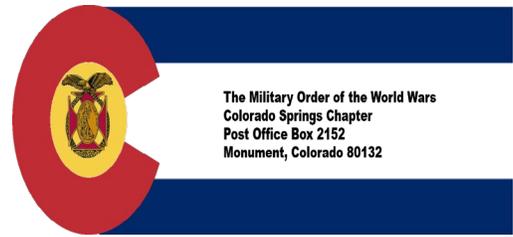


# Military Order of the World Wars



## Chapter 151 Region XIII March 2025 Newsletter



### COMMANDER'S REMARKS (10 Mar 2025)

Greetings Companions,

Commander Kerm Neal's mother passed recently so he is away handling family affairs with his sister. During his absence I am penning the Commander's remarks this month. Please keep Kerm and family in your prayers.

In Kerm's absence last month Jim Borders, Senior Vice Commander led February meeting. Jim introduced Ms. Kristin Hersch from the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado, who provided informative human trafficking presentation.

We will have a busy next six months. Highlights include the following:

- April-May Chapter prepares for elections – please consider volunteering for any of the positions on staff. We will also present ROTC/JROTC awards to deserving UCCS and High School students.
- May-June planning, training and execution for Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference 23-27 June
- June-July planning and execution for Chapter participation in Monument July 4 parade
- August – National Convention in Tucson, AZ

With this in mind, we need volunteers to step forward and assist the chapter for the activities listed above. Range of opportunities exist from serving as a Chapter officer, Chapter delegate to National Convention, or volunteering to assist with the RMYLC. Consider how you can embrace the MOWW motto and concepts in the Preamble by volunteering. We reserved room B2 at Library 21c on April 4 at 4:30pm and April 5 at 12:30pm to conduct training for anyone interested in serving on the Staff.

Colonel Mark Cobos, Commander of the US Army 1st Space Brigade, will provide an interesting presentation on the only Army unit with mission to "fight from, through, and into space."

V/R,

Ulysses Swift

Junior Vice Commander

*It is nobler to serve than to be served*

### COMING EVENTS (MARCH-APRIL)

#### ✓ STAFF MEETING ON 13 MAR 25)

- Thursday, 1700
- Location: Hill House
- Virtual Mtg [Link](#)

#### ✓ NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON 22 MAR 25 HOMELAND SECURITY TOPIC

- Saturday, 1100
- Location: Patty Jewett Golf Course
- RSVP: No later than noon on 19 March to [LTC Mike Berendt](#)
- Virtual Mtg [Link](#)

#### ✓ CHAPTER STAFF OFFICER TRAINING SESSION

- Friday April 4 at 4:30pm
- Saturday April 5 at 12:30pm
- Location: Library 21c Room B2
- RSVP: No later than noon on April 3 to [Lt Col Rich Peters](#)

### MARCH COMPANION INFORMATION

*The Chapter Staff encourages Companions to attend the National Convention in Tucson, AZ. Please contact anyone on Staff if you are attending and are willing to represent the Chapter as a delegate.*

### STAFF MEETING (13 FEB)

Staff discussed the National Convention Region XIII is hosting 5-10 August 2025 in Tucson, AZ. As the host region the Chapter in Tucson will need assistance from region Chapters to execute.

Outreach is National Strategic Goal #1 with Chapter scheduled participation for following events:

- Memorial Day Monday 26 May
- July 4 (Friday) Monument Parade
- July 27 (Saturday) Korean War Armistice Day - Tentative
- 9/11 Remembrance Day
- Veterans Day Tuesday November 11

- Pearl Harbor Day December 7 planning for Massing of Colors – contact [John Hannan](#) if interested in supporting
- America 250 – national celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of Declaration of Independence. Chapter will participate in local events around America 250. Volunteer from Chapters Announce at staff meeting.

March 22, 2025 next membership meeting with National Security presentation.

Chapter seeking volunteer for the National Security Chair and Veterans Affairs Chair.

### TREASURER’S REPORT INFORMATION

The following tables depict the Chapter’s financial status as of Feb 1.

Account	Balances
CDs:	\$13,097.30
Savings:	\$103.53
Checking:	\$2,589.09
Reserved:	\$3,252.34
Total:	\$19,042.26

## FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING (22 FEB)

### Public Safety/Law and Order (PS/L&O)

The Colorado Springs (COS), Colorado Chapter of MOWW was honored to welcome Ms. Kristin Hersh, from the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado as our guest speaker during our 22 February 2025 Companion Meeting. Ms. Hersh provided an excellent presentation on the causes, signs and actions to prevent human trafficking. Based in Colorado Springs, the Task Force is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit corporation that provides education and ideas for preventing human trafficking. Ms. Hersh explained the breadth of human trafficking in such diverse areas as: hospitality, construction, agriculture, forced labor, as well as the more well-known areas of sex trafficking. She noted that while labor trafficking is more prevalent, sex trafficking is more lucrative. 40 million people are estimated to be involved in human trafficking worldwide. Her presentation also included steps that we can all take to prevent and report suspicious situations that may indicate human trafficking is taking place. We thank Ms. Hersh for her service to Southern Colorado and her efforts to combat human trafficking in our community. The



mission of the Human Trafficking Task Force of Southern Colorado is to build a collaboration of organizations and individuals to reduce human suffering caused by human trafficking, through advocacy, awareness, rehabilitation, and services for survivors.

## 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. Please contact Rich Peters if interested in participating in convention support. Contact <a href="#">Rich Peters</a> if you have any suggestions on meeting SG-1. In Progress.
SG2 Strategic Partnerships -	Engage with other veteran organizations to establish strategic partnerships. Contact <a href="#">Kerm Neal</a> with any suggestions on meeting SG-2. In Progress.
SG3 Maximize Visibility	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 is three Companions. Please contact <a href="#">Jim Borders</a> if you have any prospective candidates.
SG5 Obtain financial resources to fulfill Order’s mission.	Regular solicitation of donations from Chapter Companions. Contact <a href="#">Mike Berendt</a> if you have any questions concerning donations.
SG6 Increase number of chapters and strengthen existing chapters.	Please contact <a href="#">Rich Peters</a> if you would like to volunteer your skills in recruiting, social media, branding or suggestions on strengthening Chapter.

## MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING (22 Mar) National Security

The guest speaker for this month’s meeting is Colonel Mark Cobos Commander of the 1st Space Brigade, the only brigade in the Army dedicated to fighting from, through, and into space. He was born and raised in El Paso, Texas and graduated from West Point in 2000. He has led troops at every level from platoon to brigade,



including deployments to Bosnia, Iraq (x3), and Afghanistan.

His command experience includes the 1st Space Battalion from 2019-2020 and a Sapper company in the 3rd Infantry Division while deployed to western Iraq for 15 months from 2007-2008. His 200-strong company team of Soldiers and Marines fought an insurgency in the cities of Hit and Rutbah, and from the Euphrates River Valley to the Syrian border while mentoring city councils, mayors, service departments, police forces, and tribal councils at the heart of the Anbar Awakening—the movement credited with turning the tide of the war in Iraq. He also commanded an Army firefighting detachment during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003-2004, and led Sapper platoons in the 10th Mountain Division in 2001-2003.

Colonel Cobos served on the Joint Staff from 2016-2019, where he helped lead efforts to establish the United States Space Command between the Pentagon, the White House, and the Congressional Armed Services Committees. He also led Joint Staff contributions to the space-related initiatives and strategies of the National Security Council, the National Space Council, and the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy. He contributed to the writing of the National Security Strategy, the National Space Strategy, the National Defense Strategy, and the National Military Strategy, and was recognized by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the 2018 Joint Staff Officer of the Year.

His assignments as a colonel include Deputy Commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense and the J35 at U.S. Space Command. Other staff assignments include Army space experiments and wargames branch chief, where he assisted in the initial experimentation of the National Space Defense Center; aide-de-camp to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command; and campaign planner for Pakistan/Afghanistan coordination and the transition to Operation Resolute Support at Headquarters, International Security Assistance Force, in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Colonel Cobos holds a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy-West Point (international relations), a Master of Science from the University of Missouri-Rolla (geology and geophysics), a Master of Military Arts and Science from the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies, and a Master of Science from the National War College (national security strategy, Distinguished Graduate).

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## NATIONAL & REGIONAL NEWS

### NATIONAL NEWS

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#### REGION XIII NEWS

Region XIII hosting national convention August 5-10 2025 at Desert Diamond Casino and Hotel ([link to hotel website](#)) Tucson, AZ. Please consider attending convention as Chapter delegate or as volunteer to support the convention. The region's Chapters will work together hosting the annual convention. Please contact anyone on staff if you are attending and want to volunteer to assist in executing convention support.

Ken Robinson from Phoenix Chapter is the Region XIII Commander replacing Acting Commander Marlon Ruiz (who is also National Senior Vice Commander). Please consider volunteering to serve on the National MOWW America 250 Committee representing Region XIII. Please contact Kerm Neal or Steve Shambach if interested. VCINC Joe Kirlin is leading National MOWW Committee.

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#### NATIONAL SECURITY (NS)

(Executive Summary from Defense Space Strategy Summary June 2020)

The Department of Defense (DoD) is embarking on the most significant transformation in the history of the U.S. national security space program. Space is now a distinct warfighting domain, demanding enterprise-wide changes to policies, strategies, operations, investments, capabilities, and expertise for a new strategic environment. This strategy identifies how DoD will advance spacepower to enable the Department to compete, deter, and win in a complex security environment characterized by great power competition.

Space is vital to our Nation's security, prosperity, and scientific achievement. Space-based capabilities are integral to modern life in the United States and around the world and are an indispensable component of U.S. military power. Ensuring the availability of these capabilities is fundamental to establishing and maintaining military superiority across all domains and to advancing U.S. and global security and economic prosperity. Space, however, is not a sanctuary from attack and space systems are potential targets at all levels of conflict. In particular, China and Russia present the greatest strategic threat due to their development, testing, and deployment of counterspace capabilities and their associated military doctrine for employment in conflict extending to space. China and Russia each have weaponized space as a means to reduce U.S. and allied military effectiveness and challenge our freedom of operation in space.

Rapid increases in commercial and international space activities worldwide add to the complexity of the space environment. Commercial space activities provide national and homeland security benefits with new technologies and

services and create new economic opportunities in established and emerging markets. The same activities, however, also create challenges in protecting critical technology, ensuring operational security, and maintaining strategic advantages. Internationally, allies and partners also recognize the benefits of space for military operations, and increasingly understand the threats to those space activities.

Allies and partners who are actively expanding their defense space programs, present novel opportunities to increase defense collaboration and cooperation. In response to this new security environment, and in accordance with the 2018 National Strategy for Space and the 2018 National Defense Strategy, this Defense Space Strategy provides guidance to DoD for achieving desired conditions in space over the next 10 years. The DoD desires a secure, stable, and accessible space domain, whose use by the United States and our allies and partners is underpinned by comprehensive, sustained military strength. The strategy includes a phased approach for the defense enterprise to move with purpose and speed across four lines of effort: (1) build a comprehensive military advantage in space; (2) integrate space into national, joint, and combined operations; (3) shape the strategic environment; and (4) cooperate with allies, partners, industry, and other U.S. Government departments and agencies.

The Department is taking innovative and bold actions to ensure space superiority and to secure the Nation's vital interests in space now and in the future. Establishing the U.S. Space Force (USSF) as the newest branch of our Armed Forces and the U.S. Space Command (USSPACECOM) as a unified combatant command, as well as undertaking significant space acquisition reform across the DoD, has set a strategic path to expand spacepower for the Nation. It is a path that embraces space as a unique domain of national military power that, together with the other domains, underpins multi-domain joint and combined military operations to advance national security. (Access entire summary using this [link](#).)

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## HOMELAND SECURITY

### Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Space Policy

Within the homeland security enterprise, space-based systems play a critical role in securing the homeland as DHS components and partners rely heavily on space systems to provide information and communications necessary for mission success. The DHS Space Policy guides component efforts internally and across the homeland security enterprise.

#### DHS Policy

A) Support the security, integrity, and resilience of government and private sector space-based systems and their associated supply chains during their design, development, acquisition, deployment, and operation. Space systems enable key functions such as global communications; positioning, navigation,

and timing; scientific observation; exploration; climate monitoring; and multiple vital national security applications. Therefore, it is essential to assess and communicate risks to space systems to enable protection from cyber or other threats, including manipulation and unauthorized access to prevent disruptions to delivery of critical services and data. DHS will advocate for the incorporation of cybersecurity principles for all phases of space systems design, development, acquisition, deployment, and operation across the industry. DHS will maintain closer relationships with its diverse government and industry partners to focus on cybersecurity measures for space systems and will develop best practices, education materials, and standards consistent with Space Policy Directive-5 (SPD-5), Cybersecurity Principles for Space Systems.

B) Build resilience into the use of critical space assets to minimize the impact of any natural or human-made disruptions on the homeland and to DHS mission execution. Therefore, DHS will prioritize engagement with federal interagency partners and the private sector to increase assurance and fortify the resilience of space-enabled components of NEFs and NCFs against natural or purposeful interference and harmful manipulation, through encouraging the fielding, exercising, and employment of secure and resilient materiel, and non-materiel, space, and non-space capabilities. In addition, DHS will hold periodic operationally focused exercises to test the continuity of NCFs and Primary Mission Essential Functions and associated systems in a degraded or denied space environment as a result of natural or human-made disruptions. Components will develop procedures and continuity plans for the loss of critical space systems and conduct internal exercises focusing on such an event. Components will develop continuity plans that consider alternatives to their space-based systems to increase the Department's resilience to the loss of space systems.

C) Develop contingency plans for a degraded space environment, regardless of cause. In addition to impacts of space weather and other natural causes, DHS must prepare for the potential that heightened tensions or adversarial activities in space may lead to impacts upon domestic space assets. Accordingly, DHS will develop contingency plans consistent with its mission to plan for potential impacts to the homeland and manage associated national response and recovery efforts consistent with DHS authorities. Components will incorporate into contingency plans any potential vulnerabilities, likely targets, and mitigation measures that may be unique to adversarial military actions in the space domain. DHS

will participate in and otherwise support interagency and international discussions around norms and responsible state behaviors for space and in response to activities in space.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/LAW & ORDER (PS/L&O)**

Space resources and technology are used to support law enforcement in a variety of ways, including intelligence gathering, crime detection, and disaster response.

- Intelligence gathering: The US intelligence community uses space assets to support military and law enforcement operations
- Crime detection: Artificial Intelligence-powered image and video processing tools can detect objects like weapons and identify subjects of interest. Drones can be used to monitor crowds, but may be invasive.
- Disaster response: Space-based solutions can help with disaster relief and recovery
- Civil security: Space-based solutions can help with civil security and crisis events, such as humanitarian responses, law enforcement, and safety.

**ROTC/JROTC**

Kudos to all Companions who volunteered to present MOWW awards for the numerous JROTC programs at High Schools and the ROTC program at University of Colorado – Colorado Springs (UCCS). Please contact [Mike Berendt](#) or [Ulysses Swift](#) if you are interested in representing the Chapter as a presenter.

**SCOUTING/CAP**

Col Neal contacting Mr. Ric Trimillos with the intent to facilitate a meeting between the USAFA Cadet Eagle Scout Venturing Crew. Purpose of the meeting is to introduce himself and the Order to the Cadets in pursuit of SG-1 Outreach and solicit their participation in Scouting activities throughout El Paso County. Initiative is dependent on outcome of USAFA Superintendent directive to review all clubs to ensure Cadet clubs align with mission.

Rich Peters continues to engage with USAF Civil Air Patrol unit to integrate with MOWW Awards program.

**VETERANS AFFAIRS**

On December 12, 2024 President Biden signed into law H.R. 1432, the “Veteran Service Organization (VSO) Equal Tax Treatment Act” or the “VETT Act,” which amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable

contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

The MOWW is one of the organizations that will benefit from this new law.

**COMPANION OUTREACH & INTEREST  
COMPANION ARTICLES AND  
FUNDRAISING/DONATIONS/SALES**

The Chapter continues to seek donations from Companions to allow the Chapter to continue supporting all the various outreach programs.

**PATRIOTIC EDUCATION**

The Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Foundation (RMYLF) and Chapter Companions have started planning for the 2025 Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference (RMYLC) from June 23-27 at CSU Pueblo. This involves 100 rising high school seniors for a week in-resident experience emphasizing leadership, patriotism, and the free enterprise system.

See [www.rmylf.org](http://www.rmylf.org) for additional information on the RMYLC. Please contact [Steve Shambach](#) if interested in volunteering to help with planning and execution of the conference.

**OY2026 STAFF ELECTION**

It is time for our annual MOWW Staff elections. The vitality of our Chapter depends on volunteers willing to take on leadership roles to bring fresh energy and new ideas to our organization. In accordance with our Bylaws, the following are the elected positions for our Chapter:

Elected	Elected/Appointed*
• Chapter Commander	• Historian
• Senior Vice Commander	• Marshall
• Junior Vice Commander	• Chaplain
• Adjutant	• Surgeon General
• Treasurer	• Public Relations Officer
	• Judge Advocate

\*If no volunteers for these positions, then Commander can appoint Companion to position

See this [link](#) for position descriptions and duties in Chapter Article V Bylaws.

Election Procedures

- Submit to Chapter Adjutant, Lt Col Peters, no later than noon Tuesday, 15 Apr nominations for yourself or other Chapter Members.
- Adjutant will send ballots electronically to Chapter members no later than Thursday, 17 Apr.
- Chapter members submit absentee ballots (i.e., not attending monthly meeting, etc.) to the Chapter

Adjutant, Lt Col Peters no later than noon Friday, 18 April.

- Saturday, 19 April General Membership Floor nominations for vacant position(s) (i.e., positions with no nominations, etc.) accepted prior to in person voting.
- In person paper ballot distributed to Chapter Members attending.
- Junior Vice Commander, Lt Col Swift will collect all ballots and announce the results.
- Adjutant, Lt Col Peters will publish results in May Chapter Newsletter.

#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Companions consider volunteering for the following Chapter vacancies for OY25:

- Historian
- National Security Chair or Committee member
- Veterans Affairs Chair
- Public Safety/L&O Committee member



#### RECRUITING

Congratulations to Companions. The Chapter has met the OY25 recruiting goal.

#### MARCH COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

15 Mar – Mrs. Kimberly J. Neal; 19 Mar – COL James A. Mundt; 24 Mar – COL George E. Reed; 29 Mar – Mr. Kobe R. Neal

#### APRIL COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

02 Apr – Col Richard P. Mcleod; 10 Apr – LTC Donald H. Holt; 12 Apr – LTC William D. Linn, II; 15 Apr -- Lt Col Adam D. Ackerman; Capt Kristy M. Katein-Taylor; 21 Apr – Maj Richad H. Pedone; 23 Apr – LTC William G. Chadick; 29 Apr – 1LT William T. Shambach; 30 Apr – Maj David K. Ritterling

#### ANNIVERSARIES AND TRIVIA

- Navy Reserve Birthday (March 3, 1915)
- Hug a GI Day (March 4, 2025)
- Seabee Birthday (March 5, 1942)
- K-9 Veterans Day (March 13, 2025) — The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service.
- American Legion Birthday (March 15)
- Rosie The Riveter Day (March 21)
- Medal of Honor Day (March 25, 2025) – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.
- Vietnam Veterans Day (March 29, 2025) – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.

#### AWARDS & RECOGNITION COMPANION AWARD(S)

SG 3 Maximize Visibility and SG Goal 4 Growing Engaged MOWW Membership are linked through the Companion Awards program. Please review the MOWW Awards program (Chapter 7) for eligibility criteria and nominate deserving Companions and non-Companions for the appropriate award. Your active participation will support the Chapter in accomplishing this strategic goal.

#### 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.

## POINTS OF CONTACT

**MOWW Chapter 151**  
Colorado Springs, CO



### **Commander**

Kerm Neal (Col, USAF, Ret)  
13303 Honey Run Way  
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### **Senior Vice Commander**

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### **Junior Vice Commander**

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### **Adjutant**

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### **Treasurer**

Mike Berendt (LTC, USA, Ret)  
1230 Bowstring Rd.  
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### **Patriotic Education Committee Chair**

Stephen A. Shambach (COL, USA, Ret)  
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(719) 447-5505  
[shambachsm@msn.com](mailto:shambachsm@msn.com)

### **Homeland Security Committee Chair**

Jon K. Wisham, Sr.  
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Colorado Springs, CO 80921  
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### **Public Safety and Law & Order Committee Chair**

John Hannan (CPT, USA, Fmr)  
3332 Union Jack Way  
Monument, CO 80920  
(602) 448-2726  
[john1hannan@yahoo.com](mailto:john1hannan@yahoo.com)

### **ROTC and JROTC Committee Co-Chairs**

[Mike Berendt \(LTC, USA, Ret\)](#)  
[Ulysses Swift \(Lt Col, USAF, Ret\)](#)

### **Scouting Committee Chair**

[Kerm Neal.](#)

### **National Security Committee Chair**

(Vacant)  
Acting Chair [Rich Peters](#)

### **Veterans Affairs Committee Chair**

(Vacant)  
Acting Chair [Rich Peters](#)  
**Surgeon General**  
Tisha K. Ellis (MAJ, USAR)  
5555 Chukar Trail  
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402 541-2230  
[kim40@icloud.com](mailto:kim40@icloud.com)

### **Judge Advocate General**

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### **Rocky Mountains Department Commander**

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### **Region XIII Commander**

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[robinson4ken@gmail.com](mailto:robinson4ken@gmail.com)

[Link to MOWW Preamble](#)

Chapter Website: [www.cos\\_moww.org](http://www.cos_moww.org)



**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.)

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Name

Please make checks payable to Colorado Springs Chapter, MOWW

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