

**The Military Order of the World Wars
2008 Midwinter General Staff Meeting
Tempe, Arizona
February 5-10, 2008**

**2008 Midwinter General Staff Meeting, Sessions 1 & 2
Minutes**

First Session, Friday, February 8, 2008, 0800 Hours

CINC Col James D. "Jim" Elmer called to order the 2008 Midwinter General Staff (GS) meeting at 0805 hours, February 8, 2008, followed by the Invocation, Posting of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, Singing of the National Anthem, Retiring the Colors, reading of the Order's Preamble, and an Honoring of the POW/MIA Table.

CINC Col Elmer gave his welcoming remarks and welcomed The Honorable Hugh Hallman, Mayor of Tempe who gave a warm "welcome" to the GS from the City of Tempe, Arizona.

There was a **motion** for the Chief of Staff BG Roger Bultman to suspend the roll call of the General Staff, **second, passed.**

There was a **motion** to approve the agenda, as presented, **seconded, and approved.**

CINC Col Elmer reviewed the goals that he presented at the beginning of his term as CINC that were published in the October 2008 issue of *Officer Review* magazine.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief of Staff BG Bultman asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the 2007 Post-Convention General Staff (GS) meeting minutes (page 5-GS meeting book) held in Overland Park (KC), Kansas (August 4, 2007) and that they be accepted as written, presented, and corrected, **motioned, seconded, and passed.**

CINC Col Elmer informed the GS that at the 2007 National Convention Post GS meeting the nomination to the MOWW Ethics Committee was missed. He nominated Col Maureen Lofberg for a three year appointment (expires 2010) to the MOWW Ethics Committee, **motioned, seconded, and passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

CINC Col Elmer presented his report (page 9-GS meeting book) by giving the GS a brief update of his activities in support of the Order. The CINC announced that all National Officers' reports received by MOWW National Headquarters were provided to the GS in the Business Agenda and Reports booklet. The CINC thanked the VCINCs, National Officer, Committee Chairs, and General Staff for their hard work in support of the Order's Preamble. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

Chief of Staff BG Bultman presented his report (page 12-GS meeting book) to the GS. He highlighted issues reference National Headquarters operations, *Officer Review* magazine, the Order's web site, and the *MOWW Handbook*. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

After his report the Chief of Staff took roll call of Chapter Commanders and Adjutants present to determine the winner of the annual Post award that will be announced at the CINC's Banquet.

CINC Col Elmer invited the five VCINCs to give a brief update on their reports. Sr. VCINC LTG Sam Wetzel and VCINCs, CAPT Bill Dibble, Jr., Col Fred Graves, COL Phil St. Amant II, and COL Billie Stephens gave their reports (pages 13 to 24-GS meeting book) to the GS. Each VCINC gave the GS an update on all major activities in their Regions and a report on all significant activities occurring in the Committees they have oversight responsibility for and also highlighted the work of their GSOs. No vote was taken by the GS on any of the VCINCs reports.

The Treasurer General COL M. Hall Worthington covered his report (page 26-GS meeting book) and gave the GS an update on the following items:

- FY 07-08 Budget (midyear), everything was on budget (page 27-GS meeting book)
- CINC's solicitation for FY 07-08 was very slow and he did not feel we would reach the goal. He expressed his concern that the goal projected in the budget may be a tough challenge for the Order and that the Order may fall short in solicitations for these funds.
- Chapter IRS postcard/letter for FY 06-07 were not returned by seven (7) Chapters as required and MOWW Headquarters has contacted these Chapters. He reported that chapters that did not return their IRS postcard/letter to National Headquarters will not receive any funds due them from National Headquarters. All Chapters must have their own EIN from the IRS.
- Chapter Annual financial reviews for FY 06-07 indicated that t eight (8) Chapters did not complete their annual financial review or failed to answer the question. These eight, plus the seven Chapters that did not return their IRS postcard/letter, makes 15 chapters with concern. All other Chapters are complying with this new requirement.
- It was requested that the amount per "PM" be indicated on the transmittal letter being sent to the Chapters with their Perpetual Members dividend check.
- An IRS postcard/letter will be developed for the Regions and Departments asking if they have an EIN and did they file a 990-N with the IRS.

After his presentation there was a **motion** to have the CINC's third solicitation letter be mailed to all Companions, even those Companions who have already donated to the CINC's solicitation for this fiscal year, **seconded, and passed**. After the GS approval of this motion the Chief of Staff informed the GS that the third letter will be mailed it in two weeks and that it will be mailed to all Companions.

CINC Col Elmer asked if there were any other National Officers or Committee Chairs that wished to add something important to their submitted written reports. Past CINC LTC Alfred Shehab informed the GS of the 2007 *Officer Review Magazine* Admiral Dyer Award winners (page 59-GS meeting book). Historian General Maj John G. Brady informed the GS that his report (page 30-GS meeting book) was an old report and that he had submitted an updated report that did not make it into the GS Meeting Book. No vote was taken by the GS on any of these reports.

CINC Col Elmer then opened the CINC's Symposium for all Committees and Councils of the Order (see page 36-GS meeting book for the rule for the Symposium). This was the second time the Order has attempted to include this Symposium as part of the Midwinter GS meeting agenda. All National Committees and Councils plus any Ad Hoc Committees gave oral reports to the GS. Each Committee/Counsel Chair (or Vice Chair or Committee/Counsel representative) "highlighted" their Committee's "successes and future challenges." This Symposium was an open discussion with questions from the GS after each Committee/Counsel presentation, facilitated by CINC Col Elmer. These were the key discussions:

- The Chapter Activities Committee announced that they changed the "submittal date" for the material needed for the annual Chapter Activates Awards to July 10th and that this date change would be posted in the *MOWW Handbook*.
- The Historical and Archives Committee raised the issue of the importance of Companions completing the Companion Profile forms and mailing them to the Historian General to have them put into the MOWW files being maintained by the Hoover Institute at Stanford University in California.
- The MOWW Ethics Committee announced that the new "Oath of Office" form in the *MOWW Handbook* will cover the Ethics statement requirement for the Order at all levels (Chapter, Department, State, Regions, all elected Officers, and all National Officers).
- The Information and Publicity Committee announced that they were going to start an award for the "Best Chapter Bulletin/Newsletter" and the first award would be for FY 07-08 to be awarded at the 2008 National Convention.
- The ROTC Committee announced that the "submittal date" for the material needed for the annual ROTC Awards is June 15th and that this date is posted in the *MOWW Handbook*.
- COL Richard E. Minor, Chair, Patriotic Education Committee (PEC) informed the GS that the PEC was developing a "Youth Protection Program" and that training and background checks will be done for all Companions who have direct contact with the students at all MOWW YLCs. This program will require new policy development, the development of new procedures for the faculty and staff of all YLCs, and new insurance coverage for MOWW and all Companions working at YLCs. He closed by telling the GS that more work was to be done and an update on these issues would be presented at the 2008 National Convention.

No vote was taken by the GS on any of the Committee/Counsel reports.

After the completion of the CINC's Symposium the Historian General addressed the GS about the concern of "not many Companions completing the Order's Companion Profile form." After an in-depth discussion there was a **motion** by the GS to approve the following process for the handling of all Companion Profile forms:

- All Companions will complete the MOWW Companion Profile form.
- Chapters will collect these completed forms, retain a copy, and send the original to the Historian General's home.
- The Historian General will take all Companion Profile forms received and take them to the Hoover Institute at Stanford University, where they will be filed with the MOWW records.
- The Historian General will get a complete list (annually) of all Companion Profile forms on file at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University and send a copy of this list to MOWW National HQs to be posted on the MOWW web site.

This motion was **seconded, and passed.**

CINC Col Elmer recessed the first session of the 2008 Midwinter GS Meeting at 1140 hours, Friday, February 8, 2008.

CINC Col Elmer reconvened the second session of the 2008 Midwinter GS Meeting at 1345 hours, Saturday, February 9, 2008.

Chief of Staff BG Bultman led a discussion on Chapters with less than 15 living members. Discussed were the following Chapters: Illowa, Illinois, Southern Maryland Central Missouri, and Upstate Carolina, South Carolina from the 2007 National Convention and Monroe, Louisiana. After an in-depth discussion there was a call for a motion to remove Illowa and Central Missouri from probation; continue Southern Maryland on probation; and to put Monroe, Louisiana on “probation and send them a letter notifying them of their “probation” status. All of these Chapters would be re-evaluated at the 2008 National Convention in Columbus, Georgia, **motioned, seconded, and approved.**

This motion was followed by a **motion** to certify the New York and New Jersey Chapters as Cadre Chapters, **seconded, and approved.**

This motion was followed by a **motion** to merge the Garden City, Georgia, Chapter into the Savannah, Georgia Chapter, **seconded, and approved.**

This motion was followed by a **motion** to merge the Upstate Carolina, South Carolina Chapter into the Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter, **seconded, and approved.**

This motion was followed by a **motion** to merge the Southern Maryland Chapter into the PG County, Maryland, Chapter, **seconded**, and during the discussion there was a **motion to table** this item until the 2008 National Convention, **seconded, and approved.**

CINC Col Elmer led a discussion on concerns about “Chapters with one Companion holding all Chapter-elected officer positions.” After an in-depth discussion the CINC tasked the Council of Region Commanders and the Council of Department and State Commanders to look into this issue and prepare a joint report for “fixing this issue” to be presented to the GS at the 2008 National Convention in Columbus, Georgia. The CINC stated that the Council of Region Commanders should have the lead on preparing this report.

CINC Col Elmer led a discussion on having all elements of the Order (Chapters, Departments, and Regions) get an EIN number from the IRS. This requirement is needed because of the IRS’s new requirement to have “all elements” of a non-profit organization file with the IRS (Form 990-N) even if they have zero income. This filing with the IRS will be “electronic filing form 990-N” and can only be done on-line. After an in-depth discussion there was a **motion** to have all “elements” of the Order (Chapters, Departments, and Regions) get their own EIN from the IRS prior to the 2008 National Convention and to then file an electronic form 990-N with the IRS for their “element” for FY 07-08 between July 1, 2008 and November 15, 2008, **seconded, and approved.**

CINC Col Elmer led a discussion on the Order's current policy for Chapters to change their names. After an in-depth discussion it was concluded that the current policy of the Order was sufficient and no changes needed to be made to this policy; however, a clear written policy should be put in the *MOWW Handbook*. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

CINC Col Elmer introduced Mr. David Roberts, President and CEO of the Joe Foss Institute (JFI) and Mr. Ron Gillet, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) and each addressed the GS. No vote was taken by the GS on these presentations.

Treasurer General COL Worthington discussed his efforts to prepare a new section for the *MOWW Handbook* on "How to Spend the Order's Money" to be used by all levels of the Order. He stated that he and the Chair of the MOWW Board of Trustees, CDR Jack Fetner II, were working together to write this new section and that it should be ready for the 2008 National Convention. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

COL D. Michael Duggan, Chair, Legislation & Resolution Committee reported to the GS that there were no proposed emergency Resolutions for the Midwinter GS meeting. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

The Chief of Staff led a discussion on proposed sites for National Conventions & GS Meetings which are currently approved, as follows:

- 2008 National Convention approved for Columbus, Georgia
- 2009 Midwinter GS Meeting approved for Huntsville, Alabama
- 2009 National Convention--**OPEN**--(Seattle/Tacoma, Washington withdrew)
- 2010 Midwinter GS Meeting approved for Washington, DC/Baltimore, MD area
- 2010 National Convention approved for Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 2011 Midwinter GS Meeting--**OPEN**--(To be approved by the EXCOM)
- 2011 National Convention--**OPEN**--(Louisville, Kentucky has been proposed)

There was a **motion** to honor the request from the Puget Sound, Washington State, Chapter to be removed as the host of the 2009 National Convention, **seconded, and approved.**

There was the a **motion** to have the General George Meade, Maryland, Chapter removed from the 2010 Midwinter GS meeting and approved to host the 2009 National Convention, **seconded, and approved.** CINC Col Elmer complimented the General Meade Chapter for stepping in and taking on this critical task for the Order, especially with such short notice.

There was then a **motion** to approve the San Diego, California, Chapter to host the 2010 Midwinter GS meeting, **seconded, and approved.** The GS was informed that the EXCOM approves all sites for the Midwinter GS meetings and that they would be approving this request for San Diego at the Post-Midwinter GS EXCOM meeting

There was then a **motion** to change the host of the 2010 National Convention from the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Chapter to the Santa Fe, New Mexico, Chapter. After an in-depth discussion this motion was **seconded, and approved.**

At the end of these votes the Chief of Staff announced the “**revised**” list of approved sites for National Convention & GS Meeting, as follows:

- 2008 National Convention approved for Columbus, Georgia
- 2009 Midwinter GS Meeting approved for Huntsville, Alabama
- 2009 National Convention approved for Washington, DC/Baltimore, MD area
- 2010 Midwinter GS Meeting approved for San Diego, California
- 2010 National Convention approved for Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 2011 Midwinter GS Meeting--**OPEN**--(Region VI has expressed interest)
- 2011 National Convention—**OPEN**
(Louisville, Kentucky and St Louis, Missouri have expressed interest)

Past CINC CAPT R. M. “Rollie” Stevens, President, Youth Enrichment Foundation (YEF), Inc. (formerly called the Youth Development Foundation (YDF), Inc. (see their report on page 106-GS meeting book) gave the GS an update and overview of the Foundation. He informed the GS about the YEF’s efforts to support all of the MOWW youth programs and specifically their efforts to raise funds to help support the Order’s YLC program. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

Past CINC 1st LT Donald G. Allen, President, Patriotic Education Foundation (PEF), Inc. (see their report on page 105-GS meeting book) gave the GS an update and overview of the Foundation. He informed the GS about the PEF’s efforts to support all of the MOWW youth programs and specifically their efforts to raise funds to help support the Order’s YLC program. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

Past CINC COL Brion V. “Bri” Chabot, President, Patriotic Education, Inc. (PEI) gave the GS an update and overview of the PEI. He also gave the GS a brief update on the results of the Order’s partnership with the PEI and stated that he looked forward to the continued support of Companions. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

CINC Col Elmer asked for a motion to accept all reports presented orally to the GS or as written and presented to the GS in the Business Agenda and Reports booklet provided to all members of the GS, **motioned by the GS, second, and passed.**

CINC Col Elmer asked if there were any items “For the Good of the Order.”

The Chief of Staff reported to the GS that Region XV won the Horace Port Award for having the best percentage of their GS members in attendance at the 2008 Midwinter GS meeting. No vote was taken by the GS on this report.

Magazine Committee Chairman, Past CINC LTC Alfred Shehab gave the GS an oral report on the winners of the Vice Admiral George C. Dyer Magazine Award for 2007 as follows:

First Place: VCINC COL Philemon “Phil” St. Amant II, LTG Troy Middleton, Louisiana, Chapter for his article “Arousing Ancient Ghosts,” page 4, January/February 2007 issue.

Second Place: Companion Dr. Jeffrey H. Norwitz, Columbus, Georgia, Chapter for his article “Personal Contingency Plans: More than an Ounce of Prevention,” page 4, October 2007 issue.

Honorable Mentions (3): LTC Richard L. Ardisson, Ft Knox, Kentucky, Chapter for his article "Our Flag is a Living Monument" page 6, June 2007; CW4 Robert Ozier, Catalina Mountain, Arizona, Chapter for his article "How Do You Support Veterans Day?" page 9, November 2007; CAPT LeRoy Reinburg, Bethesda, Maryland, Chapter for his article "An Army Aviator" page 7, April, 2007, No vote was taken by the GS on the Magazine Committee report.

There was a **motion and second** to have the Order change its tax status from 501 c)19 to 501(c)3. This motion was **declared out of Order and no vote** was taken on this motion. After an in-depth discussion, there was a **motion** to have a committee established by the CINC to look at the "possibilities" of the Order changing its tax status from 501(c)19 to 501(c)19, **seconded, and approved**. CINC Col Elmer said he would take the recommendation under consideration.

CINC Col Elmer reported that he and COL Dick Minor, Chair Patriotic Education Committee, along with Past VCINC and Rocky Mountain YLC Director Col Watt Hill, Jr., would be presenting the 2007 Phoenician Award and a \$1,000 check to Ms. Jordann R. Zbylski, from Monument, Colorado, at the CINC's Banquet. Ms. Zbylski attended the Rocky Mountain YLC in Pueblo, Colorado. Ms. Zbylski will be accompanied by her parents Dr. David and Renee Zbylski and her sister Alexandra.

The GS discussed many additional items for the "Good of the Order" however, there were no votes taken by the GS during any of these discussions.

CINC Col Elmer restated his new recruiting initiative "to recruit newly Commissioned Officers." He stated "if every Chapter will recruit a top senior student in every Senior ROTC unit that they support, or could support from their area, and give them a "Scholarship" of a paid Annual Membership, we will increase our MOWW membership by almost 500 new Commissioned Officers. In addition, some Chapters are close to the Military Academies or other commissioning programs such as Officer Candidate Schools (OCS) and each graduating class can yield another possible candidate, for graduates from these organizations are also eligible for a "Scholarship" Annual Membership. To cover the cost, I will split that cost with the Chapter or Companion sponsoring the recruit (they pay half of the annual membership cost (\$20) and I personally will pay the other half (\$20). Nearly all of us talk about younger members. I am willing to "step-up" and cover half the cost of these "Scholarship" Annual Memberships. This approach is surely worth the time and money it takes to make a positive step forward for the future of the Order."

For his closing remarks, CINC Col Elmer complimented the GS on the excellent work they accomplished at the CINC's Committee Chairmen Symposium. He stated that the National Officers and Committees were working hard for the Order and that it appeared that all Committees were being successful. The CINC again thanked all National Officers, Committee Chairmen, and GS members for their dedication and hard work for the Order and for taking the time to attend the GS meeting. CINC Col Elmer concluded the GS meeting with a Benediction and adjourned the 2008 Midwinter GS Meeting at 1540 hours, Saturday, February 9, 2008.

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE GENERAL STAFF AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE JOINT SESSION OF THE PRE-CONVENTION GS MEETING AND THE 2008 NATIONAL CONVENTION ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2008, IN COLUMBUS, GEORGIA