

# MOWW NEWSLETTER

Editor: Companion Beverly Barton



**Joshua Chamberlin Chapter, Maine**

**April 2014, VOL 5 NO 2**

Candid Camera: Companions enjoying a recent meeting; 1/Lt Basil Johnston sports the Wreaths Across America patch for participating in placing wreaths at Arlington Cemetery; CPT Alan Johnston and wife Cheryl swap stories with LTC Ed Lawler; MG Steve Nichols and 1/Lt Joe Griffin pose between our MOWW flags at the Muddy Rudder.

**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**  
**11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, April 26, 2014**  
**MEETING STARTS AT 11:30 LUNCH AT 12 NOON**  
**THE MUDDY RUDDER**  
**ROUTE 1, YARMOUTH, ME**  
**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

**COMMANDER'S CORNER MG Steve Nichols**

#### **HOW MANY DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE A CROWD?**

The Chamberlain Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars is only one of 120 MOWW chapters. Who would notice us? We number over one hundred members in our chapter, but we are almost insignificant among the thousands of the MOWW members nationwide. Why then are we important at all? Because when we line up with other chapters, we help to make up a crowd. And crowds attract attention. If we joined in a show of MOWW members from all over the country, we would be part of a pretty impressive gathering.

The same reasoning applies to our presence in Maine. If a handful of Chamberlain Chapter members gather to hear a speaker at one of our meetings, the guest would leave with the impression that MOWW is not a very serious activity in our state. If, on the other hand, we load up several tables at one of our lunchtime meetings, an outsider would more likely conclude that we have something going on that is worth noticing.

At our March staff planning meeting there were twelve Chamberlain Chapter members and guests. Now, that's starting to look like a crowd. And we are beginning to look as if we represent a force in the community. The speakers spread the word about our Chapter that meets at this friendly restaurant to savor the fine menu, enjoy each other's company and conduct meaningful business. If you are a member of our Chapter, please join us. And you'll help us become something resembling a crowd.

#### **JROTC - ROTC Award Ceremonies**

The 2014 Award Ceremonies which have taken place to date are ROTC University of Maine (Navy) and Maine Maritime Academy (Navy) on April 15, and JROTC at Old Town HS(Army) on March 29, Bangor HS (Army) on April 5, Lewiston HS (Air Force) on April 11, and Nokomis HS(Army) on April 12.

Coming up are Awards Presentations for ROTC at University of Maine (Army) on April 25 and University of Southern Maine (Army) on May 9. JROTC Awards will be given at Massabesic HS (Navy) on May 9, Sacopee Valley HS (Army) on May 15, Hermon HS (Army) on May 16, and Brewer HS (Air Force) on May 22.

#### **Youth Leadership Conference (YLC)**

Although the leadership factor was **emphasized** to the JROTC PMS's most schools chose only to attend Maine Maritime's Fitness Challenge. Nearly 100 students attended this weekend activity. It is free of charge, and, of course it is much, much, closer than Norwich. Also there is no requirement of essay which is a real chore for some students. Yes, we are looking for leaders and we wish more students would take advantage of this opportunity. Five Maine students did just that. JROTC students Hayden Eilinger of Massabesic HS and Felix Thibodeau of Nokomis HS were funded by our Chapter. Other high school students attending were Korey DeBoth, Sanford HS, Zachary Rideout, Oxford Hills HS and Nicholas Turner of Cheverous HS.

**Congratulations to these students!**



**Region 1 Mid Winter Conference**

Left: In attendance at the December Region 1 Mid-Winter meeting were: Col Robert and Beverly Barton(Companion) and Maj Rey and Joyce Moreau. Right: Region 1 Commander, Capt Harry Weinberg from the Greater Boston Chapter presides at the meeting



**Cadet Felix Thibodeau's Message To MOWW Members**

My name is CDT LTC Felix Thibodeau and I am the Nokomis Regional High School JROTC Battalion Commander. I would like to express my appreciation for your part in making it possible for me to attend the Norwich University Youth Leadership Conference on the weekend of March 28th through the 30th. It was a very rewarding experience that allowed me to meet JROTC Cadets from other branches and other states. We had one attendee who even traveled from Hawaii!

In addition, the leadership and citizenship information covered in the classroom by LTC Jarvis was very informative and insightful to key aspects of basic citizenship knowledge and provided me with a deeper understanding of what good citizenship really means. We also conducted a water survival skills class and got the opportunity to climb on a rock wall, both of which were exciting experiences, especially the water survival skills class!

The Norwich Corp of Cadets provided much insightful information into their lives as members of the Norwich Corps of Cadets and only further drives me to pursue an admission to West Point. Overall, attending the Norwich University YLC was a very rewarding experience that I will definitely recommend to Cadets at my own JROTC program to attend next year. Once again, thank you.

**Felix and his Mom will beat our April 26 meeting.**

**FROM THE ADJUTANT'S DESK**

Brief minutes from March 22, 2014:  
Attendance: 12 members & guests  
A plaque was presented to the Muddy Rudder Restaurant in appreciation for their service to the Chapter.

The officers for 2014-5 were named.

The monthly status report was given; in the case of non-paid dues, and/or no new address, several persons were removed from the roster. The schedule of meetings for 2014-2015 was proposed. The need for increasing the financial reserve \$s in the Capt Wm. Eberly Patriotic Education Fund was agreed upon.

1/Lt Pete Stark, Adjutant

**WHEN DO WE MEET?  
REMAINING MEETINGS FOR 2014**

All Staff and Chapter Meetings will be held at the Muddy Rudder Restaurant on Route 1 in Yarmouth. Meeting Time is 11:30 AM

Staff Meetings	Chapter Meetings
May 24, 2014	April 26, 2014
August 16, 2014	June 21, 2014
October 18, 2014	September 20, 2014
	November 15, 2014

**Region 1 Annual Convention 2014**

The Region 1 Annual Convention will be held on Saturday, June 7th, 2014 at St. John's Masonic Lodge #1 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The Region 1 Commander, Capt Harry Weinberg of the Greater Boston Chapter, will preside. The MOWW CINC, Capt Debbie Kash USAF (Ret), and her husband, Dan, will be attending this convention. The Gen Joshua L. Chamberlain Chapter will be hosting this event with the assistance of the Granite State Chapter of New Hampshire. The cost for Registration, Continental Breakfast, & Lunch is \$25. Lunch choices are Baked Haddock or Beef Tips. If you are interested in attending, Steve Nichols or Bob Barton can email you the registration information.

**National MOWW Convention**

The National Convention for MOWW will be held this year in Baltimore, Maryland August 5-9, 2014.

More about this venture in your MOWW magazine "Officer Review" in the upcoming issues.



The Chamberlain Chapter Commander /State Commander MG Steve Nichols presents the staff of the Muddy Rudder Restaurant an engraved plaque of appreciation for their good service to our group over the years.

## MOWW NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### Two of our MOWW members participated in placing wreaths at Arlington Cemetery on Saturday, December 14, 2013

Major M. Dorothy McGuirk, Air Force (Ret) traveled by bus with a group of military veterans and friends who were from the Westbrook-Gorham area. They spent several days in Washington D.C. and on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> participated in Wreaths Across America by placing wreaths at the graves at Arlington National Cemetery. Dottie's son, Kevin, who lives and works in the Washington area, served as tour guide and the group visited all the must see places in Washington.

Capt Alan Johnston, along with his wife and companion dog Basil were on another bus from Maine which traveled to Arlington to place wreathes at the graves. Alan says the thousands of wreathes were all placed within two hours since there are so many volunteers wishing to do this.



Governor Paul LePage and his wife, Ann LePage with Capt Alan Johnston, his wife, Cheryl and 1/Lt Basil Johnston, his faithful companion and our mascot

More than 25,000 volunteers and 1,000 local fundraising groups in all 50 states participated in this year's Wreath Across America holiday event. They placed wreaths at Veteran gravesites at nearly 900 locations within the U.S. and overseas. A total of approximately 550,000 wreaths were laid.

This is the 22nd consecutive trip to lay the wreaths. In fact, this year marked a new record as Wreaths Across America coordinated the laying of more than 142,000 wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery.

MOWW OFFICERS FOR 2014-2015		PRESENTERS OF MOWW AWARDS
State and Chapter Commander	MG Stephen Nichols	CAPT David Fenderson
Vice Commander (Medals Officer and YLC)	Col Robert Barton	COL Fred Umphrey
Vice Commander and Marshall	Capt Alan Johnston	MG Stephen Nichols
Vice Commander (Guest speakers)	1Lt Joseph Griffin	CAPT Alan Johnston
Treasurer (Financial Reports, IRS Annual Report)	WO 1 Dana Lane	COL Robert Barton
Adjutant	1/Lt Peter Stark	
Chaplain	Maj Reynald Moreau	
Editor of MOWW Newsletter	Companion Beverly Barton	
Special Consultant to the Chapter Commander	1/Lt Basil Johnston and Mascot	

Check out our Website maintained by LTC Deo Lauria [www.mainemoww.sabattus.net](http://www.mainemoww.sabattus.net)

Would you like to contribute an article, a picture with caption, etc. to this newsletter?

Looking for interesting information to share with other MOWW members.

Email your information to: [bartonrobev36@gmail.com](mailto:bartonrobev36@gmail.com)