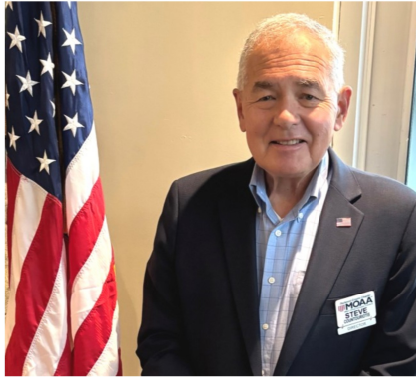




PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Dear Members,

The month of November has been the setting for several important events in United States military history. Two of the most significant are the founding of the United States Marine Corps and the end of World War I.

On **November 10, 1775**, the Continental **Congress established the United States Marine Corps** during the American Revolution. The Marines were created to serve as an elite fighting force capable of conducting operations on land and at sea. Since their founding, the Marine Corps has played a vital role in every major U.S. conflict, earning a reputation for courage, discipline, and readiness. Each year, Marines around the world celebrate 'their birthday' on November 10th to honor their proud tradition and service to the nation.

Another major event of historical significance occurred on **November 11, 1918**, when the **Armistice ended the fighting during World War I**. The agreement between the Allied Powers and Germany took effect at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, bringing an end to one of history's deadliest wars. More than four million Americans served during the conflict, and over 116,000 lost their lives. Today, November 11 is observed as Veterans Day in the United States, honoring all men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

These two events remind us of the sacrifices and dedication of America's service members. They continue to inspire respect for the military's commitment to protecting the nation's freedom and preserving peace for future generations.

I look forward to seeing you at the annual MOAA Redwood Empire Chapter 'Surf & Turf' lobster and beef banquet on Friday, November 13, 2026, at the Santa Rosa Veterans building. Also, hope to see you at the Pub Crawl on Monday, November 16, 2026, at 12:00 noon at the Epicenter in Santa Rosa.

Respectfully,,

LTC Steve Countouriotis, USA (Ret) President
707-763-5309 ~ scount@yahoo.com

SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 2

MOAA BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

will be at the Santa Rosa Veterans building
in the Conference room.

Tuesday, November 3, 2026, 11:30am.

Chapter members are always welcome at these meetings

SURF & TURF ANNUAL FEED LOBSTER and CROSS-RIB BEEF, FRIDAY, November 13, 2026

Please see page No. 5 for the reservation form and information on the menu for the evening.

It's November! That means the annual MOAA Lobster Feed, Friday, November 13th, at the Veterans Building. Social hour begins at 5:00pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm, or as soon as the lobsters stop wiggling. Accompanying the crustaceans will be cross-rib. And of course there will be a **raffle** after dinner.

But here's the really important thing! Because the lobsters come fresh off the plane from the east coast, we absolutely must have an accurate count by Monday, November 9th! The coupon for this popular event can be found on **page No. 5** of this issue of the **MOAA VOICE**. Cut it out right now and get your money in the mail to secure a place at the table. And speaking of money, the **\$60.00** cost is amazingly reasonable considering what you're getting for your money.

You don't want to miss this fun event! If you get into trouble with a reservation, call Tim Morgan on his Cell: (707)695-9293 But if you call him after November 9th, you might end up eating a **\$60.00** hot dog.

NOTE: A BAR WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.

Wine will be available at **NO COST**. Guest can bring their own Alcohol, glasses and ice will be available.

See you at the Big Feed!



PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR DINING,

By Monday, November 9, 2026.

this is needed for head counts for meals and making name tags.



**COMING SOON!!!!
THE COL BREY
SCHOLARSHIP AND
MERIT AWARDS
HAVE BEEN REVISED TO
REFLECT GRADES, MERIT,
AND HUMANITY!!!
OPEN TO:**

High school seniors or High school graduates

- to pursue a college degree
- to enroll in a professional training program such as fire prevention, electrician, police protection, auto mechanics, culinary school, or comparable training programs.
- college undergraduates
- previous applicants of the Brey Scholarship
- The Brey Scholarship is limited to a maximum of **two** awarded scholarships per applicant.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The application period for COL William G. Brey Scholarships will open on January 1, 2027, and will close on March 15, 2027. Closing date is firm. Those eligible to apply for scholarship assistance are children, wards, and grandchildren, natural or adopted, of living or deceased officer, warrant officer, or auxiliary members of the Chapter. Scholarship eligibility is limited to those pursuing undergraduate academic and professional certificate programs. Applications will not be accepted for support of graduate studies.

Our experience is that it can take some time for prospective applicants to gather all the required supporting documentation, then prepare and submit the completed application before the cutoff date. We therefore recommend that Chapter members advise eligible family members of scholarship availability and contact information early enough to give them sufficient reaction time.

Application forms are available. They may be obtained by writing to:

Secretary, Redwood Empire Chapter, MOAA

Post Office Box 2801

Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

or, by directly contacting Scholarship Committee Chairman:

Susan Linch

4825 Glencannon Street,

Santa Rosa, CA 95405-7911

Phone: (707)538-3342

or e-mail: srmomx5@comcast.net

Susan will provide them immediately to all interested parties by fastest means available.

"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

Chapter members, Friends and Guests:
"Pub Crawl", is back on our event calendar.

We will meet at 12:00 noon the Poppy Bank Epicenter, November 16, 2026. Always on the **THIRD** Monday of each month. Our pub crawls are a great place to relax and share our past experiences. We all have stories to tell!!

Legislative Update November 2026

SB 296 — DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

On September 28, 2026, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced the signing of SB 296 (Archuleta). This legislation expands the property tax exemption for 100% disabled veteran homeowners and their unmarried surviving spouses on qualifying homes valued at up to \$1,000,000.

Under the legislation, veterans whose household income falls below the prescribed limits can receive a 100% exemption. Veterans whose household income is above those limits can receive a 50% exemption.

ADVOCACY IS KEY!

Sometimes legislation can take months and in some cases years of advocacy. We recognize the work done by veterans, families, advocates, legislators, and organizations who keep up the fight in support of our nation's military veterans.

They walk amongst us!

Some guy bought a new fridge for his house.
To get rid of his old fridge, he put it in his front yard and hung a sign on it saying: 'Free to good home. You want it, you take it.'
For three days the fridge sat there without anyone looking twice.
He eventually decided that people were too mistrustful of this deal.
So he changed the sign to read: 'Fridge for sale \$50.'
The next day someone stole it!

They Walk Among Us!

While looking at a house, my brother asked the Estate agent which direction was north because He didn't want the sun waking him up every morning. She asked, 'Does the sun rise in the north?' My brother explained that the sun rises in the east And has for sometime. She shook her head and said,

'Oh, I don't keep up with all that stuff.....'

They Walk Among Us!

I couldn't find my luggage at the airport baggage area and went to the lost luggage office and reported the loss. The woman there smiled and told me not to worry because she was a trained professional and said I was in good hands. 'Now,' she asked me, 'Has your plane arrived yet?'...
(I work with professionals like this.)



The guest speaker at the September luncheon was Gary Molesworth, an Air Force veteran. The author of sixteen books covering various aspects of Military Aviation WWII, his PowerPoint presentation focused on the life of Bill Reed, Flying Tiger Ace. Born in 1917, Reed grew up in Iowa. After graduating from college, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps in 1940. He joined the Flying Tigers, flying 75 missions with the 3rd squadron. In 1942 he returned to Iowa, where he did war bond tours. In 1943 he formed the Chinese-American Composite Wing. He returned to China, joining the Fourteenth Air Force. October 1944 was his ninth and last aerial victory in a dogfight over Kingmen, China. On December 19, 1944 his plane was either shot up or ran out of fuel. He bailed out, but did not open his chute, possibly due from striking his head on the tail section. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal. He was inducted into the Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame in 1997.

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

SURF & TURF LOBSTER and CROSS-RIB BEEF, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13th

Veterans Memorial Building (Dining Room) - 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa

Menu: *Maine Lobster 1 1/4 lb or larger and Cross-Rib Beef
Baked Potatoes, Caesar Salad, Garlic bread.
Red and White wine will be available. Dessert*

\$60.00 each

5:00 pm: Socialize, (Bar not available) About 6:00 pm: Lobster served - (if ready)

Guest can bring their own Alcohol, glasses and ice will be available.

Enclosed is my check for ____ persons @ \$60.00 each. \$_____

Donations: Redwood Empire Chapter of MOAA (Administration) \$_____ **TOTAL:** \$_____

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: **REC MOAA**

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

RAFFLE: We will be having a Raffle to help with our funds.

If you are able bring a Raffle Prize

**Please
Bring a Raffle Prize
If you are able**



2026 DATES TO REMEMBER

November:

- 3rd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 ** 11th North Bay Veterans Day parade (Wednesday)
 11th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 13th Friday, Lobster Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building
 16th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 26th Thanksgiving Day
 16th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon

December:

- 7th Pearl Harbor Day
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 14th Monday, Holiday Social, **Cattlemens**
 25th Christmas

2027 DATES TO REMEMBER (Draft)

January – 2027

- for 2027 are payable at this time
 5th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information.
 13th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 18th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 28th Luncheon, **Epicenter** – Installation of Officers

February:

- 2nd Proposed target date to publish the 2027 Roster
 2nd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 15th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 25th Luncheon, **Epicenter**

March:

- 2nd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 10th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 15th Deadline for submission Scholarship Applications
 15th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 25th Luncheon, **Epicenter**

April:

- 6th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 14th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 19th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 22nd Luncheon, **Epicenter**

May:

- 4th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 12th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 17th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 27th Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 31st Memorial Day Ceremonies

June:

- 1st BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 ** 12th /19 Saturday, Picnic 1st Dues Spring Lake, Lower Jackrabbit Area Honor Scholarship Recipients?

July:

- 21st **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 (No Board meeting)
 14th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 19th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 22nd Luncheon, **Epicenter**

August:

- 2nd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am, select a nominating committee
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 11th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 ** 14th /21 Saturday, Riverfront Regional Park, Annual BBQ
 16th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon

September:

- 7th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Approval of 2028 officers
 8th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 20th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 23rd Luncheon, **Epicenter**

** = Not Confirmed at this time ~ **CNX** = Cancelled ~ **UNK** = Unknown
 06/32/06

MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

**2026
Officers**

President: Susan Linch 707-538-3342
 Vice President: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513
 Secretary: Tina Lewis 707-758-9739
 Treasurer: Norma Viglienza 707-542-1458
 Parliamentarian: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513

The next meeting of the Wives Club will be a buffet lunch at the Epicenter on Wednesday, November 1st. The lunch cost is \$26.00. Lunch is served promptly at noon. The buffet menu will be pork ribs with barbeque sauce, baked beans, potato salad, corn bread, 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.

Please join us for a good meal, good conversation, good friendship.

Tina Lewis, Publicity 707-758-9739, tinalewis31@comcast.net

**I stopped at Mc Donald's and ordered some fries.
 The girl behind the counter said "would you like
 some fries with that?"**

They walk amongst us!

SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 2

Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2026

President: LTC Steve Countouriotis, USA 707-763-5309
1st Vice President COL Bruce A. Stahley, USAR 415-328-9278
2nd Vice President COL Bruce A. Stahley, USAR 415-328-9278
Secretary: Cpt Robert R. Safreno, USAF 707-479-9374
Treasurer: LCDR Tim Morgan, USNR 707-695-9293
Imed. Past President: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513

CAL-MOAA Director, Area I

Cpt Tom Walther, USAF 530-673-5499

Directors-at-large - Term 2026

Martina Lewis 707-758-9739
 Susan Linch 707-538-3342
 Mary-Gwen Neisingh 707-481-7614
 Florence Wall 707-837-7389

Directors-at-large - Term 2026-27

Dayle Johnson 408-466-6764
 Sandy Paxton 707-696-0107
 Maj Ken Johnson, USAF 408-466-6764
 CPT Lewis Wall, USA 707-837-7389

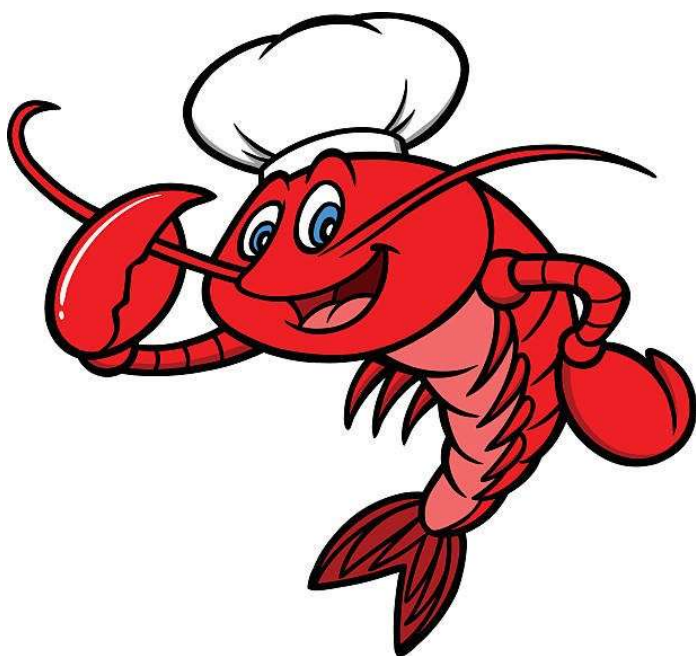
Sunshine Committee: Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146

MOAA VOICE

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UP COMING Future EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL SURF & TURF ~ LOBSTER MEAL

It is scheduled for

Friday, November 13, 2026

In the

Santa Rosa Veterans building

More information later

Guests can bring their own Alcohol

NO BAR will be available

Glasses and ice will be available.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL

**** HOLIDAY SOCIAL ****

It is scheduled for

Monday, December 14, 2026

At the

Cattlemens in Rohnert Park

More information later

SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 2