

MOAA



VOICE

Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 3

"Serving Those Who Serve America"

MARCH 2022



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Every picture tells a story. Our lives are full of pictures, so which ones do we choose to look at. Our choice of which picture to look at can be influenced by many different needs. If we are happy, if we're sad, if we're looking at the unknown, if we are hurt, or if we're scared. Any one

of these feelings are causes for us to stop and choose a picture of our life to look at. The most important thing is we are free to choose which pictures to look at. We must find those pictures which give us strength and a vision for a better future. Pictures don't predict the future but they help us understand the past.

This may sound a little heavy for a monthly newsletter. But at a time like this when we are faced with health issues, financial stress, challenging world events, and uncertainty in our daily life's events. It is in times like this that we find those pictures that reflect on our strengths, our faith in the future, and the knowledge to know that we do not stand alone.

Our Military Officers Association is more than monthly meetings, social gatherings or friendly outdoor events. It is an opportunity for us to collectively gather together, to recognize and support the Values of our Country, and give support to our members who might be in need. Because of our COVID health restrictions that have kept us from meeting in person, I feel we have lost personal contact with many of our members. Your board members are here to serve the needs of this organization, they need your support and your input.

Major Kenneth Johnson, USAF, President
408-466-6764 ~ kenthetraveler@gmail.com

Redwood Empire Chapter member

ZOOM ~ MOAA BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 11:30am. Tim Morgan will be sending information on how to join the meeting. If a member of the Chapter wishes to join the meeting, you must contact us by e-mail and we will give you the information needed.

Chapter members are always welcome at these meetings.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022

**Buffet Luncheon at the
EPICENTER in Santa Rosa
11:00am ~ Dine at Noon**

~~~~~  
Guest Speaker: Will be **Capt Robert (Bob) Kuchem, USNR**. His subject is "Pows in America WWII". speaking about the 500,000 German POWs we brought into our country after World War 2. His presentation will be about 30 minutes.

**PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR DINING**, this is needed for head counts for meals and making name tags.

See page No. 3 for the Luncheon menu.

## CPT WILLIAM ANDERSON, USA

**Is offering his service to  
members and veterans in need.**

He realizes that the country is presently going through a rough time, because of the present COVID-19 virus and shelter in place, there are a lot of people with many different needs. He is offering to our members and any veterans organizations his help.

As a landlord he can repair many house issues for our their members. **FREE!** They only need to pay for parts.

He can transport supplies. He lives in Santa Rosa. He owns 59 properties in this state alone and is his own maintenance service. He does many kinds of things.

Anyone can call him and he will give you more details.  
Call: William Anderson at 707-331-0366

## REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2022

Dues notices were sent out by mail, with a return envelope. Unfortunately the wrong Dues Date was on the form (2023). Dues being collect are for the year **2022**. As of this publication about 65% of our members have renewed their membership. That leaves about 30 members that need to renew their dues. You were all military officers, please comply and send us \$25.00. You could be dropped after March 1st.

## "Sunshine Lady"

Call Myrna Hurst, 707-468-0146,  
if you know of anyone in the chapter who  
might enjoy a get well or sympathy card.

## "Pub Crawl" by Ken Johnson

Please join us as we start an in person event for all our Chapters MOAA members. No agenda, just a place and a time where we can gather and share a beer or two and talk about items of interest to all of us. We have been looking for a place that is easy for all of us to get to, and someplace that's quiet so we can gather in our own little corner and just talk and have time together. We have chosen to have our event at the Graton Resort & Casino, in Rohnert Park. They have several restaurants but the one I like is called the Daily Grill. It has both indoor and outdoor seating and a very nice menu. They have three large parking lots so there's plenty of room for parking.

We will try again to meet on the third Tuesday, at 11:30am, March 15th. **NOTE: This is not just for the guys, the wives or spouses are more than welcome.** Our time and date for future meetings will be up to the needs of interested members. This is just the start of a fun way to get together and have great times together. A few of our members had a good time doing this by **ZOOM** meetings in the past. However I'm open to any input and suggestions, so call me if you have any questions at 408-466-6764.

## THEATRE SEATS FOR SENIORS

~~An old man lay awkwardly sprawled across three entire seats in the movie theatre~~

When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the old man,

"Sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The old man didn't budge.

The usher became more impatient.

"Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager."

Once again, the old man just muttered and did nothing.

The usher marched briskly back up the aisle, and in a moment returned with the manager.

Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the old dishevelled man, but with no success.

Finally they summoned the police.

The officer surveyed the situation briefly, then asked, "All right, buddy, what's your name?"

"Fred," the old man moaned.

"Where you from, Fred?" asked the police officer.

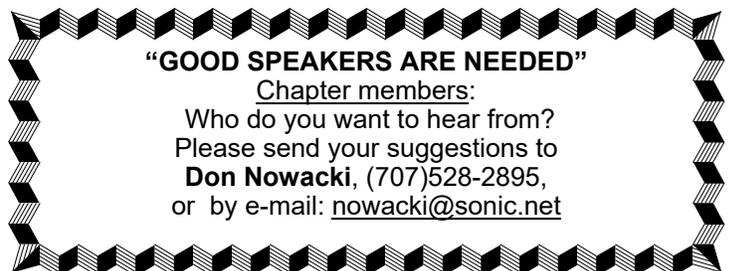
With a terrible strain in his voice, and without moving, Fred replied;

"The balcony"....

## Philosophers Of the Century

### THESE ARE GOOD ONES:

- Betsy Salkind. Men are like floors. Lay 'em right and you can walk all over them for thirty years.
- Jean Kerr, The only reason they say 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats.
- Prince Philip. When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.
- Harrison Ford. Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.
- Spike Milligan. The best cure for Sea Sickness is to sit under a tree.
- Jean Rostand. Kill one man and you're a murderer, kill a million and you're a conqueror
- Arnold Schwarzenegger... Having more money doesn't make you happier. I have 50 million dollars but I'm just as happy as when I had 48 million.
- WH Auden... We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea.
- Jonathan Katz. In hotel rooms, I worry. I can't be the only guy who sits on the furniture naked.
- Johnny Carson. If life were fair, Elvis would still be alive today and all the impersonators would be dead.
- Steve Martin. Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap.
- Jimmy Durante. Home cooking. Where many a man thinks his wife is.
- George Roberts. The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone.
- Jonathan Winters. If God had intended us to fly he would have made it easier to get to the airport.
- Robert Benchley. I have kleptomania, but when it gets bad, I take something for it.
- John Glenn. As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.
- David Letterman. America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked.
- Howard Hughes. I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. Dammit, I'm a billionaire.
- Old Italian proverb. After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box.



**MEMBERS DUES NEED TO BE PAID BY  
MARCH 1st, SEE PAGE ONE (1).**

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

## Buffet Luncheon, Thursday March 24, 2022

**Epicenter, 3215 Coffey Lane, Santa Rosa**

*Socializing 11:00 to 11:45 am, Meeting starts, Lunch 12:00 noon*

Cost (including tax and tip) - **Price \$26.00**

**Salad:** House Salad. Fresh Rolls & Butter.

**Lunch:** Grilled Lemon **Salmon** and Crispy **Chicken** with Gravy.  
**Beans** with Mushrooms. Vegetarian **Pasta**.

**Dessert:** Cookies. Water, Iced Tea, Hot Tea and Coffee

**Enclosed:** is my check for my advanced reservation \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$26.00 each. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** All must make **RESERVATIONS** Please Pre Pay if possible. (Late options only **Pay At Door**).  
**Information** is needed for head counts for meals and making name tags.

**NO RESERVATION or Walk-Ins will cost \$30.00 per person.**

**Donations:** Col. Brey Scholarship Fund (Fully Tax Deductible). \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Speaker: **Capt Robert (Bob) Kuchem, USNR** will be speaking on WW2 Prisoners of War in the United States.

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: **RECMOAA**

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

"Contact the Chapter Secretary @ 707-795-3963, prior to 10:00am, Tuesday

before the Thursday event to request a refund on prepaid meals."

## Legislative Affairs Update March 2022

### Federal:

**Federal Budget . 2022 NDAA.** Since the 2022 NDAA is still stuck in Congress, it still not be too late to make last minute pleas to our legislators to pass it because a Continuing Resolution would be a disaster

We still need support to get the following bills passed. MOAA Advocacy on the website has improved the manner to connect with your legislator - try it you'll like it.

**SA. 4297 Revision of Arlington National Cemetary Eligibility.** This amendment would follow the House bill which would require DoD to revisit the proposed eligibility provisions for burial at ANC.

**SA. 4297/S.1972. Young Adult Health Coverage Act.** This measure would align dependent children up to age 26 more closely to civilian health care plans - not the proposed \$500.00 month.

**S. 344/ HR 1282 Concurrent Receipt - aka Major Richard Star Act.** This legislative proposal would provide for full retirement benefits for those injured in combat and forced to retire before twenty years off service. Although it has received adequate support, it appears that it might not "make to cut" when the NDAA gets finalized because counter balancing budget line has not been found. However, since these may be considered "stand alone" bills, they still may

**H.R. 2214 and S.1669 - The Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act.** Financial concerns and stress

can be a terrible burden on top of an already stressful situation for a newly widowed spouse. For some, when they discover DFAS may take part or all of that last retirement check back, it can be an overwhelming event. These bills will allow survivors to gradually repay the amount over the next 12 months and have an opportunity to request for debt forgiveness through DoD.

**COLA** continues to rise. The latest information available shows it 2.9% above the baseline.

### State:

**AB 1623 Tax Exemption for Military Retired Pay.** In view of the State "excess" money perhaps the "tax fairies" may look favorably on our situation. Keep a lookout for information regarding voting by "clip and press" request through CSCVC's Voter Voice - provided through CSVC - which is the easiest since it is punch and send. This sends the message automatically to your State Senator or Assemblymember. This will require "all hands support."

**Vern McNamee, LTC, USA Retired**  
Legislative Chairman  
Redwood Empire Chapter, MOAA (CA30)

**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES ONLY \$25.00**

SEE PAGE ONE (1)

## 2022 DATES TO REMEMBER\*

\*COVID-19 Virus could change all these events and dates!

February:  
 1<sup>st</sup> Proposed target date to publish the 2022 Roster  
 \*\* 1<sup>st</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am (ZOOM)  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 26<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 s24<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**

March:  
 1<sup>st</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 1<sup>st</sup> Members who have not paid 2022 dues may be **dropped**.  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission Scholarship Applications  
 15<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 23<sup>rd</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 24<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**

April:  
 5<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 19<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 27<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 28<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting

May:  
 3<sup>rd</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 14<sup>th</sup> Armed Forces Day – Rose Parade, Santa Rosa  
 17<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 25<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 26<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Ceremonies

June:  
 7<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Spring Lake at Lower Jack Rabbit site.  
 Honor Scholarship Recipients.  
 21<sup>st</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 22<sup>nd</sup> United Veterans Council meeting

July:  
 5<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – selection of nominating

committee  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 19<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 27<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 28<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**

August:  
 2<sup>nd</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 16<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Riverfront Regional Park, Annual BBQ  
 24<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting

September:  
 6<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Approval of 2023 officers  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 \*\* 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Air Show at CMS Airport?  
 \*\* 20<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 \*\* 16<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> ?? Friday, Luncheon, Two Rock USCG (\$10.00?)  
 28<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting

October:  
 4<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 18<sup>th</sup> "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino  
 26<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 \*\* 27<sup>th</sup> Luncheon or Dinner?, **Epicenter**, Election of Officers for 2021

November:  
 1<sup>st</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 \*\* 11<sup>th</sup> North Bay Veterans Day parade (Friday)  
 \*\* 15<sup>th</sup> Friday, Lobster Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building  
 23<sup>rd</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 24<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Day

December: TBD

\*\* Not Confirmed at this time ~ CNX = Cancelled ~ UNK = Unknown  
 All Meals at **Epicenter** will be Buffets 06/32/06

## MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

### 2022 Officers

President: Dayle Johnson 408-466-6764  
 Vice President: Liz Warren 707-763-6957  
 Secretary: Tina Lewis 707-758-9739  
 Treasurer: Florence Wall 707-837-7389  
 Parliamentarian: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513

### TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES!

ONLY \$25.00

Mail check to Florence Wall at  
 655 Chardonnay Place, Windsor, CA 95492-6685

Time to pay your dues! Either mail a check to Florence Wall or pay when you come to the luncheon. We hope you will come to the luncheons, fully vaccinated of course. We all want to be safe.

The next meeting of the Wives Club will be a buffet lunch at the Epicenter on Wednesday, March 9th. The price is \$25.00. Lunch is served promptly at noon. The buffet menu will be beef and mushrooms, pesto chicken breast, herbed pasta, seasonal vegetables, Caesar salad, and cookies.

If the Telephone Committee does not contact you, you may make a reservation up to the day before the meeting; however, cancellations must be made by Monday preceding the meeting. For either situation, call Susan Linch at 707-538-3342.

The guest speaker in March will be Anita Magliore from Recology Sonoma Marin. This will be very informative, especially with the new rules about composting. Some members have heard her "trash talk" and say she's very good. We look forward to hearing her in March!

Tina Lewis, Publicity 707-539-5546,  
 tinalewis31@comcast.net

## Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2022

President: Maj Ken Johnson, USAF 408-466-6764  
1st Vice President (NONE AT THIS TIME)  
2nd Vice President 1/Lt Donald J. Nowacki, USANG 707-595-1047  
Secretary: Cpt Robert R. Safreno, USAF 707-795-3963  
Treasurer: LCDR Tim Morgan, USNR 707-695-9293  
Imed. Past President: CPT Lee P. Hoskins, USA 707-328-2316

### CAL-MOAA Director, Area I

Cpt Tom Walther, USAF 530-673-5499

### Directors-at-large - Term 2022

Martina Lewis 707-539-5546  
 Susan Linch 707-538-3342  
 LTC Gary Meagher, AUS 707-544-4089  
 Mary-Gwen Neisingh 707-481-7614

### Directors-at-large - Term 2022-2023

Capt R. Lee Berry, USMC 707-308-4160  
 Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146  
 Donna Poulter 707-576-0513  
 CPT Lewis Wall, USA 707-837-7389

### Directors Representing Sub-Chapters:

Mendocino: Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146  
Sonoma Valley: Maj B. K. White, USMC 707-996-1335

### MOAA VOICE

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