

MOAA

Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter



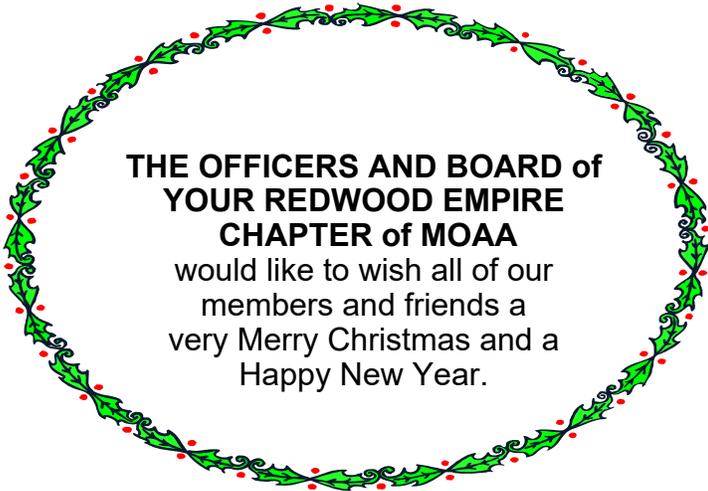
VOICE

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 55 NUMBER 12

"Serving Those Who Serve America"

DECEMBER 2025



**THE OFFICERS AND BOARD of
YOUR REDWOOD EMPIRE
CHAPTER of MOAA**
would like to wish all of our
members and friends a
very Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON SOCIAL

Our annual HOLIDAY LUNCHEON will be held at **Cattlemens** in Rohnert Park. Socializing begins at 1:00pm and the Luncheon will be at 2:00pm. The cost is **\$50.00** each.

**PLEASE NOTE BELOW ACTION NEEDED:
PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8th.**
Robert Safreno, Chairman

**SEE PAGE FIVE(5) FOR
DIRECTIONS TO Cattlemens**

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

Holiday Buffet Luncheon, Monday December 15, 2025

Cattlemens ~ Rohnert Park

Socializing 1:00pm; Lunch 2:00pm

Cost \$50.00

Salad: All-You-Can- Eat Salad and Sourdough Bread

Lunch: Grilled Salmon with Dill and Lemon ~ Beef Ribs in Sweet BBQ Sauce,
Seasonal Vegetables, Twice Baked Potato and Ranch-Style Beans

Desserts: Chocolate Chip Cookies and Baked Brownies

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaf Coffee and a Selection of Teas. **(NO HOST BAR AVAILABLE)**

Enclosed is my check for my advanced reservation _____ persons (\$50.00 each) Total money sent \$ _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for the Col. Brey Scholarship Fund (Fully Tax Deductible) and/or \$ _____ to help defray costs in the Chapter General Fund.

Entertainment: None

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

Guests: _____, _____, _____, _____

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

Make check(s) payable to: **REC MOAA**
To: Treasurer, MOAA, Redwood Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 2801, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

SEE PAGE FIVE (5) FOR DIRECTIONS TO Cattlemens



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Dear Members,
I hope this finds you well and happy. This month we honor Pearl Harbor Day on December 7th. There are so few survivors remaining.

I hope to see you all at the Holiday Social on December 15th. It will be held at Cattlemens Restaurant in Rohnert Park. Many thanks to Susan Linch for securing a place for us.

There will be NO Pub Crawl this month.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas with your loved ones and a joyous New Year.

~~~~~



Be an encourager. Scatter sunshine.  
Who knows whose life you might touch with something as simple as a KIND WORD.

*Debbie Macomber*



How many boxes of Thin Mints do I have to eat before I start seeing results?

~~~~~

Some people aren't just missing a screw. The whole toolbox is gone!

Unknown

~~~~~

**Donna Poulter, President**  
donnaeaglette@yahoo.com  
707-576-0513

### "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.

**SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 5**

## MOAA BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

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

Tuesday, January 7, 2026, 11:30am.

Chapter members are always welcome at these meetings

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                            |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>DUES NOTICE FOR</b> | <b>2026</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Make Checks Payable to:<br><b>REC MOAA</b> |
|                        | <p><b>DUES Requirements:</b> (For complete information check your current by-laws)<br/>Dues become due and payable on January 1<sup>st</sup>.<br/>Non-receipt of dues payment by March 1<sup>st</sup>, may result in removal from chapter rolls.</p> <p>Annual dues .....\$35.00 \$ _____</p> <p>Wives club dues: (if wife a member) .....\$25.00 \$ _____</p> <p><b>Wife's name</b> _____</p> <p>Donation to the <b>General Fund:</b> (to defray costs) .... \$ _____</p> <p><b>COL Brey Scholarship fund:</b><br/>Fully tax deductible contribution ..... \$ _____</p> <p><b>Thank You!</b> <b>Total enclosed</b>..... \$ _____</p> <p><b>NAME:</b> (First &amp; Last) _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Please Return this notice in envelope provided)</i></p> |                                            |

## COPY OF DUES NOTICE

Shown above is a copy of 2026 Dues notice. It will be sent out by First Class mail, with a return envelope. If you do not receive a dues notice, you may not owe dues or it was missent. If you think you should be paying dues, but did not get a notice, contact your secretary for an explanation or the need for him to send you another dues notice.

Thank you .....ROBERT R. SAFRENO, Redwood Empire Chapter Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*Elected Chapter Officers for 2026\*\*\*\*\*

### Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2026

- **President** LTC Steve Countouriotis, USA
- **1st Vice President** COL Bruce A. Stahley, USAR
- **2nd Vice Pres.** COL Bruce A. Stahley, USAR
- **Secretary** Cpt Robert R. Safreno, USAF
- **Treasurer** LCDR Tim Morgan, USNR
- **Directors ~ 2026**  
Martina Lewis  
Susan Linch  
Mary-Gwen Neisingh  
Florence Wall
- **Directors ~ 2026-27 (2 yrs)**  
Dayle Johnson  
Sandy Paxton  
Maj Ken Johnson  
CPT Lewis Wall, USA

# Legislative Update December 2025

Vern McNamee, LTC, USA Retired  
Legislative Chair  
Redwood Empire Chapter MOAA (CA30)  
707 972-3066 vernonmc@mcn.org

Husband:  
I think I'm having a heart attack...

Wife:  
Ok honey, give me the password to  
your phone so I can call an Ambulance

Husband:  
Nevermind. I'm feeling better.



## Why a woman needs a husband?



Woman: I don't want to marry. I am educated, self sufficient and satisfied with myself. But my friends all say that I should marry. What should I do?

Psychiatrist: You will no doubt achieve great things in life. But sometimes things won't go your way. Sometimes your plans will fail. Then whom will you blame? Will you blame yourself?

Woman: "NO."

Psychiatrist: "yes.. that's why you need a husband.."



**A Good Wife Can Bring Balance To Your Life**

**WE NEED  
YOU!**



**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, 2024, and will close on March 15, 2026. 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](mailto:srmomx5@comcast.net)

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

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**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.

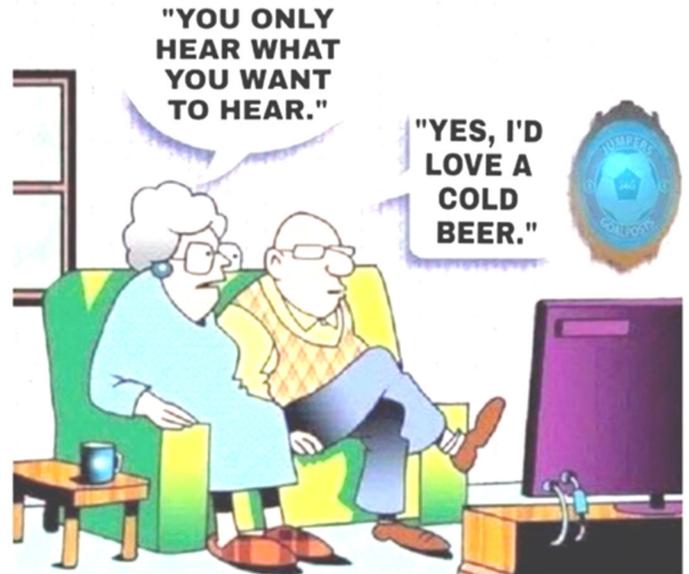
He can transport supplies. He lives in Santa Rosa. He owns 63 properties in this state alone and is his own maintenance service. He does many kinds of things. He still offers a weeks worth of goods and 5 gallons of gas to needy members, vets and classmates.

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



## DIRECTIONS TO CATTLEMENS

Use Hwy 101 if you are traveling North or South, turn towards the **West** on **Golf Course Drive**. Turn North on Redwood Drive. Keep driving just past Walmart parking lot turn in and Cattlemens will be on you right.



Shared by silversurfers.com

Gary Greenough was speaker at the October luncheon. Gary has worn many hats during his life, but he came to us as Public Information Officer of the Pacific Coast Air Museum, celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Spirited and full of information, he took us through the history of the airport and museum. Unfortunately, the very popular annual air show has been discontinued because of the increase number and size of the aircraft using the runways, but there are still many things to enjoy at the site. The museum, including the gift shop, is open from Wednesday-Sunday from 10:00-4:00. The first Thursday of every month, April through October, is the very popular Hot Dog Thursday. There are vintage planes to explore, and every September there is a car show, one of the biggest in the North Bay. For further information, call the museum at 707-575-7900 or access it at [www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org](http://www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org). If you wish to contact Gary, email him at [gmgreenough@aol.com](mailto:gmgreenough@aol.com) or call 707-484-6400.

**"GOOD SPEAKERS ARE NEEDED"**  
 Chapter members:  
 Who do you want to hear from?  
 Please send your suggestions to  
**Bob Safreno**, (707)795-3963, Cell: 707-479-9374  
 or by e-mail: [shadowbob1@juno.com](mailto:shadowbob1@juno.com)

## 2025 DATES TO REMEMBER

November:  
 4<sup>th</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 (Tuesday)  
 12<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 17<sup>th</sup> **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 26<sup>th</sup> United Veterans Council **ZOOM** meeting  
 27<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Day  
 December: (No Board meeting)  
 \*\* 7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Survivors program ??  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 15<sup>th</sup> Monday, Holiday Social, Cattlemens in Rohnert Park  
     NO United Veterans Council meeting  
**NO Pub Crawl** this month at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas

## 2026 DATES TO REMEMBER

January – 2025  
 1<sup>st</sup> Dues for 2025 are payable at this time  
 7<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 8<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information.  
 20<sup>th</sup> Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 22<sup>nd</sup> United Veterans Council meeting  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter** – Installation of Officers  
 February:  
 1<sup>st</sup> Proposed target date to publish the 2026 Roster  
 3<sup>rd</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 11<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 16<sup>th</sup> Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 20<sup>th</sup> Friday, Lobster Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building  
 March:  
 4<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am

10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 11<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission Scholarship Applications  
 16<sup>th</sup> Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 26<sup>th</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 April:  
 7<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners  
 8<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 20<sup>st</sup> **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 May:  
 5<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 13<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 18<sup>th</sup> **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 21<sup>st</sup> Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Ceremonies  
 June:  
 2<sup>nd</sup> BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information  
 10<sup>th</sup> Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**  
 \*\* 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Picnic Spring Lake, Lower Jackrabbit Area  
     Honor Scholarship Recipients?  
 15<sup>th</sup> **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon  
 \*\* = Not Confirmed at this time ~ **CNX** = Cancelled ~ **UNK** = Unknown  
 06/32/06

## MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

### 2025 Officers

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

### ABOUT TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES! ONLY \$25.00

Mail check to Norma Viglienze at  
 1651 Cunningham Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

If you want to get a jump on things and get this off your mind, you can pay your dues for 2026. You can either pay in person at a luncheon or mail a check to Norma Viglienze. Make the check payable to MOAA Wives Club.

As usual, the Wives Club does not meet in December. Instead, we join the Chapter on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> for a holiday luncheon at Cattlemens Steakhouse in Rohnert Park. We urge the Wives Club members to attend. All the details can be found elsewhere in this issue of the VOICE.

**Tina Lewis**, Publicity 707-539-5546, [tinalewis31@comcast.net](mailto:tinalewis31@comcast.net)

## SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 5

## Redwood Empire Chapter Officers and Directors for 2025

|                              |                              |              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>President:</u>            | Donna Poulter                | 707-576-0513 |
| <u>1st Vice President</u>    | LTC Steve Countouriotis, USA | 707-763-5309 |
| <u>2nd Vice President</u>    | COL Bruce A. Stahley, USAR   | 415-328-9278 |
| <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> | Maj Ken Johnson, USAF        | 408-466-6764 |

CAL-MOAA Director, Area I  
 Cpt Tom Walther, USAF 530-673-5499

Directors-at-large - Term 2023-24  
 Martina Lewis 707-539-5546  
 Susan Linch 707-538-3342  
 Mary-Gwen Neisingh 707-481-7614

Directors-at-large - Term 2024-25  
 Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146  
 Dayle Johnson 408-466-6764  
 Rosemary Rizzo 707-539-3346  
 CPT Lewis Wall, USA 707-837-7389

Directors Representing Sub-Chapters:  
Mendocino: Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146

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