

The Dispatch



PUGET SOUND CHAPTER, MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

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The Association for all Military Officers July 2020

NEXT PUGET SOUND CHAPTER EVENT

25 JULY 2020—PICNIC

**Attend the Summer Picnic at
Dick Muri's House**



**Summer Puget Sound Chapter Picnic, 1500-1700, 25 July at
Dick and Mary Muri's great garden. Social distance,
masks, potluck meal, BYOB, join the fun. RSVP to Keith
Warren [360-400-3485](tel:360-400-3485), gabbywar10@comcast.net**

Commander's Corner: Companions, thank you for choosing me as your Commander. I am looking forward to the leadership role you have entrusted me to fulfill. As for the two-year term as your Commander, I am looking forward to our Chapter to continue doing well.

I am Heinz Haskins, Retired Army LTC. Between active duty and reserve duty I served for 31 years. Served in many posts in the USA, Germany, Vietnam, Korea. I have been married to Chin for 29 years. We met at Ft. Lewis, which was my last duty assignment and retired there.

Since we have had no live meetings for some time due to this COVID 19 issue, some of you may not know me, although I have been around MOWW, as well as other veteran service organizations, for many years. As veterans, we know how to function in these uncertain times. We are currently having our monthly meetings via ZOOM. I am not sure when we will be meeting again at Patriots Landing, but we will be meeting at Dick Muri's home on 25 JULY 2020 for our annual MOWW Potluck picnic.

I would like to thank Past Commander Dick Muri for the exceptional work he has done in leading the Chapter in all areas of responsibility, increasing membership and meeting participation. It will be a hard act to follow.

As the months go by, with the help of an incredibly talented Chapter staff, I will keep you informed on future meetings and programs.

**THE HONORABLE ALLEN
B. WEST**

**LTC West is our newest
MOWW Companion who
is also the 2020 MOWW
DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD
RECIPIENT**

**Read More in the *Officer
Review***



**Remember
America's**

Founding Ideal Having served 22 years in the U.S. Army, it always fills me with great pride to celebrate our nation's Independence Day.

The extraordinary tale of how 13 ragtag colonies stood up to the most powerful nation in the world at the time to form a free, constitutional republic is one of the greatest stories ever told.

Yet it seems many Americans are embarrassed to celebrate our history. In fact, there are some who are actively trying to rewrite and even erase it.

In recent days, we have seen vandals deface monuments and topple statues, all in the name of so-called “social justice.” While their main target has been memorials of Confederate figures, protesters have gone as far as removing [The Pioneer Mother](#), a sculpture of a woman sitting with a Bible on her lap, in Portland, Oregon, and requesting that a [statue of American poet Walt Whitman](#) be taken off from Rutgers University’s campus in Camden, New Jersey.

State and local officials all across the nation also are acquiescing to the masses and have either removed or are planning on removing [dozens](#) of statues and memorials. In Boston, the city’s art commission [voted to bring down](#) a statue of President Abraham Lincoln — the man who signed the Emancipation Proclamation setting African American slaves free!

Sadly, we have become a nation of victims instead of citizens.

Believe me, as a Black man, I fully understand the impetus to correct the wrongs of the past. I was born in 1961 in a “Blacks only” hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, and grew up in the city’s Old Fourth Ward — the neighborhood that produced Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and where the American Civil Rights Movement emanated. I am intimately familiar with the Black community’s struggle for equality — not of outcome, but opportunity to pursue the American Dream.

Our nation’s past is not all peachy, but over the years I have learned history is not there for us to like it or to dislike it. History is there for us to learn from it.

Independence Day is an opportunity for us to thoughtfully reflect on our history and remember what the heart of America is really about.

The United States of America is remarkable for many reasons, but the key detail that sets us apart from all other nations is that the cornerstone of our founding is the ideal that our rights are given to us by God and not by man.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness,” wrote Thomas Jefferson in the preamble of our Declaration of Independence.

Later, after winning our hard-fought independence, James Madison codified and specified these rights in our Constitution, our rule of law. The first ten amendments

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Chaplain's Notes—April, Chaplain **Bill Johnson**

The vast majority of United States citizens need to remember every day without fail that "America must be one nation under God". Our country's history is reason to celebrate every year on the 4th of July. The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4th 1776. Most of the delegates of the Second Continental Congress signed the document. By doing this, these men risked losing everything if the British won The American Revolution. These are some of the reasons why millions of Americans gather for celebrations across the country every year on July 4th. The pandemic this year has greatly reduced those numbers for health reasons, but it is hoped that next year will be more normal. During these tumultuous times we must never forget the power of prayer. It is the way to communicate with our heavenly Father. I would like to share a prayer that is both comforting and spiritual.

A pastor was visiting a men's breakfast in a rural farming area in the Midwest. The group had asked an older farmer to say grace. The farmer began, " Lord I hate buttermilk". The farmer then proclaimed more loudly, " Lord I hate lard". He then continued, "Lord you know I don't much care for white flour." The pastor glanced around room and saw that he wasn't the only one feeling uncomfortable. Then the farmer added, " When you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm biscuits". So, Lord when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what is happening, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than the biscuits. Amen

Within this prayer there is great comfort and wisdom for all of us when it comes to the complicated situations, we are all living in today. With that in mind don't forget to pray every day!

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to our Constitution are described as our Bill of Rights. They focus on the individual and our protections from what our Founding Fathers had experienced: the intrusive, invasive, and onerous nature of tyrannical governance.

It's because of this founding ideal of our rights being endowed by our Creator that I, a Black man born and raised in the segregated South, was able to become a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel who commanded a battalion in combat. After I retired from military service, I became a member of the United States House of Representatives, the second Black Republican congressman in Florida's history.

Has my life's journey been without difficulties? No.

Have I faced opposition and at times discrimination because of the color of my skin? Of course!

Yet, I have been able to persevere and attain remarkable success because the ideal that we are equal in the eyes of God is etched in our constitution. Today, this ideal empowers my two daughters to pursue their own American Dreams.

America has come a long way since 1776 because men and women who believe in our founding ideal fought for them to become a reality in our nation. This election year, it's up to us to play our part in this story by voting for leaders who will protect our constitutional rights.

Unfortunately, millions of Americans — up to [25 million Christians](#) — historically do not participate in our national elections. We cannot afford to do that this year.

As somebody who is living proof of the American Dream, I encourage you to not sit out this election. This coming election is not about person or personality — it's about principles. It's about the rule of law or mob rule. For Christians, the consequences are even more dire: either we keep our first liberty, freedom of religion, and the free exercise thereof, or we are relegated to the catacombs.

Let's continue making American that great nation our Founding Fathers envisioned, where every citizen has the God-endowed rights to Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

Allen West is a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army and a former representative of Florida's 22nd District. In 2020, he joined My Faith Votes as a spokesperson to mobilize Christians to participate in elections. His newest book is "We Can Overcome: An American Black Conservative Manifesto"

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***My Faith Votes**—is a nonpartisan movement that motivates, equips and activates Christians in America to vote in every election, transforming our communities and influencing our nation with biblical truth. By partnering with national faith leaders, My Faith Votes provides resources to help Christians Pray, Think, and Act to create an America where God is honored in the public square.*

For Your Viewing Pleasure

"I will die on my feet before I will live on my knees" Emiliano Zapata

With Independence Day celebrations, kindly take the time to watch this and then forward

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaxGNQE5ZLA&feature=youtu.be>



Companions in Action: BG (Ret) Norm Hoffman, USA, is a one-man army in Oregon. He provides MOWW recognition to ROTC and JROTC students and Eagle Scout certificates to BSA. We have many great companions in Oregon, Alaska, Guam, and Japan who carry on the great MOWW outreach programs

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