

# INITIATION CEREMONY FOR NEW MEMBERS

**All new members should be inducted and welcomed into the Order with an appropriate and dignified ceremony. Below is the Official Initiation Ritual of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.**

The Chapter Commander, or his designate, shall ask all new members admitted to the Chapter since the last meeting to come before the members, raise their right hand, place their left hand on the Chapter's Holy Bible (or the shoulder of the person in front of them) and repeat following with the Commander:

*"I, (full name of the new member), pledge allegiance to the United States of America. I also pledge, to the best of my ability, to live up to and support the Constitution, Bylaws and principles of this organization, the Military Order of the Stars and Bars."*

*"I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence, and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands."*

The MOS&B Pledge will be repeated by all new and old members:

*"We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of fundamental American principles of self-determination and states' rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society, and for generations yet unborn."*

At this point, Membership Certificates may be given, and pins placed on the new members. The Commander concludes:

*"By the powers vested in me as Commander, I declare you a member of the (Chapter name) Chapter. We welcome you within the ranks of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars."*

The Chapter Commander shall lead the applause welcoming new members into the Order referring to them as *Compatriots*.