

# MOAA



# VOICE

Military Officers Association of America  
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 6

“Serving Those Who Serve America”

JUNE 2009

## PAST PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

The month of May has been a whirlwind. With the special meeting of the Chapter Board to address the resignation of Tom Poulter, the assumption of the presidency by Jim Curtin, and the introduction of Lee Hoskins and Don Confer into the fray . This followed by the planning and preparation for the chapters’ entry in the Rose Parade. Jim Curtin, Dennis Meredith, Owen Cort, Gary Meagher, Bill Matz, Don Confer, Bob Silva, Lee Hoskins and Pete Peterka aboard a World War II U.S. Army half-track was the chapter’s entry into the 115th annual event. The parade was short, but a resounding success. The crowd lining the streets numbered in the thousands and were most receptive. Makes one proud to have served.

Next comes the honoring of our two Col. William Brey Memorial Scholarship winners at the May 28th luncheon, Alix Warren, granddaughter of Hal and Liz Warren and Tiare Hoegerman, granddaughter of Helen A. Mitchell. Following this we have the Memorial Day Ceremony (Avenue of the Flags) on May 25th at Santa Rosa Memorial Park, and the celebration of the 65th anniversary of D-Day, with a reception in honor of all WWII Veterans to be held on June 5th at the Snoopy Museum.

Now get ready for the chapter picnic.

Ursline High School  
June 13th 2009

Good Food - Good Fun - Great Weather

Col Pete Peterka  
RECMOAA President 2006-2008

## CAPTAIN TOM POULTER PRO-CLAIMED PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Captain (USA) Tom Poulter was proclaimed President Emeritus upon his resignation, for personal medical reasons, as President of the Redwood Empire Chapter, on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009. Captain Jim Curtin, USN (Ret) assumed the presidency at a special meeting of the Chapter Board of Directors on that date. Other board actions at this same meeting included designating Captain Lee Hoskins, USA, as First Vice-President (Pro-Tem); re-instituting the position of Second Vice-President as an elected position within the Chapter and the designation of CDR Don Confer, USN, a Second Vice-President (Pro-Tem).

## Celebrate D-Day In Santa Rosa

The Charles Schultz (Snoopy) Museum in Santa Rosa is celebrating the 65th Anniversary of the D-Day Normandy landing during the last week in May and first week in June. Special programs and displays will be the order of the day during that period, of which the most important is the honoring of WWII veterans. Not just those who landed at Normandy, but ALL WWII Veterans. This event, WWII Veterans Reception, will be on Friday, June 5th, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Contact Pete Peterka for more information.

## MOAA BOARD MEETINGS

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Tuesday June 2, 2009, 0930 hours - Santa Rosa Vet's Bldg Conference Room.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Saturday, July 11th, 2009, 0930 hours - Santa Rosa Vet's Bldg Conference Room.

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

## MOAA VOICE

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## MENDOCINO SUB-CHAPTER

A happy and lively crowd attended the Saturday, May 16th Luncheon Meeting at Silver's at the Wharf, Noyo Harbor, Fort Bragg. The delightful weather and breathtaking ocean, river and Noyo Bridge views, from the glassed-in outdoor deck, were exhilarating and inspiring. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Father Gibson led us in prayer, especially for our brave troops in harm's way throughout the world. After a delicious lunch, member Brigadier General Wilbur Van Riper, USAF (Ret.), entertained us with his WWII combat experiences in the US Navy. He fought as an aircraft crew tail gunner, from an aircraft carrier, especially in the heroic Battle Of Leyte Gulf in the Philippine Islands. Members were asked to notify any WW II veterans to contact Colonel Pete Peterka, USA (Ret.), Tel: 707-542-4076, or: 707 484-4803, or email: petepeterka@earthlink.net, if they would like to be invited to the June 5th, 2009, 65th D-Day Anniversary Reception, at the Charles Schultz Museum in Santa Rosa. Major Don Thomas, USAF (Ret.), volunteered to be our guest speaker at the 11:30 am, July 18, 2009 Luncheon Meeting at Silvers at the Wharf. Please join us and bring a prospective member, a guest or members who need some help to get to our really delightful luncheon meetings.

Ben Booth, Commander.

## SONOMA VALLEY SUB-CHAPTER

We held our bi-monthly luncheon meeting one final time at Mary's Pizza Shack in Boyes Springs on Thursday, May 14, 2009. We had a somewhat larger group this time than we did for the last couple of gatherings. It was a very pleasant event. Our speaker this time was Mr. Krishna Kumar, General Manager of the Valley of the Moon Water District. His talk was most interesting. He explained in detail how his District and City of Sonoma are supplied domestic water by Sonoma County Water Agency, and spent some time on the current water supply shortage and conservation measures taken by both the District and the City in order to meet State-imposed supply reduction goals. His presentation was of value to not only to residents of both the VOM Water District and the City of Sonoma, but also to those members who are supplied by private water companies, such as George Ranch and Diamond A, as well to those served by private wells. The general interest in the subject was shown by the number of questions from our member following Krishna's talk.

Our next meeting will be at The Palms Grill at the intersection of Sonoma Highway and Verano Avenue on Thursday, July 9, 2009, starting about noon. The presentation will be conducted by representatives of Paradise valley Estates retirement community near Fairfield, and will address not only the opportunities available at their facilities but the general assisted retirement living community business in general. We encourage everyone to come a little early and enjoy some camaraderie and perhaps a libation before we start.

LTC Dennis Meredith  
Subchapter Representative, Board of Directors

## LAKE SUB-CHAPTER

No Report this month

## HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE SUB-CHAPTER

H. W. Gardner, Adjutant - No report

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Bob Mandelstam  
No Report

## WELCOME HOME BBQ - IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN VETS

Sonoma County veterans, who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan, will be honored at a "Welcome Home BBQ" on June 27th at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building. This event will be hosted by VVA Chapter #223 and other veterans organizations throughout the county. The event runs from 11:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00, and can be obtained by contacting Pete Peterka, 707-542-4076 or 707-484-4803, or e-mail at petepeterka@earthlink.net.

**IRAQ -AFGHANISTAN VETS - THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE AND WELCOME HOME.**

## DECEASED MEMBERS

LTC JOSEPH M. MONKS, AUX  
May 6, 2009

THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER OFFICERS AND MEMBERS EXTEND OUR SINCEREST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR DEPARTED LOVE ONES.

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

**BARBEQUE / PICNIC - SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2009, 12:00 noon**  
**Ursuline high school, 90 Ursuline Road, Santa Rosa**

Off Old Redwood Highway, east of Hwy 101, about 1/2 mile south of Mark Springs Road or about 1 1/2 mile north of Fountain Grove Parkway.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Menu:** BBQ Chicken and garlic bread, Wine and coffee.
- Salads, beans and desserts will be provided by the Wives Club.
- **Please** bring your own munchies, chips & dip, water, and soda.

Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$20.00 each, Total\$\_\_\_\_\_ **Please make name tags for:**  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

**Reservation must be received not later than Tuesday, June 9, 2009**

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Col. Brey Scholarship Fund And/or \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Military Support Fund

Make check (s) payable to: **MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter**

*Please list the names of all guest, so that we can make NAME TAGS for them too, thank you.*

Mail To: Secretary, MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 2801, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

## 2009 DATES TO REMEMBER

Jun 09  
6th Executive Committee Meeting  
13th Support The Troops Rally - Santa Rosa  
13th Annual Picnic - Ursuline H.S.  
30th Executive Committee Meeting

Jul 09  
11th Board of Directors Meeting  
23rd Luncheon Meeting

Aug 09  
4th Executive Committee Meeting  
\* Chapter Annual BBQ  
15/16th Air Show - Schultz County Airport

Sep 09  
1st Executive Committee Meeting  
25th 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  
3rd Executive Committee Meeting  
11th Veterans Day Parade - Petaluma  
No Luncheon Meeting in November

Dec 09  
1st Executive Committee Meeting  
7th Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
\* Holiday Social  
\* - Dates to announced/confirmed at later date

## CHANGES TO 2009 ROSTER

NOTE: Members need to check their roster for correct information Listed below are recent changes. We recommend that you mark the changes by the names in your roster, then clip and save these changes in the back pages of your roster for references. If you did not receive a copy, contact your Secretary Bob Safreno and he will send you one.

Page 11 – (Drop No Dues) **MEADE, EUGENE L. MAJ**

Page 11 – (Drop Deceased) **MONKS, JOSEPH M. LTC AUS**

Page 11 – (Add) **MONKS, LORRAINE** a MRS JOSEPH M. 707-523-4973 - 1945 PINER ROAD #141, SANTA ROSA, CA 95403-6913

Page 11 – (Moved) **MILLER, CONNIE** a 707-568-3811 3587 ROUND BARN BLVD #102C, SANTA ROSA, CA 95403-0000 konkrest@aol.com

Page 19 – (Drop No Dues) **BROOKES, JOHN A. CAPT USN**

Page 19 – (Drop No Dues) **MILLBERRY, ROB LtCol USMC**

### Military Humor:

When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend.

- US Marine Corps



Secretary/Treasurer - MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter  
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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

There will be no meeting in June in consideration of the MOAA Annual Picnic at Ursuline High School. The picnic will be on Saturday, June 13th and details are elsewhere in this newsletter. Our Telephone Committee will call with further information for Wives. We must comment on the May Wives' meeting. Shirley Reeves and Mary Tillman gave us a lovely taste of Hawaii complete with leis for everyone and Mary Gwen Neisingh brought us a dynamic speaker, Peg Steele. Many thanks from all of us for an exciting day. Family Services chairman, Terry Silva, has been under the weather and we wish her a speedy recovery. She reports no other illnesses this month.

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

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## Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2009

<b>President Pro-Tem:</b>	CAPT Jim Curtin, USN	527-9021
<b>1st Vice President Pro-Tem:</b>	CPT Lee P. Hoskins, USA	538-5167
<b>2nd Vice President Pro-Tem:</b>	CDR Don D. Confer, USN	763-8198
<b>Secretary:</b>	CPT Robert R. Safreno, USAR	795-3963
<b>Treasurer:</b>	LTC Pete Rizzo, USA	539-3346
<b>President Emeritus</b>	CPT Tom Poulter, USA	576-0513
<b>Past President:</b>	Col Louis Peterka, USA	542-4076
<b>Membership:</b>	Vacant	
<b>CAL-MOAA Director, Area 1:</b>	LCOL Bob Huss, USAF	530-876-1090
<b>Directors-at-large - Term 2009 - 2010</b>		
	vacant	
	Martina E. Lewis, AUX	539-5546
	LT William P. Matz, USN	837-2161
	LTC Gary T. Meagher, AUS	544-4089
<b>Directors-at-large - Term 2009</b>		
	vacant	
	LCOL Kevin Connolly, USAR	544-9338
	CDR Leighton M. Royston, USN	578-4464
	Col Harold R. Warren, USMCR	763-6957
<b>Directors Representing Sub-Chapters:</b>		
<b>Humboldt/Del Norte:</b>	LCDR Howard W. Gardner, USN	443-9627
<b>Lake:</b>	CAPT Daniel W. Christensen, USNR	263-3297
<b>Mendocino:</b>	Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst, AUX	468-0146
<b>Sonoma Valley:</b>	LTC Dennis M. Meredith, USA	996-8819