





# General of the Army Omar N. Bradley – Colonel L. Thaxton Hanson Chapter (186) (PROUDLY HOSTED THE 2019 CENTENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION)

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

Founded in 1919 by officers who served during World War One 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 N. Bradley – Colonel L. 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 fellow Veterans and recognizing those we have served with, past and present.

# 2020 – 2021 Quarterly Situation Report (SITREP) \_\_\_\_ April – June, 2021

# 2020 – 2021 OPERATING YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

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

**Commander's Report** – This has unquestionably been an extraordinary year both in terms of the challenges for and progress made by our Chapter. First, let me say how honored I am to be associated with a phenomenal group of Companions who not only show a high level of tenacity and determination, but a selfless level of dedication towards moving this Chapter forward in spite of the challenges before us. In short, I would say that our operating year was indeed a "Success!"

First and foremost, we <u>did not</u> let *COVID-19* defeat our Chapter's overall mission! We successfully orchestrated numerous Community Outreach Activities <u>and</u> were able to hold an in-person Chapter Meeting: we have our next in-person meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, one that will begin moving us back to regular in-person meetings. Here are the year's highlights:

## "It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 1 of 13

- During the week leading up to November 11<sup>th</sup> (Veterans Day), our Chapter successfully delivered 766 care packages to Veterans throughout Los Angeles County. These packages were delivered on behalf of Operation Gratitude to three of our VA facilities in the county and to other Veterans Service Organizations who in-turn delivered these packages to fellow Veterans that were homebound or located in senior care facilities.
- During the month May and in support of *Military Appreciation Month*, we also delivered **650 care packages** on behalf of *Operation Gratitude* to the *146th Airlift Wing*, California Air National Guard, Channel Islands Air National Guard Station, and during the first week in June to the 1-140th Aviation Regiment S3 (M-Day), Joint Forces Task Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos.
- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, we held our November Chapter Luncheon at the 94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron Restaurant (Van Nuys). The venue was outdoors with proper safety protocols in place. We had 26 attendees, and in addition to a fine meal were able to get "caught-up" with awards and recognition. Attendance included Companions from fellow Chapters, and it was an opportunity for camaraderie that was enjoyed by all. The luncheon was unquestionably a "shot-in-the-arm" since it was our first in-person meeting since late January, 2020.
- For our annual *Wreaths Across America* drive, we obtained enough donations for **113 wreaths** to be placed at *Los Angeles National Cemetery*. With the help of members of the *San Fernando Valley Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution* we placed all of our wreaths at the cemetery on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- For this coming year, we already have 490 wreaths sponsored for our annual Wreaths Across America campaign which is 81.7% of this year's 600 wreath goal! This was due to an extraordinary effort by our Companions and outside organizations who supported our effort towards Honoring Our Fellow Veterans. Each of this year's sponsored wreaths will placed at Los Angeles National Cemetery on December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- We contacted the 76 SROTC and JROTC units we annually support, and approximately 25% of those units requested medals and certificates which of course we provided: most chose not to issue awards this year to their cadets. Next school year we will support all 76 units as schools in California will be back up-and-running at full strength.
- We sent 73 Certificates of Recognition this operating year to the *Girl Scouts of Orange County Council* for presentation to outstanding young ladies who achieved the *Girl Scouts* highest level of achievement, the *Gold Award*; We also provided 79 Certificates of Recognition to the *Verdugo Hills Council* of the *Boy Scouts of America* to outstanding individuals who achieved the *Boy Scouts'* highest level of achievement, the *Eagle Scout Award*.
- In spite of the pandemic, we brought **four new members** into the Chapter plus **one additional Companion transferred** in from another Chapter. From our perspective, this was a huge highlight for our Chapter.
- Administratively, we took full advantage of the "down time" (caused by the pandemic) to take critical steps towards significantly improving our Chapter's outreach capability: First, a new set of Chapter Bylaws was approved by the membership last October; we now have a fully functional website, a *Facebook* page, and by August 1<sup>st</sup> we will have established *Instagram* and *Twitter* social media accounts; and by mid-fall, the Chapter will have a new marketing brochure as well as a unit coin. All of these efforts are geared towards better promoting our Community Outreach Mission and increasing our ability to "reach out' to our younger generation of officers.
- When (due to COVID-19) our Chapter was unable to hold in-person meetings, we held numerous Chapter and Executive Staff Virtual Meetings (via Zoom): we also took part in a number of Joint Chapter Virtual Meetings, specifically teaming-up with the Conejo Valley (195) Chapter during the months of February and March as well as with the BG Holland (103) Chapter on February 6<sup>th</sup>.
- More detailed information on all of our activities and accomplishments can be found in our Quarterly SITREPS which one can download from our website at <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u> as well as be accessed through the National website.

In closing, during these trying times our Chapter has been able to, though in a limited form, continue its outreach mission, and I am most grateful to all of our Companions who have made these efforts possible. Our Chapter is living proof that if everyone puts their mind to it, as President Ronald Reagan stated, "It CAN Be Done!"

Respectfully,

Dave

#### SECTION 1 OF 4: CHAPTER NEWS AND NOTES

**Calendar of Events** – Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events and activities (See Chapter Website For Updates):

Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – Noon to 3:00 PM (11:00 AM Social). Annual Bradley-Hanson Chapter (186) Recognition Luncheon. The Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills, CA 91344.

Guest Speaker: Douglas V. Gibbs, President of the Constitution Association. Topic: Privilege of Citizenship and Liberty. Open to all Companions and invited guests. Cost: **\$49 per person (payable at door)** 

## \* Attendees must RSVP NLT Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> \*

#### (INVITE AND GUEST SPEAKER INFORMATION LOCATED AT THE END OF THIS SITREP)

Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> Through Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. 2021 MOWW National Convention, Detroit, Michigan. Convention details posted on National MOWW website (<u>www.moww.org</u>).

Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Annual Chapter BBQ. Worley Mansion, 18404 San Jose Street, Northridge, CA 91326. Potluck event at no charge. For further information please contact Chapter Adjutant. RSVPs accepted after August 1, 2021.

Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – 0900 – 1100 Hours. Wreaths Across America. Los Angeles National Cemetery. Placement of wreaths.

Second Wednesday of Each Month – 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Monthly Virtual (Zoom) Executive Staff Meetings.

**VETERANS SUPPORT:** Operation Gratitude – During the month of May in support of *Military Appreciation Month* (as well as the first week in June), we delivered 650 care packages on behalf of *Operation Gratitude*. The packages were distributed at two separate military locations; *Honored Friend of the Chapter* and liaison Sergeant Robert Donovan of *Operation Gratitude* was present to accept deliveries at both locations.

First, the contents to assemble **500** packages were delivered to the *146th Airlift Wing*, California Air National Guard (CAANG), Channel Islands Air National Guard Station. The items were first delivered to the base, then prior to distribution CAANG personnel as well as family support volunteers assembled the packages. Half of the completed packages went to deployed personnel and half were distributed to those that attended their Drill Weekend on June 4-6. Companion Lt Col Raffi G. Najarian completed all coordination efforts; photos are included in the *Chapter-In-Action* section of this SITREP.

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 3 of 13 **150** completely boxed packages were also delivered to the 1-140th Aviation Regiment S3 (M-Day), Joint Forces Task Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos: packages were distributed to personnel during the regiment's 4-6 June Drill Weekend. Companion LTC Ángel M. Ortiz completed all the coordination efforts; photos can be viewed in the *Chapter-In-Action* section as well.

Combined with the 766 packages we delivered in November, this brought our total care package outreach for the operating year to an amazing **1416 packages** that were distributed to military personnel and our fellow Veterans! This particular community outreach effort was unquestionably the most significant outreach program that our Chapter has engaged in over the last few years, an amazing effort in the middle of our Nation's restrictive pandemic. We have every reason as a Chapter to be proud of the selfless efforts of our Companions who made our November and May-June campaigns an overwhelming success.

The Veterans Day and Military Appreciation Month efforts by everyone involved was extraordinary executing one of our Chapter's many Veterans Support outreach missions. All of our Chapter Companions and Friends can be proud that they collectively made a difference in many of Veteran's lives: yes, we have truly emulated our Order's motto that *"It's Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served ..."* 

Since 2003, *Operation Gratitude* has distributed nearly three million packages to active-duty personnel, Veterans, and first responders: we are most humbled that our Chapter is a part of this organization's extraordinary effort, whose mission is: *"To forge strong bonds between Americans and their Military and First Responder Heroes through volunteer service projects, acts of gratitude, and meaningful engagements in communities"*. For information visit <u>www.operationgratitude.com</u> as well as our website at <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u>.

**Chapter Website** – Updates have been made to the Chapter website to include greater functionality and ease of use. Except for additional "tweaks" and "minor updates" that will be completed by August 1<sup>st</sup>, for the most part this phase of website development is complete: please review the website and forward to your Commander any additional corrections and recommendations that you may have. This is very important because ...

It was agreed-upon by the *Executive Staff* to contract a professional website designer and webmaster towards the goal of creating a more professional and functional website. This decision was determined after *Executive Staff* review of not only websites from other MOWW Chapters/Regions nationwide but of other community organizations as well. Our Chapter needs to take this necessary approach if we are going to enhance our appeal to potential new members and increase most-needed Companion-based functionality: in short, this will be an "upgrade" from our current website that is a prudent and practical expenditure for our Chapter. The costs of design and maintenance by an outside source will be included in our Chapter's 2021-2022 Financial Plan that will be presented to the membership at the August BBQ.

Please email the Commander your recommendations. You can view the website at www.mowwlosangeles.com.

**Membership and Brochures** – In spite of the pandemic, our Chapter proudly welcomed **five** new members into our Chapter: our membership achievements place our Chapter in the top 20% of all Chapters nationwide in terms of total membership recruitment. First, we have my awesome son, **Bryan D. Worley** who joined our Chapter as a Hereditary Perpetual Member in October; second, we have **LTC Ángel M. Ortiz, USA ANG** who relocated to the Los Angeles area and transferred his membership from the now closed *Gen Vandenberg (213) Chapter* based out of San Luis Obispo; next we have **Lt Col Raffi G. Najarian, CA ANG** who lives in Glendale and is stationed at the CAANG base out at Port Hueneme; then we welcomed **Mr. James C. Studnicka, Jr.** who is the son of our Adjutant HPM Georgett E. Studnicka; and finally, we have **CPT Jonathan (Gary) Pforr, USA (Former)** who relocated to Cypress from the San Francisco area, and is currently the Commander of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (112). We will have biographical profiles for each of our new members in upcoming issues of our SITREP.

**Coming This Fall:** Over the last few months, your Executive Staff has discussed and decided upon a number of options for the creation of a new informational Chapter Brochure, options that are still being refined as we speak. This brochure will be a most-needed tool for us to "get the word out" about our Chapter and provide greater opportunity for the Chapter to attract new members. A suggested product will be presented to the membership at our *Annual August 28<sup>th</sup> BBQ*, then hopefully go to print soon

after. We are excited that we're finally getting this important tool completed, and we know that you will not be disappointed with the final proposed product.

HONORING OUR FELLOW VETERANS: Wreaths Across America – As you know, Wreaths Across America (WAA) is a national program that our Chapter annually embraces and is a key component of our Chapter's community outreach program. For the second year in a row, our Chapter raised funds during October and November so that we could place **113 holiday wreaths** on the gravesites of our deceased comrades interred at the *Los Angeles National Cemetery*. This was an amazing number that truly reflects your generosity in "Honoring Our Fellow Veterans". So ...

Our established goal for this year is to raise enough funds to place **600 wreaths** at the cemetery on December 18<sup>th</sup>. In early January, through our Companions and other Service Organizations, we initiated a short donation campaign in order that we could take advantage of an offer from *Wreaths Across America* wherein for every wreath purchased before January 15<sup>th</sup> (at \$15 each) we would receive an additional wreath at no charge. Well ...

To date we now have sponsored **490 wreaths** which is **81.7% of this year's goal!** This outpouring of support from Companions and organizations has been nothing short of extraordinary. In addition to generous Companions who have donated to our effort, we received \$1900 in contributions from *American Legion Post 288, VFW Post 1614*, and *Glendale Moose Lodge 641*: this also included donations from individual members of those organizations as well. We most certainly plan to recognize those organizations that contributed once we get through this pandemic period: to say we are grateful for their generosity would be an understatement as we are truly *Honoring Our Fellow Veterans* ...

If you wish to donate towards our Chapter raising enough funds to meet our 600 wreath goal, our Chapter's link for the drive can be found at <u>https://wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/163220</u>, 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 Chapter address listed at the end of this SITREP. Wreaths can also be requested for and placed for a specific Veteran: if one wishes to have a wreath placed on a Veteran's gravesite at a separate nearby cemetery, one can pick that wreath up at the *Los Angeles National Cemetery* (on December 18, 2021). For more information go to <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u>.

*HONORING OUR FELLOW VETERANS:* VFW Post 3834 World War I Memorial – As you read in last month's SITREP (*Our Chapter-In-Action*) section, we were part of a rededication ceremony on Flag Day (June 14<sup>th</sup>) of a 100-year-old monument located at *VFW Post 3834 (San Fernando).* The monument was erected on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 (as approved as part of the 2020-2021 Chapter Budget) a rededication plaque which will be placed in front of the current monument this Fall. The plaque has been ordered and we will receive it by late June. 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 CHAPTER NSDAR, MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARDS, AND VFW POST 3834". Further information about a Fall ceremony and actual placement of the plaque will be forthcoming via email and included in the upcoming July – September 2021 Commander's SITREP.

Honored Friends Of The Chapter – At our November 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting, we recognized four individuals with Honored Friends of the Chapter designation (Please see Our Chapter-In-Action photos):

- Sergeant Robert Donovan. Over the years, Bob has actively attended our meetings, and is always there to support our Community Outreach efforts, most notably as the Chapter's liaison with *Operation Gratitude*, for which he is a Supervisor.
  Bob actively promotes the *MOWW Mission* at every opportunity, strongly believing in what MOWW stands for. Bob is passionately involved in numerous programs and activities that serve and support our fellow Veterans.
- Ms. Susan Dawson. Active member and former Regent (equivalent to our Chapter Commander position) of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Susan supports our Community Outreach

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 5 of 13 activities, and was a key volunteer for the 2019 Centennial National Convention that we hosted held last year in Simi Valley. Susan also has a passion for supporting our fellow Veterans.

- Mrs. Deidra Beller. Active member and former Regent of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Deidra also supports our Community Outreach activities, and was a key volunteer for the 2019 Centennial National Convention we hosted held last year in Simi Valley. Deidra not only has a passion for supporting our fellow Veterans, but is strong advocate of our high schools' Junior ROTC programs.
- Sergeant Jimmy Weldon. Jimmy was unable to attend our luncheon, so we recognized him at his home. Jimmy served during World War Two under General George S. Patton, Jr. and through his current project, *The Center for Youth Patriotism*, instills in California's youth a sense of civic, non-partisan pride and a better understanding of our common heritage. For years Jimmy has attended our meetings, and he actively supports and promotes the *MOWW Mission*.

Yes, each of these outstanding individuals truly emulate our Order's motto **"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served"**. There are many other individuals, to include those who are from various other volunteer organizations, who also 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* (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.

#### 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, 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.

This operating year we sponsored 79 Boy Scout Eagle Award Certificates and 73 Girl Scout Gold Award Certificates. We coordinated with each of the ROTC and JROTC units we support for Spring 2021 award presentations to deserving cadets: obviously the *COVID-19* crisis significantly impacted these outstanding programs, thus we only sponsored awards and certificates for approximately 25% of the programs we support. Fortunately all ROTC and JROTC units will be fully functional next school year and we will sponsor awards for each of these outstanding units. **For more information go to** <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u>.

**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 Congressional Medal of Honor. The Foundation is dedicated to

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 6 of 13 educating and inspiring Americans about the values embodied in the *Congressional 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: <a href="https://themedalofhonor.com/about-the-cdp/">https://themedalofhonor.com/about-the-cdp/</a> and <a href="https://themedalofhonor.com/about-the-cdp/">www.mowwlosangeles.com</a>.

**PATRIOTIC EDUCATION:** Cancelled 2021 Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference (TOYLC) - Due to the pandemic, this year's **TOYLC** has been cancelled and will resume in June, 2022. In preparation for the 2022 TOYLC, our Chapter will assist the Conejo-Valley Chapter (195) in the conduct of a two-day Youth Leadership Conference to be held February or March, 2022.

Normally 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** <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u> **and** <u>www.toylc.com</u>.

**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 <u>www.mowwlosangeles.com</u>.

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: <a href="https://www.loc.gov/vets/vets-home.html">https://www.loc.gov/vets/vets-home.html</a> and www.mowwlosangeles.com.

#### SECTION 3 OF 4: NATIONAL AND REGION XIV INFORMATION

**National Headquarters Updates** – The in-person *2021 Detroit National Convention* is "a go" with over 100 attendees already registered. It will be an important convention considering some of the significant proposed National Bylaws changes that will be brought to the floor for discussion and vote (please see the May-June 2022 edition of *Officer Review* magazine). The Convention is scheduled for August 4-7. Registration information can be found at <u>www.moww.org</u>.

Also of particular note, our Order's Chief-of-Staff BG Arthur B. Morrill III (Retired) will be stepping down from his post on September 1<sup>st</sup>, a position he has held for eleven years. The General's replacement is yet to be announced.

Our MOWW Commander-in-Chief, BG Frederick R. Lopez, USMC (Retired) outlined in his *Commander's Intent* (please see the September-October, 2020 edition of *Officer Review* magazine) the following main objectives for the Order: *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 in its second 100 years.

The pandemic continues to significantly impact 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. Our Chapter has indeed risen to the occasion during this last quarter and will continue to do so in the months to come. For more information go to: www.moww.org.

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**Region XIV Updates** – Region XIV elections were held on May 15<sup>th</sup> with CDR George T. (Ted) Parsons of the *San Diego (100)* Chapter elected our new Region XIV Commander, replacing BG Paul K. Lebidine who is stepping down after two-years of extraordinary service during a very difficult period of time for the Order: General Lebidine will be replacing LCDR Nick S. Herbka as the Commander of the *BG Holland (103)* Chapter located north of San Diego. LtCol David C. Yorck of the BG Holland (103) Chapter was re-elected as the Region XIV Vice-Commander and our Chapter Treasurer, CPT Gordon A. Fell, was also re-elected as the Region XIV Treasurer.

Earlier this year the *Las Vegas (147)* and *Monterey Area (127)* Chapters were formally closed thus bringing the number of Chapters within the Region down to ten. It's disappointing that the Region has lost four Chapters over the last year (previously closed were the *Saddleback Valley (221)* Chapter located in Orange County and the *Gen Vandenburg (213)* Chapter located in San Luis Obispo). Each of the four Chapters had been struggling for quite some time and the situation caused by the pandemic most certainly had a negative impact on these Chapters.

Our 2021 Region XIV Virtual Spring Conference took place on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> with Companions throughout the Region participating. Our MOWW CINC, BG Frederick R. Lopez, briefed everyone on the concerns that exist nationwide regarding low-recruiting numbers and the need for every Chapter to continue doing everything within their means to engage with <u>all</u> Chapter Companions. General Lopez also presented CDR George T. (Ted) Parsons of the San Diego (100) Chapter with the prestigious Gold Patrick Henry award for "Extraordinary Patriotic Achievement" spanning Ted's nearly 13-years of service as a MOWW Companion.

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 8 of 13 Only nine such awards are presented annually, and Ted was most deserving of the award having served in many capacities to include that of Chapter Commander and National General Staff Officer. Ted played a significant role at our 2019 Centennial National Convention having put together all the displays and historical items that were viewed by our attendees. Our hat's off to Ted for this most deserving recognition! I personally look forward to working with Ted as he takes on his new duties as Region XIV Commander.

## SECTION 4 OF 4: CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND INFORMATION

Awards and Recognition – Each June, Companions nationwide are recognized with *National Citations* in recognition of their outstanding achievements. At our November 15<sup>th</sup> luncheon, 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. Once again, "Congratulations!" to both!

As previously mentioned, we also recognized at our luncheon **Mrs. Deidra Beller, Mrs. Susan Dawson, Sergeant Bob Donovan, and Sergeant Jimmy Weldon** as *Honored Friends of the Chapter*.



## **Our Chapter-In-Action**

Delivery of items for the assembly of 500 *Operation Gratitude* packages to the *146th Airlift Wing*, California Air National Guard (CAANG), Channel Islands Air National Guard Station.

Pictured From Left to Right:

Honored Friend of the Chapter and Operation Gratitude liaison Sergeant Robert Donovan; Companion and 146th Airlift Wing member Lieutenant Colonel Raffi Najarian; and Chapter Commander Lieutenant Colonel Dave Worley.

Delivery of 150 Operation Gratitude packages to the 1-140th Aviation Regiment S3 (M-Day), Joint Forces Task Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos.

Pictured From Left to Right:

Regiment member Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ángel Ortiz; Honored Friend of the Chapter and Operation Gratitude liaison Sergeant Robert Donovan; Companion Lieutenant Colonel Ángel Ortiz; Operation Gratitude Senior Manager of Production & Distribution Luis Franco; and Regiment member Captain Jonathan Reabe.



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Companion and *146th Airlift Wing* member Lieutenant Colonel Raffi Najarian after *Operation Gratitude* items were delivered to and pre-positioned in his base office.

Pre-positioning of the 150 packages inside Hanger One at the 1-140th Aviation Regiment S3 (M-Day), Joint Forces Task Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos.

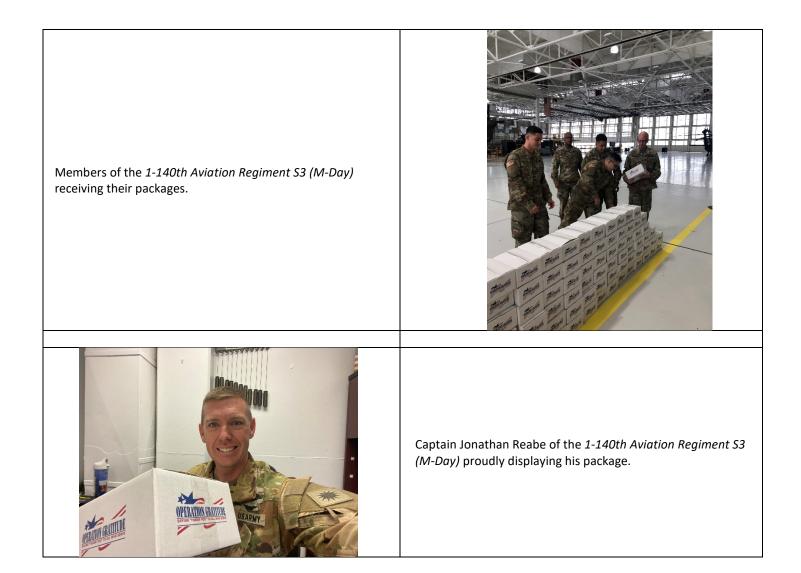
Pictured From Left to Right:

Regiment member Captain Jonathan Reabe; Companion Lieutenant Colonel Ángel Ortiz; Regiment member Staff Sergeant Anthony Orduño; Chapter Commander Lieutenant Colonel Dave Worley; and *Honored Friend of the Chapter* and *Operation Gratitude* liaison Sergeant Robert Donovan.





Members of the 146th Airlift Wing after they received their assembled packages.



# **Commander's Invitation**

My Fellow Companions and Guests

\* You Are Cordially Invited To Attend Our Annual Awards Luncheon \*

Saturday, June 26th at Noon (11:00 AM Social)

Attendees must RSVP NLT Monday, June 21st

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At The Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 11 of 13 (Atop the Hill Overlooking the Northern San Fernando Valley)

Cost is \$49 Per Person, Cash or Check Payable at the Door

Choice of Grilled Garlic Chicken, Pan Seared Salmon, or Vegetarian Pasta Primavera

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# OUR DISTINGUISHED GUEST SPEAKER IS *DOUGLAS V. GIBBS* WHO WILL BE SPEAKING ON *THE PRIVILEGE OF CITIZENSHIP AND LIBERTY*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM WILL BE PERFORMED BY *REBECCA HOLDEN* RENOWNED ACTRESS , SINGER , AND ENTERTAINER

Plus: Awards and Recognition

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**Particulars:** Attire is Business Casual. We **ABSOLUTELY** need an accurate headcount and **Meal Selection By Monday, June 21**<sup>st</sup>, so please **RSVP** to our Adjutant Georgett Studnicka (818-882-7224) or <u>gstudnicka1@gmail.com</u> at your earliest convenience.

**Current Restaurant Requirements:** *Must Wear Masks When Not Seated – Social Distancing Will Be In Place.* 

**LEARN ABOUT REBECCA HOLDEN @** <u>www.rebeccaholden.com/bio/</u>

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ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER

## **DOUGLAS V. GIBBS**

Douglas V. Gibbs is a Radio Host, Author, Public Speaker, and outspoken proponent for the spread of constitutional literacy and patriotic advocacy. As President of the Constitution Association, fellow of the American Freedom Alliance, a Sentinel for the Heritage Foundation, and an Instructor on the United States Constitution, his activism has led to television appearances (including Fox News), as well as interviews on various smaller television

"It Is Nobler To Serve Than To Be Served" Page 12 of 13 and radio outlets. Doug is an award winning blogger and free-lance newspaper columnist whose articles appear in both print, and online.

Doug is a family man, married 36 years to his high school sweetheart, the father of two and has seven grandchildren. Doug is a proud United States Navy veteran.



## \*\*\*\*\* END OF SITREP 2020-2021-4 \*\*\*\*\*

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)

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P.O. BOX 33335, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91394 \* info@mowwlosangeles.com \* 818-723-4014

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