

MOAA



VOICE

Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 4

“Serving Those Who Serve America”

APRIL 2022



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Wow it was great. Our monthly luncheon this month was one of the best that we've had in quite some time. We had a larger attendance, our meal was enjoyable, we had an enjoyable and informative speaker, and most of all there was a level of energy and excitement in our gathering that made it one of the best that we've had in a long time. Newsletters, phone calls, and one on one contact all go toward building a strong and active organization. What gives us life and energy is when we come together socially in the physical presence of others that share our common values. I have been an MOAA member for well over 30 years, and it has always been an important and valuable part of my life. I have been president for almost 2 years and this has been the first time I have served on the board any MOAA organization board.

Being willing and available to serve means giving up time that we could use for doing other personal activities. We have several of our board members that have been active on the board for many years. This organization would not exist without their efforts. Our organization is not growing, in fact we have lost some of our members. We are members of this organization because of our common values, our past military experiences, and the desire to be part of a fellowship of men and women that we can call our own. I'm writing this out of respect for those men and women in our organization who give so much of themselves so that we can be part of a family a retired military.

Next month in our MOAA voice I'm going to use the president's comments for some of our board members to describe how our members can support them in their designated roles. I feel that is important for all of our members to be actively involved in whatever way they can to contribute to those functions that support the needs of our organization. The lifeblood of this organization is our members. We have been recognized by many as one of the strongest and best run chapters.

Just a little side note. By my own standards I'm not a writer, this article is the most writing I will do all month, and it takes me a couple of hours to finish. It's probably a good thing because it allows me to stop and to put into writing some of my thoughts and feelings. I share this because we all have something to give. I want us to have time together at the next pub crawl to get know each other in a casual setting, the food is good too!

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

“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.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

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

Guest Speaker: At the time of this publication we do not have a guest speaker. If one becomes available for the April luncheon, you will be notified by email.

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.

“Pub Crawl” by Ken Johnson

Please join us at our 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 had 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 are meeting on the third Tuesday, at 11:30am, April 19th. **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 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.

ZOOM ~ MOAA BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Tuesday, April 5, 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.

Redwood Empire Chapter member 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

Craig S. Matsuda
Lt Col (USAF, Ret)
853 Natalie Drive
Windsor, CA 95492

Copy of recent letter

MOAA-Redwood Empire Chapter
P. O. Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 9+5405-0801

Dear Sir,

I'd like to report that the article by CPT William Anderson (USA) in the MOAA Voice Newsletter works. I contacted William for help on my home, and he responded quickly and thoroughly. It was done professionally and free of charge.

Thank you for making members aware of William's services. It's an enormous boost in these times of high prices. Members will be in good hands.

Sincerely,
Craig S. Matsuda

DECEASED MEMBERS

LCDR MARY ELLEN BAKER, NC, USN

January 31, 2022

CDR O. DAVIS BROWN, III, USN

February 12, 2022

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

**THE FOLLOWING 24 MEMBERS HAVE
NOT PAID THEIR DUES FOR 2022.**

(AND THEY MAY BE DROPPED)

WLA, MB, DB, FAB, RLB, CDB, DWC, RNC, LE, DE,
NMH, MAH, HWH, JK, MPM, JAP, RGR, SS, AS, DLT,
AU, TU, LLW, NDW

Charles M. Schulz Sonoma County Airport



Snoopy would never recognize the airport these days. In 1947, when scheduled commercial flights first took off from the airport, he wasn't even "born." His first appearance in newspapers was in October 1950, three years later. The airport had various names at first, but in 2000, the year Schulz died, it was given its current name: Charles M. Schulz

Sonoma County Airport. A wonderful tribute to a wonderful man. Snoopy would be proud.

The guest speaker at the February MOAA lunch was Jon Stout, Airport Manager. His PowerPoint presentation was positively loaded with information about the airport, focusing on current and upcoming plans for expanding the terminal, parking (the lot will be fully solar paneled), car rentals, and the number of commercial flights. He said he would like to have Southwest added to the list of carriers; however, as of now it doesn't fit their business market. He will continue talking to them. The airport has always been and will continue to have very high private-plane traffic.



Jon Stout, AAE, CAE
Airport Manager
Charles M Schulz
Sonoma County Airport

The Q & A session following Stout's talk was interesting and productive. If you wish to ask him additional questions, or just let him know how much we appreciated his being at the luncheon, you can email him at Jon.Stout@sonoma-county.org. He's very receptive to your questions and comments.

**COME TO THE "PUB CRAWL"
SEE PAGE No. 1**

**PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL
DUES THEY ARE ONLY \$25.00
PER YEAR**

SEE IF YOURS IS MISSING

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

Buffet Luncheon, Thursday April 28, 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: Marinated Vegetable Salad. Fresh Rolls & Butter.

Lunch: Spaghetti and Meat sauce, Combination Flatbread and Seasonal Vegetables.

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: **None at time of publication.**

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 Update- April 2022

Federal:

Federal Budget . 2022 NDAA. While it appears that funding is still being worked on, MOAA has established a priority list of legislation for our legislators to consider. And, in so doing, National MOAA is preparing to launch its annual Advocacy in Action (AiA) for 2022 during the period 1-29 April. This will involve CalMOAA and its chapters quite extensively through in-person meetings with our respective congressmembers, virtual meetings through Zoom, telephone meetings, or lastly direct mail with the approved talking points.

We will be supporting National MOAA in the following three priorities:

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 unless a counter balancing budget line has been found. However, since these may be considered "stand alone" bills, they still may get funded.

H.R. 4824 Stop Copay Overpay Act- TRICARE Mental Health Copayments. Support for mental health is increasingly important, and the issue is getting attention on the Hill due to pandemic impacts and the effects of social media on children's well-being. This bill seeks to remedy TRICARE's financial barrier to care when it is available will benefit our currently serving families on TRICARE Select and our working-age retirees and their families.

Military Pay Raise at 4.6%. This proposal should be included in the FY 2023 NDAA based on the President's

guidance and input from the Armed Services Committees in both chambers. However, some legislators are interested in adjusting pay for junior enlisted. No details are available at this time. However, although a 2.7% pay raise is included, it does not meet the requirements of the Employment Cost Index (ECI) which is 4.6% for all ranks due to a 2.6% gap from previous years. This issue is significantly important to those who are about to retire.

COLA continues to rise. The latest information available shows it 3.9% above the baseline.

State:

The major thrust this month is to keep the following legislation on all Assemblymembers and Senators desks asking for their support.

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.

Voter Voice.net We still need your help by following up, particularly with Assemblymember Marc Levine who is a member of the Revenue and Taxation Committee which will meet on 21 March. Please use the link below to send a message to the Committee. This sends the message automatically to your State Senator or Assemblymember.

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

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER*

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

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

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

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

July:
5th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – selection of nominating committee
10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
19th "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino
27th United Veterans Council meeting
28th Luncheon, **Epicenter**

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

September:
6th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Approval of 2023 officers

10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
17th - 18th Air Show at CMS Airport?
20th "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino
16th or 23rd ?? Friday, Luncheon, Two Rock USCG (\$10.00?)
28th United Veterans Council meeting

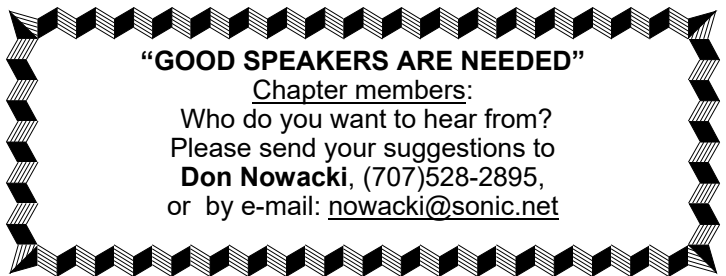
October:
4th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
18th "Pub Crawl" Daily Grill, Graton Resort & Casino
26th United Veterans Council meeting
27th Luncheon or Dinner?, **Epicenter**, Election of Officers for 2021

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

December: TBD

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

24 MEMBERS NEED TO PAY DUES



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

The next meeting of the Wives Club will be a buffet lunch at the Epicenter on Wednesday, April 13th. The price is \$25.00. Lunch is served promptly at noon. The buffet menu will be beef stroganoff, pork tenderloin (orange marinated and slow roasted), herbed pasta, green beans with mushrooms, house 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 April will be John Guaraglia, a volunteer with the police department. He will talk to us about cyber security and fraud protection. It promises to be an important heads-up session!

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

Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2022

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

CAL-MOAA Director, Area I

Cpt Tom Walther, USAF	530-673-5499
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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:

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

MOAA VOICE

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