



The Patriot
General J. P. Holland Chapter
Military Order of World Wars
15561 Paseo Jenghiz, San Diego, CA 92129 * 858-254-4905
www.jphollandmoww.org

Volume 7 - Edition 5 March - April 2021

National Website

www.moww.org

American Revival 2021

First Major Event of the American Revival 2021
Xenia, Ohio - April 22 - 25, 2021

LARGEST TRIBUTE OF 2021 WWII paratrooper, a Toccoa Original, Jim "Pee Wee" Martins 100th Birthday Jump Fest, will be held in Xenia, Ohio on April 22 - 25, 2021. This mass parachute drop will involve the Commemorative Air Force, 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions and the U.S. Army Golden Knights Demonstration Team. The remaining "Screaming Eagles" that will be attending with Pee Wee Martin, are Dan McBride (April 3, 2021 Guest Speaker), Vincent Speranza (March 6, 2021 Guest Speaker), Tom Rice (August 8, 2020 Guest speaker), Bob Izumi.

This mass parachute drop will be part of the largest WWII re-enactment gathering of 2021.

Chapter Officers



Chapter Commander
Nicholas Herbka,
LCDR,USN (Ret)
858-212-4335



nickherbka@outlook.com



Vice Commander
Andre LeCault,
1st LT (FMR)
858-451-9859

alecault@san.rr.com



Treasurer
David Herbka
619-368-7129
MBA/CPA

dherbka@hotmail.com

Adjutant



Don Hershberger
858-538-2513



dhersh@yaho.com



Chaplain
Carl Swepston,
LT, USN (Ret)
619-884-2593

retseal@sbcglobal.net



Tom Rice



Dan McBride



Robert Izumi



Jim "Pee Wee" Martin



For the Good of the Order

American Revival 2021



LARGEST CROSS COUNTRY PATRIOTIC MOTORCYCLE RIDE



LARGEST Cross-Country Patriotic Motorcycle Ride: Honor Ride 2021 launches in San Diego, California, Mt. Soledad on May 15, 2021. WWII paratrooper Tom Rice who jumped into Normandy on D-Day will “Pass the Torch” to “Battle of the Bulge” veteran Vincent J. Speranza who was called in to replace D-Day losses. Speranza will lead the cross country patriotic motorcycle ride.

Up to **100,000** motorcycles and **500,000** spectators will pay tribute to our fallen soldiers. Honor Ride 2021 is a collaborative effort to revive the Nation's spirit and to honor those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom.

2021 Run For The Wall. **Pre-Registration** for 2021 is open! **Pre-Registration** is \$30 per person (i.e. filling out your paperwork online) May 1 and after, you must register as a Walk-In for \$50, at one of our overnight stops. Registration is **REQUIRED** to ride with us and includes: Most meals provided by donors and supporters, and donated fuel at many stops.

Honor Ride is a collaborative effort with the Run for the Wall (RFTW) and Rolling to Remember organizations: *RFTW President and coordinator of the Midway Route, Les Williams, will also be attending the March 6th meeting for Q&A's.*





For the Good of the Order

Commander's Corner



Dear Companions and Friends of the Chapter,

I am very proud, that the Holland Chapter is taking a significant role in supporting the American Revival 2021, organized by CJ Machado and her Associates. The Mission of the revival is to educate Americans of all ages, on the founding of our Country, by courageous Patriots, based on the principles of the United States and ordained as "One Nation Under God." Please read the front page article and decide if there is some part of the revival in which you may participate. Go on Amazon PRIME and download a Free copy of "Libertas" in support of CJ Machado. She needs more reviews to be more effective and to attract larger platforms.

Please take the time to call our older members and let them know that they are in our Thoughts and Prayers. Don Hershberger (Adjutant) has provided John Cantor with a Tablet allowing John (103 yrs. Old) to participate in the February and March General Meetings.

Diane and I want to wish each and everyone of you and your family a most Happy and Blessed Easter and Passover.

"God Bless America"

Calendar of Events	Birthdays 	
<p>General Meeting - Mar 6, 2021. GSP- Vic Speranza, 10st Airborne, D-Day, Normandy</p> <p>Business Meeting - Mar 25, 2021. Discuss - open</p> <p>General Meeting - Apr 3, 2021, 2020. GSP- Dan McBride, 101st Airborne, D-Day, Normandy</p>	<p><u>March</u></p> <p>8th Eileen Baum</p>	<p><u>April</u></p> <p>5th Pat Craig</p> <p>26th John Cantor (104)</p>
<p>Business Meeting- Apr 22, 2021. Discus future ZOOM and In-person Meetings.....</p>	<p><u>March</u></p> <p>12th Tom/Wendi Morgan</p>	<p><u>April</u></p> <p>None</p>



For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker March 6, 2021



Vincent J. Speranza was born March 23, 1925 to Frank and Frances Speranza in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan, New York. He grew up on Staten Island in a large and extended Italian family during the Great Depression. After graduating high school, he was drafted into the United States Army on October 25, 1943 and officially entered the service on November 15, 1943. He was sent to Camp Upton in New York where he stayed until he was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia to train with the 87th Infantry Division. He volunteered for the Parachute Infantry and was sent back to Fort Benning for further training. Then, he was sent overseas with Company H, 3rd Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division from Camp Shanks on board the Queen Mary.

His unit arrived in France and he would later fight in the "Battle of the Bulge," December 1944. He engaged in his first firefight against German forces in freezing temperatures. That year, was the coldest winter in decades. Vincent was a machine gunner during the historic battle, earning him the nickname "Curse and Traverse" Speranza. The "Battle of the Bulge" resulted in the highest number of casualties of any operation during WWII.

His awards include: Fourragere, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 2 Stars, World War II Victory Medal, French Croix de Guerre, Legion of Honour, Presidential Unit Citation with Oak leaf cluster. Vince returned home and married Iva Leftwich in 1948. They would go on to have two daughters and a son. Iva passed away on March 6, 2017. Speranza taught U.S. history in the New York City schools for over twenty years until he retired in Auburn, Illinois.

Today, Vincent travels all around the world sharing his war stories in hopes of reminding citizens of the value of freedom and the importance of leadership under adversity. In May 2021, Speranza will lead the Honor Ride, a cross-country tribute to all service members. Speranza and Super Hero character LT Williams' POW/MIA steel wings from the Purple Foxes United story will be escorted by *The Run for The Wall* and *Rolling To Remember* organizers to the Vietnam Wall in Washington, DC. After Speranza pays his respects to our fallen Vietnam War veterans, he will "Pass the Torch" to the next generation of veterans at the Wall on Terror in Marseilles, Illinois.

The "Pass the Torch" project and documentary is sponsored by PRAESIDUS, the creators of "The Battle of the Bulge" commemorative watch honoring Vincent J. Speranza's service.

To learn more about Speranza's memories of the war, you can read them in his book called NUTS! available on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Airborne-Division-Machine-Gunner-Bastogne/dp/1941165516>



For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker April 3, 2021



Dan McBRIDE

In 1942, when Dan McBride was 18, he joined the United States Army and was stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C. When he was 20, he parachuted into France, behind German lines, on June 6, 1944, at the onset of the Normandy invasion.



McBride, originally from Ohio, was a member of the 101st Airborne Division, 502nd Parachute Infantry, Company F. “ We left England about 10 p. m. on June 5 and jumped about midnight,’ McBride said. “ The planes carrying the paratroopers were all in line— in a formation. But when we flew over Normandy, the German anti- aircraft fire began, and we could hear bullets from machine guns and shrapnel from the 20millimeter shells hitting our plane.” I was loaded down with eight grenades, two antitank mines, ammunition, a full field pack, four blocks of TNT, an entrenching tool, a bayonet and a carbine. Shoot,’ McBride said, “I weighed 300 to 400 pounds. We had to have someone help us climb into the plane.” “ The formation began to break apart as pilots tried to avoid the AA fire. They were banking and diving and turning,’ McBride remembered. “ Well, on one particularly steep banking turn, being closest to the open door waiting to get the signal to jump, I fell out the door.” “My foot became entangled in the chute lines and when I landed I hit pretty hard,’ McBride said. “I was knocked unconscious and when I woke up I didn’t know if I had been there 10 seconds or 10 minutes. I was in pain. Even my hair hurt. But when I checked all my arms and legs, everything seemed to work OK, so I got out of the harness and started walking to find someone who could tell me where I was. “I heard shooting coming from different directions, then a machine gun burst clipped the top of the hedgerow above my head. I snuck down the hedgerow to where I thought the gunner was on the other side and pulled the pin from one of my grenades, released the spoon and counted ‘one thousand, two thousand, three thousand’ and lobbed the thing over the hedgerow. After the explosion, I peeked around the end of the



For the Good of the Order

Guest Speaker June 5, 2021



Professor William Weeks

Professor William Weeks is a specialist in American History with a focus on American Foreign Relations. He is the author of three books, most recently *Dimensions of the Early American Empire* (2013). Currently, he is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant entitled Dialogues on the Experience of War, which seeks to aid Iraq and Afghan war veterans in telling their stories of war and homecoming.

Title of talk: "Who Lost (to) China? Part II" Professor Weeks will connect the dots of history from the controversy over "who lost China?" in the early 1950s to those Americans who today seem eager to "kowtow" to China in the 21st century. Suspects include Mike Bloomberg, Bill Gates, Hollywood, the NBA, and academia, all of whom seem to be placing their bets that the future of the world is to be found in China.

"Who Lost (to) China?", Part II. The current plan is to outline how the historic vision of making it here and selling to the China market there, evolved into making it there and selling to the American market here. Somewhere and somehow along the way, China's enormous pool of potential customers became an enormous pool of potential cheap labor.

And while I have been predicting a showdown between the US and China for a decade, I will also share a strong premonition I have been experiencing of late: that in the end, America will surrender to Chinese hegemony without firing a shot. Indeed, it may have already happened.



For the Good of the Order



Chaplain's Corner



Spring and Easter A Sign of Hope and Renewal



Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 14, 2021. The First Day of Spring is Saturday, March 20th. No matter what part of the Country you live in, the buds are coming alive and are ready to burst open with color and nature's beauty. We lose a hour of sleep, but gain an hour of sunshine.

Spring has always been a sign of hope, especially after the most difficult of winters. This winter has been a record setting event, that has brought severe cold and hardship to the Mid-West of our country, as far south as Texas. April showers will bring May flowers, and the Hope that Easter brings on April 4, 2021.

As we celebrate Easter Sunday remembering the resurrection of Jesus Christ, as well as, remember our fallen warriors, we trust in God, as stated in the Pledge of Allegiance, "One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all." Celebrating Easter Sunday is a time to promote Hope, Forgiveness and unconditional Love, a tradition we have followed for many years.

As a boy I remember celebrating Easter in two memorable ways, One -going to a rural country church in Southern West Virginia, and Two-searching and finding Easter Eggs my mother cooked, colored and hid for us to find and enjoy. Both of these Easter Traditions bring Hope for the future and a Renewal of Faith in Everlasting Life, with God in Heaven.

God Bless our Companions and Friends of the Holland Chapter.

Carl Swepston ,

MOWW, Holland Chapter Chaplain