

Military Order of the World Wars



Chapter 151 Region XIII FEBRUARY 2026 Newsletter



COMMANDER'S REMARKS (FEBRUARY 2026)

Greetings Companions!!

I hope you survived the cold and snow snap we had recently! Finally getting Colorado weather and the ski slopes really need the snow!

We had a wonderful Membership meeting Saturday 24th of January. The JROTC focused meeting featured Col Joey Hinson, USAF (Ret), from Mitchell HS and two of his cadets. Callen Dawson is this year's Detachment Commander who also attended the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference last year and junior Delilah Epps, who plans to attend RMYLC this year and is the presumed commander for next year. All gave interesting information and updates on the JROTC program. In addition, Companion Jonathan Cole was awarded the Outstanding Service Medal for his work with the Order, RMYLC and the Foundation. Finally, Companion Leroy Trusty has accepted the position of Chapter Chaplain!

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 21st. Our speaker will be Deputy Police Chief Rafael Chanza. This promises to be an interesting presentation given everything that is going on with the challenges to law enforcement. Plan to attend and bring others!

Be advised that applications are now open for this year's Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference, our flagship program. The Conference is a five day, in residence program to develop informed citizen leaders. This year the Conference will be held from 15-19 June at CSU Pueblo. The focus is on rising High School Seniors (this year's juniors), and exceptional rising Juniors. More information is available at: [The Conference - Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Foundation Inc](#), where you will also find an application. Applications go through guidance counselors or JROTC instructors at the student's school. Home schoolers can apply directly to the Registrar.

A reminder for you to consider contributing financially to our chapter which relies on contributions to sustain our efforts. Our annual perpetual member stipend was drastically reduced

from the customary \$2300 per year to \$900 last year. These funds used to be sufficient to run our programs, but now we need to supplement with donations. If you are able and willing to help us, you can find a pledge form attached to this newsletter and on the link at our website: [cos-moww-pledge.pdf](#). You can contribute to a specific program area or to the general fund. I assure you we are good stewards of our funds!

Another reminder is that we are always looking for new members! Our goal this year from National is six new members, of which we have only enrolled two. Remember also that membership is now open to all ranks! Please consider who you can invite to attend meetings and join our worthwhile organization! Here is the link to the membership application on our website: [moww-membership.pdf](#)

Finally, we are looking for ways our Chapter can better serve you, our members. Please let us know your ideas for how to improve our service for you and our community.

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

Steve

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(719)447-5505

It is nobler to serve than to be served.

STAFF MEETING (15 JANUARY)

TREASURER'S REPORT INFORMATION

The following tables depict the Chapter's financial status as of 1 January 2026.

Account	Balances
CDs:	\$13,582.31
Savings:	\$104.84
Checking:	\$3,407.51
Reserved:	\$2,060.29
Total:	\$19,154.95

CHAPTER ACTION PLAN (CAP)

Strategic Goal (SG) Current	Initiative
SG1 Outreach – Consistent impactful outreach programs and activities.	Contact any Staff member if you have any suggestions on meeting SG-1.
SG2 Strategic Partnerships -	Engage with other veteran organizations to establish strategic partnerships. Contact Steve Shambach with any suggestions on meeting SG-2. In Progress.
SG3 Maximize Visibility	Chapter committed to participate in Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade. Contact Staff if you have any suggestions for how Chapter can meet this objective.

SG4 Annually grow engaged and sustainable MOWW membership.

Chapter recruiting goal for OY25-26 is three Companions. Please contact [Mark Ellis](#) if you have any prospective candidates.

SG5 Obtain financial resources to fulfill Order's mission.

Regular solicitation of donations from Chapter Companions. Contact [Mike Berendt](#) if you have any questions concerning donations or other opportunities for Chapter fundraiser.

SG6 Increase number of chapters and strengthen existing chapters.

Contact anyone on Staff if you would like to volunteer your skills or suggestions for meeting this SG (i.e., strengthen recruiting, Chapter social media presence, Chapter branding, etc.

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next MOWW lunch meeting is on Saturday, 21 February 2026. Deputy Police Chief Rafael Chanza, Colorado Spring Police, will be our guest speaker. **Reservations required. RSVP to LTC Berendt, berendt478@aol.com, (410) 908-6777 NLT 18 Feb.**

ROTC/JROTC

Our ROTC/JROTC Department Heads are well into the second semester of the academic year. Some have already provided a tentative date for their End-of-the-Year awards ceremonies. We have a number of volunteers who attend each ceremony and provide a MOWW Award of Merit to a deserving student chosen by the Senior Instructor. However, we have a critical need for coverage of our 7 Pueblo high schools since most members live in Colorado

Springs and Monument. If you would be willing to travel to one or more of these ceremonies, please contact Mike Berendt @ 410-908-6777. It is a very rewarding experience to witness our emerging, young leaders as they are recognized for their accomplishments within their school's leadership training program.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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



FEBRUARY COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

1LT Andrew D. Alexander, USA (Fmr); Lt Col Robert D. Becerra, USAF (Ret); MAJ Charles W. Clark, USA (Ret); Mr. Jonathan W. Cole; Lt Col Susan E. Cooley, USAF (Ret); MG Thomas R. Csrnko, USA (Ret); Capt Douglas S. Katein-Taylor, USAF; Maj Timothy J. Matson, USAF; 2nd Lt Isabel M. Taylor, USAF; MSgt LeRoy A. Trusty, USAF (Ret)

MARCH COMPANION BIRTHDAYS

LTC Gordon W. Crom, USA (Ret); COL James A. Mundt, USA(Ret); Mr. Kobe R. Neal; Mrs. Kimberly J. Neel; COL George E. Reed, USA (Ret)



During the 15 January COS MOWW Staff Meeting, Col Shambach provided a donation to Ms. Linda Reynolds, Administrator for the Little Log Church in Palmer Lake on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Foundation (RMYLF) and the Colorado Springs MOWW Chapter. The Little Log Church has allowed our organizations to use a building belonging to the Church to hold monthly meetings and to store supplies for the Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference (RMYLC). We are grateful for the use of this space and annually provide a donation to pay for the utilities for the building.

COS MOWW Salutes our ROTC/JROTC Leaders

Colorado Springs (COS), Colorado Chapter of MOWW was honored to recognize some of our local Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) leaders as guest speakers 24 January 2026. Colonel Joey Hinson, USAF (Ret), Mitchell High School Senior Aerospace Science Instructor, along with two of his top cadets: Callin Dawson, this year's Detachment Commander and 2025 Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference (RMYLC) Attendee, and Cadet Junior Delilah Epp.

Col Hinson is a native of South Carolina and a Citadel graduate. He provided some interesting facts about JROTC programs throughout the nation and their role as a Citizenship program with a military flavor. Callin and Delilah provided an excellent example of highly motivated, inquisitive young leaders who love their country and follow in the footsteps of their relatives. We are fortunate to have dedicated professionals like Col Hinson who provide a role model for the next generation and exemplify the MOWW motto that *It is Nobler to Serve than to be Served*



COL Shambach provides MOWW Certificate
to Col Joey Hinson, Mitchell HS AFJROTC,
accompanied by Cadets Dawson and Epps

PREAMBLE

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

[Link to MOWW Preamble](#)

Chapter Website: www.cos_moww.org



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>



CONTRIBUTION OR PLEDGE

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

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

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

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

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

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

Name

Please make checks payable to Colorado Springs Chapter, MOWW

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