

MOAA



VOICE

Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 40, NUMBER 4

“Serving Those Who Serve America”

MAY 2010



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

On a sad note, one of our good friends and fellow members, Col Al Guffanti US Army ret., has passed away. He was a very generous man who took his membership in MOAA seriously and attended every meeting when able. He always brought lovely items to the meetings for the

raffle. Al will be missed.

We had the good fortune of having four applicants for our Scholarship Committee to review (see the full article in the MOAA Voice). Dennis and Laurell Meredith plus the rest of the committee did a fine job of choosing the best of the best. Thank you.

We have the Rose Parade coming up May 15th. I may have misspelled the word "icon" last month concerning the half-track as our host vehicle, but it is well worth riding on. So please join us and support MOAA by participating in the parade.

As we all know, the goal of MOAA is that of service: to our country, our fellow veterans, and the community we live in. Take that extra effort and find fellow officers who are not members and invite them to join us.

CPT Lee Hoskins
President 2010

GUEST SPEAKER For

Luncheon, Thursday May 27, 2010

The guest speaker for the May 27th Luncheon, will be Sharon Duoa or one of her office members. Her organization works with foster children.

We will also present two (2) certificates to our 2010 COL Brey Scholarship winners. The students and their parents or sponsors will probably be at the luncheon. See page No. 4 for more information.

USAF BAND OF THE GOLDEN WEST

The USAF Band of the Golden West presents:

The Commanders Jazz Ensemble Live!

MSgt Mike Williams, Music Director

Performing the music of Vince Guaraldi

When: 4:00 pm, Sunday, May 16, 2010

Where: Charles M. Schulz Museum

2301 Hardies Lane - Outdoor concert will be on the baseball field.

The Guaraldis' lived in Marin County. Composing music for Charles Schulz' Peanuts animated movies, the late Vince Guaraldi is one of Marin County's (Mill Valley) famous residents. He also played jazz piano in his own trio as well as the famed Woody Herman Orchestra. His son David will be in attendance at the concert with Charles Schulz memorabilia.

[See **Page 5**, for more information on the "The USAF Band of the Golden West"]

**A BIG WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER
OF THE
REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER**

LT W. PETER LEE, USN
SPOUSE - MARIE

MOAA BOARD MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: May 4th, 2010, 0900 - Santa Rosa Vet's Bldg Conference Room.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: July 4th, 2010, 0930 Santa Rosa Vet's.

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

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MENDOCINO SUB-CHAPTER

Mendocino County Subchapter's next Luncheon Meeting will be held at 11:30 am, Saturday, May 22nd, 2010, at Silver's at the Wharf, Noyo Harbor, Fort Bragg. Members, spouses and guests may order from the sumptuous menu, and your favorite libations from the bar. In accordance with the decision of the membership, we will have family members of an active duty US Armed Forces service member as our guests. Please join us and show your support for our patriotic service member's family. No reservations necessary, as the Wharf always has lots of space to accommodate our wonderful crowd. Please help by bringing prospective members or those who need your help to attend, Just come and enjoy the views of Noyo Harbor and the blue Pacific, with our great group.

Ben Booth, Commander



SONOMA VALLEY SUB-CHAPTER

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 13, 2010, at The Palms Grill, as usual. Once again, we do not have a speaker scheduled. Our members still seem to prefer a less structured format, with more time for socializing and enjoying the camaradie among our small but loyal group of regulars. We encourage everyone to come a little early on May 13th and enjoy some conversation and perhaps a libation before we start.

Most of our members have most likely seen the obituary notices for one of our own, COL Al Guffanti, USAR (Ret.), who passed away April 6, 2010. Al was a stalwart and loyal member of MOAA for many years, but was unable to attend our subchapter gatherings due to limited mobility resulting from medical issues. He was a distinguished soldier and officer, and a fine gentleman as well. We offer our smpaty and condolences to his family. We will miss him.

LTC Dennis Meredith,
Subchapter Representative
Board of Directors



LAKE SUB-CHAPTER

LT Genevieve Snow, USNR
**** NO REPORT THIS MONTH ****

HUMBOLDT/DEL NORTE SUB-CHAPTER



The Humboldt/Del Norte Sub Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America met Saturday March 20, 2010 at the Coast Guard Station McKinleyville. There were 17 in attendance. The meeting started with a lunch in the Galley followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Bill O'Donnell. The program was a presentation by Vice Commander, Capt Floyd Stokes, USN Ret. on the MIA POW investigation based on recent recovery of a relative's World War II remains in the

country of Burma. Also as a guest of new member Major Allen Dollison, U.S. Army Reserve Mike Hislop told about the responsibilities of the Sheriff office for which he is a candidate.

The next meeting will be May 15 on the landing craft, USS LCI 1091 which is being restored in Humboldt Bay.

We had our regular raffle fund raiser. With the income from this raffle we now have \$923.40 in our account. Floyd Stokes has checked on the possibility of there being some local Coast Guard dependents who would be qualified for scholarships. At the next meeting we will have more information.

H. W. Gardner, Adjutant

VINEGAR

For those who are not aware following are a number of uses for vinegar that will make your life a little easier.

Using Vinegar for CLEANING:

- Cleans Glass - Mixed with water or simply sprayed full strength on glass and mirrors, vinegar does a great job quickly and easily. Simply wipe windows dry with crumpled-up newspapers and watch your windows sparkle.
- Clean your car - Use it full strength to polish car chrome with a cloth and see it shine! Use it on your car's windshield and windows, too.
- Cleans drinking glasses - Soak cloudy drinking glasses in warmed white vinegar for a few hours to remove the film, simply wipe clean, rinse, and dry.
- Clean your washing machine - Periodically run a gallon of distilled vinegar through your washing machine to clean it thoroughly, get rid of soap scum, and clear out the hoses. Run the machine through the warm water wash cycle empty and then add the vinegar during the rinse cycle.
- Furniture Polish - Make your own furniture polish with one part vinegar and three parts lemon oil or olive oil.
- Remove price tags or stickers - Paint them with several coats of vinegar and let it soak in. Depending what you are removing them off of is whether they'll slide off easily or require a little heavier rubbing.
- Clean your IRON - Put vinegar in the water holder and let it steam itself clean. Remember to flush it with water when your are done.
- Clean paintbrushes - Simmer paintbrushes in pure vinegar, then wash in hot soapy water.
- Wash walls - Wipe down your walls with a vinegar-water mixture and it will help absorb odors and clean the surfaces.
- Remove spots from glass - Use a vinegar-soaked cloth to remove spots from any glassware or crystal.

Source: ROA Bulletin
Silicon Valley Chapter "The Bulletin", April 2010

New AF dining program opens doors for retirees

by 1st Lt. Gina Vaccaro McKeen
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFRNS) – Thanks to the Air Force's Food Transformation Initiative, retirees at six bases will soon be able to use military food service establishments previously reserved for active-duty Airmen.

Retirees will pay the same market price as everyone else, and there will not be an added surcharge on top of the menu price.

The six Air Force bases participating in the initiative are Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, Patrick AFB, Fla., MacDill AFB, Fla., Fairchild AFB, Wash., Little Rock AFB, Ark., and **Travis AFB, Calif.**

This pilot program not only opens food establishments to all members of the base community, but customers will also see changes to food and beverage options, resulting in greater quality and variety, said Air Force Services Agency officials.

Diners will see an overall increase in the variety and availability of healthy menu options on base.

With FTI, the Air Force is changing the way it delivers food in order to meet the needs of today's Airmen. For the past 60 years, the Air Force has been feeding Airmen based on a much larger, more stationary force. With the transition to a smaller, expeditionary force, Air Force leaders are looking to make dining programs more flexible, available, and efficient.

"FTI is about Airmen and for Airmen," said Brian Floyd, the deputy director of the force support squadron at Travis Air Force Base, one of the pilot bases for this initiative. "We have heard loud and clear what our Airmen want, and FTI is all about offering them better quality food, more variety and a sense of community when dining."

FTI will reinvigorate Air Force dining by hiring a contractor to transition to hybrid facilities on bases that will be open to the entire base populace, much like common business and university campuses, services officials said.

Many base dining facilities have use rates of less than 50 percent. Instead of closing these facilities, Air Force plans call for transforming operations. This transformation will preserve the mission of providing meals to Airmen and bringing positive changes to the way Airmen are fed on base, services agency officials said.

While services officials are excited about the forthcoming changes, they emphasized things will not happen immediately and that each base will be different. The first phase of the program is about improving menu options, they said, and the total transformation will take time.

Opening the transformed dining venues to retirees and base employees will restore a sense of community because everyone will be able to eat together, Mr. Floyd said.

"Now all of these groups of people will be able to share quality food in a family type of atmosphere at the dining hall as well as at other food venues on base," he explained.

DFAS Offers New Retiree Web Site

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has established a new Web site for recipients of military retirement pay, annuities and disability benefits, as well as those preparing for retirement. To view the site, visit www.dfas.mil/rapay.html or click "Retired Pay" on the yellow bar atop the DFAS Web site, www.dfas.mil/.

COL Albert D. Guffanti, USA

Fellow Redwood Empire Chapter MOAA members -- our friend and colleague, one of our most loyal and true longtime members, COL Al Guffanti, USA, has passed on. He was a very generous man who took his membership in MOAA seriously and attended every meeting when able. He always brought lovely items to the meeting for the raffle, (Mainly from Vella's Cheese Company). Al will be missed.

After having been notified by Pete Peterka, I called and talked with Al's daughter, Carole, to see whether there is anything we can do to help the family. Carole said they have arrangements well in hand, and let me know that there would be a memorial service for COL Guffanti at Eggen & Lance Chapel, It was Wednesday, April 14, 2010, with a reception at Odd fellows Hall following services.

Burial was, Thursday, April 15, 2010, at Santa Rosa Memorial Park. Carole said that our members were welcome at both gatherings, and old friends were welcome to share memories and tributes.

Some of our members may recall that Al started his Army career in the horse cavalry. As a way of recognizing that rare connection to our heritage, Carole was seeking to find someone with access to and willing to make available a saddle horse with an English saddle and tack, and some cavalry-type tall riding boots with spurs which can be reversed in the stirrups to be part of the military interment ceremony. We were able to help her out and it was a fine ceremony.



**DECEASED
MEMBER**



COL ALBERT D. GUFFANTI, USA

DECEASED APRIL 5, 2010

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



COL BREY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR 2010

At the REC Board of Directors Meeting held on April 10, 2010, the COL William G. Brey Scholarship Committee submitted and the Board approved its recommendations for awards for this year's program.

The Redwood Empire Chapter will award two scholarships of \$3,000 each this year. The awardees are Alexander R. Crowe, son of sponsor CW3 William R. Crowe, USA (Ret). of Eureka, and Claire E. Bingham, daughter of sponsor Lt. Col. Christopher D. Bingham, USAF (Ret), of Geyserville. They are both very impressive students with distinguished records of academic achievement, participation as leaders in wide varieties of extracurricular school activities, and generous work on behalf of community service organizations and programs.

Certificates of Merit will be presented to Alexander and Claire at the May 27, 2010 Chapter luncheon at Quail Inn in Oakmont.

LTC Dennis M. Meredith
Scholarship Committee

LETTER BELOW: The letter below is from a former recipient of the Col Brey Scholarship award from our Chapter. It was written to:

LCDR W. L. Chris and Marlys Christianson

How is everything in Santa Rosa? It was great seeing you guys at our lunch in Marin and I'm glad things are looking up for you two.

I wanted to let you know that I won my election for ASUC Senate, the 20 member legislative body for our school that has a say in countless issues at Cal and throughout the nation. It was really exciting because I finished 8th overall at around 530 first place votes, over 100 more than I needed to win. Over 200 people showed up to tabulations (where the winners are announced live) and I was thrilled to win. It took a tremendous amount of work, an amazing campaign manager, and a ton of stress, but in the end we were successful! I included the article below, but it is exciting because I am going to be the #1 voice for the 2,500 member Greek Community at Cal.

(I am under the Senate Category)

Spencer C. McLeod

Spencer C. McLeod
Senator-Elect | Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC)

MOAA VOICE

Editor Tim Morgan 707-695-9293, blkcloud@sonic.net
Distribution USPS Mail Bob Safreno 707-795-3963
email Tim Morgan blkcloud@sonic.net
Online <http://www.redwoodempiremoaa.us>

2010 DATES TO REMEMBER

May:

- 4th Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- 15th Armed Forces Day – Rose Parade, Santa Rosa
- 26th United Veterans Council meeting
- 27th Luncheon – Honor Scholarship Recipients
- 31st Memorial Day Ceremonies

June:

- 1st Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- 19th MOAA Picnic at Ursuline High School

***** Dates listed below are not confirmed *****

July:

- 4th BOARD MEETING - Scholarship winners
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information

August:

- 3rd Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- 28th Riverfront Regional Park, Annual BBQ

September:

- 7th Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- 24th Friday, Lobster/steak Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building

October:

- 2nd BOARD MEETING - Scholarship winners
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- 22nd Luncheon, Election of Officers for 2010

November:

- 2nd Executive Committee Meeting
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
- NO LUNCHEON IN NOVEMBER

December:

- 7th Executive Committee Meeting
- 12th Sunday, Holiday Social
- 15th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information

CHANGES TO 2010 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 2010 copy, contact your Secretary Bob Safreno and he will send you one.

Page 9 – (Chg Telephone #) **GAMBLE, AMY M.** a 707-888-1917

Page 10 – (Add new) **LEE, W. PETER LT USN** r **MARIE** 707-481-9024
1421 HEIDI PLACE, WINDSOR, CA 95492 - pete320@comcast.net

Page 24 – (Delete deceased) **GUFFANTI, ALBERT D. COL USA**

The Commanders

The Commanders, a newly-revived ensemble coming from the US Air Force Band of the Golden West, carries on the American musical tradition of the great big bands, yet offers a lot more than the big band sounds. This energetic group of highly-trained professional musicians, formed from about a dozen Airmen, delivers the full gamut of jazz music – traditional jazz, cool, bop, swing, Broadway favorites, popular tunes, Latino rhythms, and patriotic music. The Commanders offers an entertaining show you won't soon forget!

A typical evening with The Commanders might include favorites from Duke Ellington, Woody Herman, Count Basie, to Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, and Dizzy Gillespie – to the sounds of today's greatest salsa groups and modern jazz groups, plus American show tunes and pop songs delivered by the group's enchantingly talented vocalist. Their renditions of hot jazz standards of any style feature rousing improvised solos from every instrument in the group. This is an ensemble capable of delivering a truly unique combination of entertainment.

In addition to enjoyable community concerts, the group offers informative lecture and performance clinics and general assembly programs. They visit colleges and schools throughout the region, inspiring future generations of musicians and connecting with youth.

Led by Master Sergeant Mike Williams, The Commanders are ready to charge you up with a fun-filled event that will satisfy every musical taste!

Veterans License Plate Program

The Veterans License Plate Program is another state benefit that you may want to consider. When you purchase the Veterans License Plate you display the pride you have for your service in the military, in addition you show your support for Veterans like you in California.

These special California License Plates may be ordered with the armed forces or veterans' service organization logo/emblem of your choice. Over 100 insignias are available, and your logo will be prominently displayed to the left of a six number/letter combination (see *the example above*). Sequential plates are only \$30 per year. You may also "personalize" your Veterans' License Plates (you may choose up to 6 characters) for an additional one-time fee of \$10. All proceeds from the sale of Veterans' License Plates are used to expand veteran services statewide.

Information on how to obtain Veterans License Plates can be obtained from your Local County Veterans Service Office and at your local DMV office or on their website www.DMV.ca.gov, you may also download information and an application form from this web site: <http://www.cdva.ca.gov/VetService/Plates.aspx>. The organization codes and logos and emblems are available on the California Association of Veterans Service Officers, Inc. web site, www.cacvso.org or by calling 1-800-952-5626.

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

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

Luncheon, Thursday May 27, 2010 **The Quail Inn, On the Golf Course, Oakmont**

Socializing 11:00am; Lunch noon

Cost (including tax and tip) - **Price \$20.00**

Starter: Caesar Salad

Entrée: 1. **Baked Ham w/potatoes au gratin and seasonal vegetables.**

2. **Chicken Fettuccini, seasoned chicken over fettuccini pasta in a creamy alfredo sauce.**

Dessert: **Ice Cream Sundae, served w/chocolate sauce, chopped nuts and a cherry.**

Coffee, Tea, (Iced Tea) Rolls and Butter

Please Reserve ___ Ham ___ Chicken

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 (Fully Tax Deductible)

And/or \$_____ for the Military Support Fund

And/or \$_____ to help defray costs you may also donate to the Chapter General Fund.

Sharon Duoa is the speaker, she works with foster children.

Name: _____, **Phone:** (____) _____

Guests: _____, _____, _____

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

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

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

MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

2010 Officers

President Tina Lewis	539-5546
Vice President Alice Peterka	542-4076
Secretary Mary Tillman	584-8350
Treasurer Shirley Reeves	539-7839
Parliamentarian Lee Owen	537-1282

The regular May meeting will be at the Flamingo Hotel on Wednesday, May 12th. Our program will be presented by Barbara Beedon, representing the Pacific Air Museum. Your Telephone Committee will inform you of menu choices and the price is still \$21.00, all inclusive.

If they do not reach you, please make your reservations up to the evening before the meeting with Reservations Chairman Helen Gregory at 528-4677. If you wish to cancel a reservation, the information must reach Helen by the Monday preceding the meeting.

Beanie Kieffer is suffering with a broken wrist and Family Services Chairman Terry Silva has sent her a card... My address in the new roster is wrong - NOT the fault of the Editor of our most excellent publication. It should be #3102. The Postal Service is responsible for the confusion.

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

REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2010

President:	CPT Lee P. Hoskins, USA	538-5167
1st Vice President:	CDR Don D. Confer, USN	763-8198
2nd Vice President:	Col Harold R. Warren, USMCR	763-6957
Secretary:	CPT Robert R. Safreno, USAR	795-3963
Treasurer:	LTC Pete Rizzo, USA	539-3346
Past President:	Col Louis Peterka, USA	542-4076
Membership:	Col Harold R. Warren, USMCR	763-6957
CAL-MOAA Director, Area 1:	LCOL Bob Huss, USAF	530-876-1090
Directors-at-large - Term 2010		
	Martina E. Lewis, AUX	539-5546
	LT William P. Matz, USN	837-2161
	LTC Gary T. Meagher, AUS	544-4089
	LCOL Robert G. Reinking, USAF	575-7873
Directors-at-large - Term 2010/2011		
	LCOL Kevin Connolly, USAR	544-9338
	MAJ Robert Mandelstam, ARMY	537-8724
	CWO-4 Robert J. Silva, USCG	544-6445
	CAPT Robert M. Wicklund, USN	538-3344
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

Return Service Requested

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

