

MOAA



VOICE

Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 2

"Serving Those Who Serve America"

FEBRUARY 2009

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS



On Sunday, December 28th, we had a good MOAA turnout at the Memorial Service for Past President, CDR Bruce Bell, USN (Ret). And there was only standing room available for the funeral of Beverly Rick wife of member

LtCol George Rick, USAF (Ret). She was killed on Sonoma Highway in east Santa Rosa in a head-on collision by a drunken driver.

Our primary goals for 2009 have to be membership and visibility. There are 500 members who belong to National MOAA but are not members of our chapter. We need to sign them up. We still lack a Membership Chairman. An incentive for membership is our scholarship program for children, grand-children, and great-grandchildren plus personal affairs services provided to surviving family members. PLEASE SIGN UP A MEMBER. As for visibility when we attend functions we look like silly villains and unrecognizable to other veterans groups. Our uniform will be blue blazer, gray slacks, and a MOAA badge which can be ordered on the MOAA website.

At our January luncheon, LtCol Mort Jarvis, USAF (Ret), who is the CALMOAA Area 1 Director, installed the newly elected officers and gave a speech on the Lake Tahoe MOAA Symposium attended by three from our chapter in October and hundreds from the Western United States.

Captain Tom Poulter

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

On Thursday, February 26th, at the Quail Inn Mr. Charles L. Christian, Jr., retired US State Department Communications Officer will give a power-point presentation on his experiences with the U-2 and SR-71 Spy Plane and information on the top secret Area 51 in Nevada.

2009 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

Reminder to all Chapter officer members. The annual membership renewal envelopes for 2009 have been mailed to all officer members (with the exception of new members joining the Chapter the latter part of 2008 and other members who have paid their 2009 dues in advance).

The envelope is in two-parts. As the instructions indicate, tear off and complete the top perforated portion, place it with your check in the remaining envelope, seal and mail back to Chapter address. Please respond promptly. We appreciate your continued membership and participation.

So as of January 1st 2009, if you have not paid, your dues are now past due.

Secretary Bob Safreno, 795-3963

MOAA BOARD MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: March 7, 2009, 0930 hours - Santa Rosa Vet's Bldg Conference Room.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Saturday, April 4th, 2009, 0930 hours - Santa Rosa Vet's Bldg Conference Room.

Chapter members are always welcome at these meetings.
Coffee and donuts will be served.



MENDOCINO SUB-CHAPTER

The Mendocino County Subchapter enjoyed a wonderful luncheon meeting at Jensen's Restaurant Banquet Room on 17 January. Our two WWII veteran guests: Bob Savage, former 82nd Airborne Paratrooper and POW, and Art Eck, former 100th Division Infantryman and POW, shared their experiences of being in combat and German POW camps. They said the lack of freedom was their greatest loss, and the POW camp food was deplorable, to put it mildly. Two other guests: Staff Sergeants Rod Boone and Jesse Leonard, are both 82nd Airborne Paratrooper veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. After Bob Savage spoke, Sergeants Leonard and Boone presented Bob Savage with a lovely shadowbox trophy, containing an 82nd Airborne Division flag, Airborne Wings, a US Flag shoulder patch, and a Combat Infantry Badge. Everyone gave many rounds of heartfelt applause to all our wonderful guests. We are so fortunate to have such brave and patriotic soldiers to protect and preserve our freedom and liberty. Our next Luncheon meeting will be at 11:30 am, March 21st, at Jensen's Restaurant, Ukiah. Captain George Skezas, USN (Ret.), has agreed to be our speaker on his recent world wide travels on behalf of the Lion's Club. Please make plans to attend, bring a new member or help a current member to attend.

LTC Ben Booth, Commander

SONOMA VALLEY SUB-CHAPTER

We held our bi-monthly luncheon meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at Mary's Pizza Hut in Boyes Springs. We had a small but loyal group who attended, and we all enjoyed hearing our own former Chapter President, COL Pete Peterka, tell us about his experiences in Laos during the "secret war" there. After hearing Pete talk about what he saw there, it seems to be small wonder that the government wanted to keep it all secret.

Our next meeting will also be at Mary's on Thursday, March 12, 2009, starting about noon. We encourage everyone to come a little early and enjoy some camaraderie and perhaps a libation before we start. We were a little slow getting started last week because we waited to see whether more people might show up. We promise to get started on time in March and to keep things moving along so we get finished at the usual time. BK, Ted, and I are working on coming up with a new mechanism for reminding our members of the meetings, perhaps a combination of a postcard mailing and phone calls. We hope that all members had a fine holiday season and are starting off on what will be a great New Year.

LTC Dennis Meredith
Subchapter Representative, Board of Directors

LAKE SUB-CHAPTER

No Report

HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE SUB-CHAPTER

No Report

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

No Report

A BIG WELCOME to a NEW MEMBER of the REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER

BOARD APPROVES MEMBERSHIP FOR 14 NEW MEMBERS

The Chapter Board of Directors approved membership applications for 14 new chapter and auxiliary members at the January 2d meeting. These include :

Mrs. Linda A. Avila (Aux)
MAJ Clifford R. Dewitt, USAF (Ret)
LTCDR John M. Gray, USN (Ret)
CPT Charles F. Graeber, USAR (Former)
MAJ Chris Hilton USAR (Active)
LT William J. Mannone, USCG
CPT Gary Moore, USA (Ret)
MAJ Doris J. Patterson, USAF (Ret)
CW4 James Pierce, USAF (Ret)
LCDR Gary Strain, USN (Ret)
CW3 Richard W. Sharke USA (Ret)
1LT Robert J. Smith, USAR (Ret)
Mrs. Charlotte Dillon (a)
COL Thomas R. Monroe, Jr., USA (Ret)

CELL PHONE DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

Cell phone telephone numbers, nationwide, went public on January 2nd, 2009, and were released to telemarketing companies on January 4th. If you receive calls from telemarketers you will probably be charged for the call. To prevent this from happening, call the *National Do Not Call list* from your cell phone at 888-382-1222. It only takes a minute and it blocks your phone number for five (5) years.

RETIREE PUBLICATIONS ONLINE

The following service connected retiree publications are available online.

Army / Echoes:

<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/RSO/echoes.asp>

Navy / Shift Colors:

<http://www.npc.navy.mil/referencelibrary/publications/shiftcolors>

Marine Corps / Semper Fidelis:

http://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page?_pageid=278,2017336&dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Air Force / Afterburner:

<http://www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner>

Source: DFAS Retired Pay Newsletter



COL BREY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD CLOSING MARCH 15TH

The Colonel William G. Brey Scholarship Fund, established in memory of the Redwood Empire Chapter's first president, awards college, vocational, technical, and business school merit scholarships to children, grandchildren or wards of regular or auxiliary members of the chapter. To be eligible, applicants must have graduated (or be about to graduate) from high school, have been accepted (or have reasonable indication of acceptance) by an accredited college, vocational, technical, business, or professional school, and not have previously received a Brey Scholarship award.

Application forms may be obtained by contacting the Scholarship Committee Chairman, LTC Dennis Meredith, 707-996-8819, or at denismm@comcast.net. Forms may also be obtained by contacting the Chapter Secretary CPT Bob Safrano, Redwood Empire Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 2801, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801; or downloaded from the Chapter Web Page at <http://www.redwoodempiremoaa.us/programs.html>. Deadline for submission of scholarship application and supporting documentation is March 15, 2009. Any questions contact Col. Pete Peterka: 707-542-4076 or LTC Dennis Meredith: 707-996-8819.

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CHANGES TO 2008 ROSTER

NONE: The new **2009 Roster** is currently being produced and will be mailed out sometime in February 2009.

2009 DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar 09	7th	Executive Committee Meeting
	26th	Luncheon Meeting
	31st	Executive Committee Meeting
Apr 09	4th	Board of Directors Meeting
	23rd	Luncheon Meeting
May 09	2nd	Executive Committee Meeting
	16th	Santa Rosa Rose Parade
	25th	Memorial Day Ceremony - S.R. Memorial Park
	28th	Luncheon Meeting & Honor Scholarship Winners
Jun 09	6th	Executive Committee Meeting
	*	Support The Troops Rally - Santa Rosa
	*	Annual Picnic - Ursline H.S.
Jul 09	7th	Executive Committee Meeting
	11th	Board of Directors Meeting
	23rd	Luncheon Meeting
Aug 09	1st	Executive Committee Meeting
	*	Chapter Annual BBQ
	*	Air Show - Schultz County Airport
Sep 09	5th	Executive Committee Meeting
	*	Lobster Feed
	29th	Executive Committee Meeting
	*	POW/MIA Recognition Day
Oct 09	3rd	Board of Directors Meeting
	22nd	General Membership Meeting Election of Officers
Nov 09	7th	Executive Committee Meeting
	11th	Veterans Day Parade - Petaluma No Luncheon Meeting in November
Dec 09	5th	Executive Committee Meeting
	7th	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
	*	Holiday Social
	* - Dates to announced/confirmed at later date	

Military Humor

"Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it."

MOAA VOICE

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 17, 2008

Mr. Thomas Poulter
2178 Warwick Drive
Santa Rosa, California 95405

Dear Tom:

Donna recently shared with me that you are in a tough battle. Laura and I are thinking of you, and our prayers are with you.

Your dedicated efforts in support of the men and women who wear our Nation's uniform reflect the best of the American spirit and continue to be an inspiration to others.

Stay strong, and may God bless you.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWB".

George W. Bush

(A Sonoma County Main Chapter event; all members are more than welcome)

Luncheon, Thursday February 26, 2009
The Quail Inn, On the Golf Course, Oakmont

Socializing 11:00am; Lunch 12:00pm
Cost (including tax and tip) - **Price \$20.00**

Starter: Sonoma County Green Salad with balsamic vinaigrette & seasonal vegetables
Entrée: Choice of Baked Snapper with roasted red peppers saffron rice and seasonal veggies or Grilled Tri-Tip with garlic mashed potatoes, crispy onions, seasonal vegetables and a red wine reduction sauce.
Dessert: Warm soufflé-like cake served with raspberry sauce.

Coffee, Tea, Rolls and Butter

Please reserve: Seafood ___ Beef ___

Enclosed is my check for my advanced reservation ___ persons @ \$20.00 each. \$_____

Note: Pay At Door - Walk-Ins (no reservation or unpaid reservations) is \$22.00 per person.

Enclosed is \$_____ for the Col. Brey Scholarship Fund

And/or \$_____ for the Military Support Fund

Speaker: Our guest speaker will be Mr. Charles Christian who will give a power point presentation on his experiences with the CIA including the SR-71 Recon plane and Area 51.

Name: _____

Guests: _____, _____, _____, _____

Please list the names of all guest, so that we can make NAME TAGS for them too, thank you. If anyone needs transport to this event contact Lee Hoskins at 538-5167 who will arrange transportation for you.

----- Check here if you will be able to bring a Raffle Prize.

Mail To: Treasurer, MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 2801, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Make check (s) payable to: **MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter**

Wives Club continued from page 6:

Your new Officers were duly installed by Parliamentarian Lee Owen at the January meeting. We are most fortunate to have such a capable executive staff. The regular February meeting will be on Wednesday, February 11, at the Flamingo Hotel. Lunch is served promptly at 12 Noon. Your Telephone Committee will apprise you of menu choices. Your new Reservations Chairman, Alice Peterka (542-4076) reminds us that reservations may be made up to the morning of the meeting but cancellations must be made on Monday before the meeting. We will be charged for abandoned reservations and the Treasurer must bill the member to reimburse the Club. This will be our Memorabilia Day and Program Chairman Barbara Confer asked that if you have a special souvenir of your Service years you might bring it and tell us of its special meaning. Other memorabilia is welcome as well. Past Presidents will be honored at this meeting. Family Services has sent cards to Amy Gamble and Shirley Wright, both of whom are recovered and attended the January meeting. She sent a sympathy card to the family of Beverly Rick.

MOAA Wives were well represented at memorial Services for Beverly as well as for CDR Bruce Bell. Terry told us that both LCOL Frank and Betty Kappeler are in a full service facility now and she has sent them a card.

Connie Miller, Publicity 563-8311
conkrest@aol.com

News from *The Affiliate*

The vision of Carolyn Epling, Cochair, Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee, is to see more auxiliary members in leadership positions in their MOAA chapters. She reminds the auxiliary members that they spent their lives multitasking to keep families operating smoothly, and there is no reason they can't use their skills to hold MOAA chapter positions.

Tina Lewis



Secretary/Treasurer - MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter
 Post Office Box 2801, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

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MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

2009 Officers

President Tina Lewis	539-5546
Vice President Liz Warren	763-6957
Secretary Mary Tillman	584-8350
Treasurer Shirley Reeves	539-7839

Chairmen

Family Services Terry Silva	544-6445
Reservations Alice Peterka	542 4076
Membership Susan Linch	538-3342
Programs Barbara Confer	763-8198
Name Tags Marie Minchin	546-2768
Craft Show Amy Gamble	537-1459
Publicity Connie Miller	568-3811

Story continued on page 5

Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2009

President:	CPT Tom Poulter, USA	576-0513
Vice President:	CAPT Jim Curtin, USN	527-9021
Secretary:	CPT Robert R. Safreno, USAR	795-3963
Treasurer:	LTC Pete Rizzo, USA	539-3346
Past President:	Col Louis Peterka, USA	542-4076
Membership:	Vacant	
CAL-MOAA Director, Area 1:	LCOL Mort Jarvis, USAF	530-673-8402
Directors-at-large - Term 2009 - 2010		
	CPT Lee P. Hoskins, USA	538-5167
	Martina E. Lewis, AUX	539-5546
	LT William P. Matz, USN	837-2161
	LTC Gary T. Meagher, AUS	544-4089
Directors-at-large - Term 2009		
	CDR Don D. Confer, USN	763-8198
	LCOL Kevin Connolly, USAR	544-9338
	CDR Leighton M. Royston, USN	578-4464
	Col Harold R. Warren, USMCR	763-6957
Directors Representing Sub-Chapters:		
Humboldt/Del Norte:	LCDR Howard W. Gardner, USN	443-9627
Lake:	CAPT Daniel W. Christensen, USNR	263-3297
Mendocino:	Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst, AUX	468-0146
Sonoma Valley:	LTC Dennis M. Meredith, USA	996-8819