

## Colorado Springs Chapter, CO Article for Officer Review Magazine

### TITLE: Chapter Luncheon: Colorado Veterans Trauma Court

The Colorado Springs (COS), Colorado Chapter of MOWW held its monthly membership meeting on 14 May 2022. The Chapter was pleased to welcome the Honorable Judge David Shakes who presides over the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Veterans Trauma Court (VTC), one of the first specialty courts for veterans in Colorado as well as the nation. The VTC is a state and grant funded problem-solving court that provides an alternative to incarceration for U.S. military veterans and active duty military personnel with trauma spectrum disorders and/or substance abuse issues who have proven to be high risk and high need.

Judge Shakes explained how service members returning from war, particularly from multiple deployments, have invisible injuries as well as physical injuries. A small percentage have issues resulting in a number of problems that end up in the criminal justice system, including drunk driving, weapons charges, disorderly conduct, and assaults. The Trauma Court is for those who plead guilty and a deferred sentence is granted until successful completion of the program. It is a problem-solving court that involves a team that combines therapy and treatment as well as legal and police officers. A mentor is assigned to help the service member in transition, including helping them find a job.



Col Reed & Col Shambach present  
MOWW Certificate to Judge Shakes



Judge Shakes speaking

Judge Shakes has served as a Colorado District Judge since March 2003. He came to Colorado in 1979 when he was stationed at Fort Carson as an Army Judge Advocate. While on active duty in the Army Judge Shakes served as a claims officer, prosecutor, and defense counsel. After leaving active duty in 1983, he remained active in the Army Reserve, achieved the rank of Colonel, and served as the Commander of the trial judges of the Army Reserve.

Our Chapter added seven new members this year! We are pleased to welcome Dr. (Lt Col, USA, ret) Phil Mallory and Mr. Jonathan Cole as new companions, inducted at the May Membership Meeting. Thanks to Companions Steve Shambach, Kerm Neal, Bob Bythewood and Paul Willey who recruited our new members!



Lt Col Phil Mallory inducted  
by Col Shambach



Jonathan Cole inducted  
by Col Shambach

Finally, our Commander, Colonel Shambach, had the honor of presenting the Lufbery Award to Cadet First Class (now 2LT) Felix Zheng at the Air Force Academy Awards Ceremony in the Department of Foreign Languages. The MOWW Outstanding Cadet in Western Language Minor Award (United States Air Force Academy) is a National level Award. This award is in memory of Major Gervais Raoul Victor Lufbery (March 14, 1885 – May 19, 1918) who was a French and American fighter pilot and flying ace in World War I. Because he served in both the French Air Force and later the United States Army Air Service in World War I, he is sometimes listed alternately as a French ace or as an American ace. Officially, all but one of his 17 combat victories came while flying in French units. This award is presented annually to the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) cadet who, above all other cadets, excels in western languages. The USAFA faculty determines the recipient on behalf of the Order.



Col Shambach presents  
MOWW Certificate to  
C1C Felix Zheng



Lt Col Javier Reyes, USAFA  
and Col Shambach presenting  
an engraved trophy to C1C Zheng