



THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

Serving Youth, Community & Nation Since 1919

January 2026 Bulletin



RECENT CHAPTER EVENTS

On November 9th, Chapter companions marched in the annual Philadelphia Veterans Day Parade in downtown Philadelphia, PA. Despite the clouds and rain, it didn't stop the marchers from walking the entire route with the MOWW banner. This was a wonderful patriotic event, celebrating all veterans with special recognition of the Marine Corps 250th birthday. Our table at the post fair was visited by many parade attendees. This was also an opportunity for us to connect with some of our JROTC and ROTC units, other partner veteran organizations and get the word out about MOWW.



Philadelphia Veterans Day Parade



HPM James Kirlin carried the Colors



Chapter Members at the Fair

Chapter members joined with the Penn & Franklin Chapter at the annual Freedom Medal banquet sponsored by the Delaware County Veterans Association on 13 November at the Springfield Country Club. Six exceptional individuals were awarded the prestigious Freedom Medal. Colonel Joe Kirlin was an award recipient of the Freedom Medal last year.

The chapter participated in several Wreath Laying ceremonies, for Veterans Day in Berwyn, PA as well as those sponsored by Wreaths Across America at the Medal of Honor Grove at Founding Forward, Valley Forge, PA, The Chapel of the Four Chaplains.



*LTC Mary Louderback & COL C. Dan McCall,
Berwyn Veterans Memorial, Veterans Day*



*MSG Dave Gillespie & COL Joe Kirlin with wreaths
representing AUSA & MOWW at the Medal of Honor Grove*

A bridge dedication honoring recently deceased Colonel Daniel Lawrence Rubini in Richboro, PA took place on November 7th. Colonel Rubini was a member of MOAA, and the Civil Affairs Association as well as a colonial re-enactor who always participated in the re-enactment of General George Washington's crossing of the Delaware every Christmas. Many dignitaries as well as veterans and veteran organizations attended the ceremony naming the bridge after Colonel Rubini.



The Chapter's Holiday luncheon at the Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA was a festive occasion. Companions enjoyed a lovely luncheon followed by a vigorous rendition of songs of the season. MSG Dave Gillespie was presented with the Outreach Service Medal and HPM James Kirlin was presented with a Bronze Patrick Henry Medal, both for their outstanding contributions to patriotism and support to the Chapter.



MSG Dave Gillespie presented with the Outreach Service Medal



HPM James J. Kirlin presented with a Bronze Patrick Henry Medal

Two new companions were sworn in at the Holiday luncheon as perpetual members: SGM Anthony J. Carroll USA (Ret) and COL Kenneth M. DeTreu USMC (Ret). Welcome!



SGM Anthony J. Carroll & COL Kenneth M. DeTreu



SGM Anthony J. Carroll, USA (Ret) & COL Kenneth M. DeTreu, USMC (Ret)

UPCOMING JANUARY/FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

With the beginning of the new year, we begin a busy schedule with our Youth Leadership Seminars (YLS) and the registrations for the multi-day Youth Leadership Conference at Spirit of America (YLC), Founding Forward, Valley Forge, PA. The full schedule is listed below.

Our first Chapter Sunday Brunch will be held on Sunday, 15 February at the Overbrook Golf Club. Please RSVP to Sue Kirlin NLT 5 February. Check out the full schedule below for additional events.

CHAPTER WEBSITE

Ctrl + Click to follow link: <https://mowwpggh.wixsite.com/region3/philadelphia-chapter>

or scan in the QR code:



UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS



Navy-Marine Luncheon-Thursday, February 5, 2026

Registration begins 11:15a. Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA. Open to Navy & Marine ROTC, JROTC, Members, Guests. \$45 per person, no cost to cadets & accompanying instructors. RSVP NLT 28 January 2026 to skirlin@aol.com.



Philadelphia Chapter Brunch- Sunday, February 15, 2026

Registration begins 11am. Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA. Open to members and guests. \$24 per person. RSVP NLT 5 February 2026 to skirlin@aol.com. Companions encouraged to host a guest.



Air Force Luncheon – Thursday, March 5, 2026

Registration begins 11:15am. IATSE Ballroom, 2401 S. Swanson St., Phila., PA. 19148. Open to AF ROTC, JROTC, members & guests. RSVP required. Announcement with details will be forthcoming.



Army Luncheon – Thursday, April 16, 2026

Registration begins 11:15am. IATSE Ballroom, 2401 S. Swanson St., Phila., PA. 19148.

Open to Army ROTC, JROTC, members & guests. RSVP required. Announcement with details will be forthcoming.

Region III Spring Conference – Sunday, April 26, 2026

All Staff are encouraged to attend either in person or Zoom. More details to follow.

Philadelphia Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), (Date TBD), 2026

700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. Open to all members & guests. Lunch on own.

RSVP required. Announcement with details will be forthcoming.

Chapter Annual Reception – Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Evening-time TBD. Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA. Open to members and invited guests.

RSVP required. Announcement with details will be forthcoming.

Install Staff & Awards Luncheon – Thursday, June 11, 2026

Hospitality begins 11:15 am. Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA. RSVP required.

Announcement with details will be forthcoming.



National Convention 2026 will be in San Antonio, TX. August 10-16, 2026. Stay tuned for more information.

Delco Veterans Memorial-Casket Flag Ceremonies-5pm-Weather Permitting-Second Sunday every month from April through September @ 5pm and October through November @ 3pm weather permitting. For more information on these events and arranging a memorial for your loved veteran click on this link: <https://delcoveteransmemorial.org/casket-flag-raising-ceremony/>

PATRIOTIC EDUCATION

The 3-Day Youth Leadership Conference, Spirit of America, will be held at Founding Forward at Valley Forge, PA on **26 February-1 March 2026**.



One-day Youth Leadership Seminars are scheduled or projected as follows:

17 January 2026 Owen J. Roberts, N JROTC, Pottstown, PA (Weather delay-New Date TBD)
31 January 2026 Camden HS, A JROTC, Camden, NJ
14 March 2026 Bridgeton HS, AF JROTC, Bridgeton, NJ
TBD PMA, A JROTC, Philadelphia, PA
TBD Niagara University, PH-NY, Niagara, NY

MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITING

Applications for membership is open to all veterans. Interested individuals should contact the Chapter Commander, COL Joe Kirlin at eaglejpk@aol.com or 610-608-8292. Applications can also be completed online at: <https://moww.org/become-a-companion/> or use QR code:



Have a bit of time to help out with some MOWW projects such as youth leadership, awards program, membership recruiting and phone call follow up, event coordination, fundraising etc.?
Contact Chapter Adjutant: Sue Kirlin: skirlin@aol.com, Chapter Commander: Joe Kirlin: eaglejpk@aol.com

"Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's when you've had everything to do, and you've done it." - Margaret Thatcher



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