within MOWW Leaders, Advertise MOWW Nationally and Locally as Premier VSO, Recognize and Reward Chapters and Companions for Superior Work, Implement a Plan to Grow Chapters, and Provide Pro-Active Support to Chapter Operations through Communications and Implementing Ideas for Improvement*. Though robust in nature, these much-needed objectives are required as the Order moves forward into its second 100 years. Needless to say, the pandemic has significantly impacted Chapters nationwide, but as Companions we are always up to the challenge of finding ways to implement our community outreach objectives while simultaneously growing the Order's involvement and membership. **For more information go to: www.moww.org.**

Region XIV Updates – The Region XIV Fall Conference, hosted by our Region Commander BGen Paul K. Lebidine, USMCR (Retired), will take place on Saturday, October 17th from 1300-1430: the Conference will be virtually conducted via *Zoom*. All Chapter companions are encouraged to take part in the Conference: *Zoom* participation instructions will be published approximately one-week prior to the Conference. Scheduled to attend the Conference are: MOWW CINC BGen Frederick R. Lopez, USMC (Retired); SVCINC, LTC Michael A. Okin, MD, USA (Retired); Region XIV oversight VCINC, Lt John S. McConnel, USNR (Former) (Puget Sound Chapter, Region XIV), and Chief-of-Staff Brig Gen Arthur B. Morrill III, USAF (Retired). Additionally, the 2021 Region XIV Convention will be an in-person one-day Convention in the San Diego area, and is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 20th, 2021: further details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the March date.

2021 MOWW National Convention – Detroit, Michigan – Rescheduled from the canceled 2020 National Convention (due to the pandemic), Detroit will be hosting the *2021 National Convention* August 4th - 7th. Convention information will be published in the *Officer Review* magazine as well as on the National website. **For more information go to: www.moww.org.**

SECTION 4 OF 4: CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND INFORMATION

Awards and Recognition – Each June, Companions nationwide are recognized with *National Citations* for their outstanding achievements to the Order. We are proud that two of our finest Companions were recognized this year for their outstanding contributions. Our Adjutant, **Mrs. Georgett E. Studnicka (HPM)** spearheaded the Hospitality Room and Convention Registration at our *2019 Centennial National Convention*, ensuring a positive experience for Companions and guests. Georgett has also been at the forefront initiating our Chapter Companion Roster Annual Review. Our Treasurer **CPT Gordon A. Fell, USAR (Fmr)**, was recognized by the Region XIV Commander for his work as Region XIV Treasurer as well as his astute oversight of our Chapter's *2019 Centennial National Convention* budget and execution of Convention expenses. Congratulations to Gordon and Georgett for a job well done!

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Our Chapter-In-Action



A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Guest Speaker and Chapter Companion Dr. (Mrs.) Raquel R. Ramsey (HPM). Dr. Ramsey's husband, former Chapter Companion LTC Edwin P. Ramsey, USA, was featured in an article published in the March-April, 2019 edition of *Officer Review* highlighting "The Last Cavalry Charge" and his three-year experience as a guerilla organizer and fighter in the Philippine jungles after the fall of Bataan in 1942. LTC Ramsey's sister, Nadine, was a WASP during World War Two, and is currently featured in a new book co-authored by Dr. Ramsey entitled "*Taking Flight: The Nadine Ramsey Story*", which can be purchased through Amazon.

On December 14, 2019, our Chapter took part in *Wreaths Across America* by laying wreaths at the *Los Angeles National Cemetery*. Chapter companions participated in the purchasing of wreaths and the actual wreath laying event itself. Chapter Adjutant, Mrs. Georgett E. Studnicka (HPM) is shown laying a wreath in honor of CPL Anthony G. Koldoff, USA, who served during World War One.



The Chapter took part in a Flag Day rededication ceremony of a 100-year old monument located at *VFW Post 3834 (San Fernando)*. The monument was erected on June 14th, 1920 by the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) in honor of those from the community who served during The Great War. San Fernando Valley NSDAR Chapter Regent, Mrs. Lynda K. McGinnis, was presented a *Certificate of Recognition* for the rededication event.

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Meet Our Newest Companions – As new Companions are inducted into our Chapter, we will feature our newest Companions' profiles in these quarterly SITREPs, as well as post them on our website and our *Facebook* page. The Executive Staff is in the process of designing a *Companion Profile Form* for all member sponsors to complete and submit to the Adjutant.

Companion Profiles - Beginning with next quarter's SITREP, each SITREP will feature one-to-three Companions. We want to celebrate our great Companions as well as further inform everyone of their outstanding accomplishments, to include details about their military background, and to also paint a picture to the general public of who we are, the facts-and-faces-behind-the-names so-to-speak. All Companions can expect to be contacted once our *Companion Profile Form* is complete.

******* END OF SITREP 2020-2021-1 *******

COMMANDER:	DAVID J. WORLEY, LT COL, USAF (Ret)
SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER:	JOHN L. MORIARITY, COL, USA (RET)
ADJUTANT:	MRS. GEORGETT E. STUDNICKA, HPM
TREASURER:	GORDON A. FELL, CPT, USAR (FMR)
CHAPLAIN:	RICHARD HENDERSON, CPT, USA, (FMR)

Veterans Affairs | Patriotic Education Program | ROTC Award Programs | Scouting Recognition Programs
National Security Program | Homeland Security Program | Law & Order Program
(www.mowwlosangeles.com) (www.moww.org) (An IRS 501c19 Veteran Services Organization)

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