

MOAA



VOICE

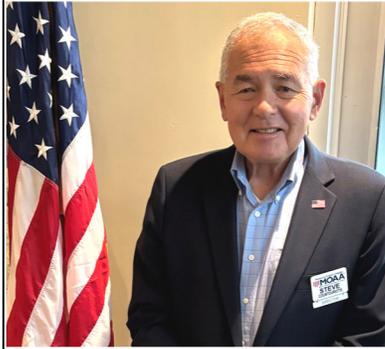
Military Officers Association of America
Redwood Empire Chapter

Post Office Box 2801
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0801

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1

“Serving Those Who Serve America”

JANUARY 2026



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Dear Members,
I am deeply honored and profoundly grateful for the trust you've placed in me by electing me to serve as Chapter President for 2026. It is a privilege to

stand among such a dedicated and distinguished group of military officers, whose service to our nation and commitment to our community continue to inspire.

As we look ahead, I'm excited about the opportunity to build on the strong foundation laid by past leaders. Their tireless work has shaped our chapter into a vibrant and cohesive organization, and I intend to uphold those traditions while embracing fresh ideas that reflect our evolving needs and interests. In the months to come, I look forward to hearing from you - your ideas, experiences, and perspectives will be the guiding force behind our efforts. Leadership is a shared journey, and I intend to walk it in partnership with each of you.

Thank you once again for your confidence and support. Let's make 2026 a year of meaningful progress, renewed fellowship, and enduring pride in our shared legacy.

With sincere appreciation,

LTC Steve Countouriotis, USAR (Ret) Preside



Dear Members,

Thank you so very much for supporting me the past two years. And a warm expression of gratitude to my wonderful Officers and Board of Directors.

Congratulations to your new President Steve Countouriotis. I know Steve and his Officers will serve you well.

It was my pleasure to keep our Chapter running.

Fondly,
Donna Poulter, Past President



Thursday, January 22, 2026

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

Guest Speaker: David Rivera, Topic Golden Gate Bridge District. He will be talking all about the Bridge, from his many years there. Maintenance, Administration, Costs, Tolls, etc. and will be taking questions from those in attendance.

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR DINING

By Tuesday, January 20, 2026. this is needed for head counts for meals and making name tags.

See page No. 3 for the Luncheon menu.

**NOTE: LUNCHEON PRICES ARE NOW
\$30.00 EACH.**

SEE PUB CRAWL PAGE No. 1

MOAA BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

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

Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 11:30am.

Chapter members are always welcome at these meetings

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, January 19, 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!!

**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, 2026, 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

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



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

Buffet Luncheon, Thursday January 22, 2026 Epicenter, 3215 Coffey Lane, Santa Rosa

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

Cost (including tax and tip) - **New Price \$30.00**

Salad: Sweet Berry Salad.

Lunch: Tempura Shrimp, Thin Spaghetti with Pesto Sauce, Green Beans with Almonds.

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

Enclosed: is my check for my advanced reservation ____ persons @ \$30.00 each. \$ _____

Note: All must make **RESERVATIONS** Please Pre Pay if possible. (Late options only **Pay At Door**).

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

Guest Speaker: David Rivera Topic Golden Gate Bridge District, (See page No. 1)

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**

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

Legislative Update January 2026

Vern McNamee, LTC, USA Retired
Legislative Chair

Redwood Empire Chapter MOAA (CA30)
707 972-3066 vernonmc@mcn.org

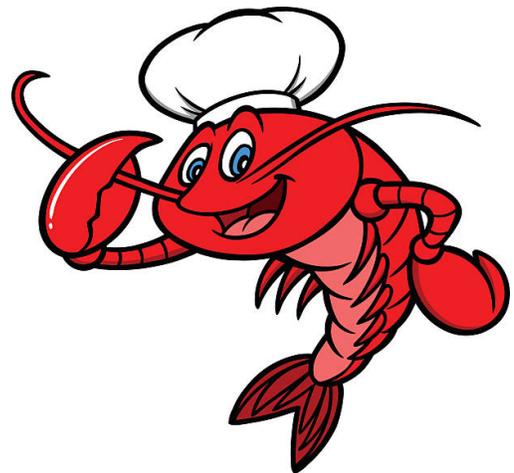
(NO REPORT FOR THIS MONTH)

When you forget to drink
your morning coffee



“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.



**SAVE THE DATE FOR MAKE UP
SURF & TURF ~ LOBSTER MEAL**

It is scheduled for
Friday, February 20, 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.

2026 DATES TO REMEMBER

January
 1st Dues for 2026 are payable at this time
 6th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information.
 14th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 19th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 22nd Luncheon, **Epicenter** – Installation of Officers

February:
 1st Proposed target date to publish the 2026 Roster
 3rd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 11th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 16th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 20th Friday, Lobster Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building

March:
 4th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 11th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 15th Deadline for submission Scholarship Applications
 16th Pub Crawl at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 26th Luncheon, **Epicenter**

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

May:
 5th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Scholarship winners
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 13th Wives Club Luncheon, Epicenter
 18th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 21st Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 25th Memorial Day Ceremonies

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

June:
 2nd BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am

10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 10th Wives Club Luncheon, Epicenter
 ** 13th Saturday, Picnic Spring Lake, Lower Jackrabbit Area
 Honor Scholarship Recipients?
 15th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 July:
 (No Board meeting)
 8th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 20^s **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 23rd Luncheon, Epicenter

August:
 4th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am, select a nominating committee
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 12th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 ** 15th Saturday, Riverfront Regional Park, Annual BBQ
 17th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon

September:
 1st BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am – Approval of 2025 officers
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 9th Wives Club Luncheon, Epicenter
 21th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 24th Luncheon, Epicenter

October:
 6th BOARD MEETING - 11:30 am
 14th Wives Club Luncheon, **Epicenter**
 10th Deadline for submission of MOAA-VOICE information
 19th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 22rd Luncheon Epicenter, Election of Officers for 2026

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**
 16th **Pub Crawl** at Epicenter, **12:00** noon
 13th Friday, Lobster Feed, Santa Rosa Veterans building
 26th Thanksgiving Day

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

MOAA WIVES CLUB

(Sonoma County Main - All members welcome)

2025 Officers

President: Barbara Confer 707-763-8198
 Vice President: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513
 Secretary: Tina Lewis 707-758-9739
 Treasurer: Norma Viglienzone 707-542-1458
 Parliamentarian: Donna Poulter 707-576-0513

ABOUT TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES! ONLY \$25.00

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

You can either pay your dues in person at a luncheon or mail a check to Norma Viglienzone. Make the check payable to MOAA Wives Club.

The next meeting of the Wives Club will be a buffet lunch at the Epicenter on Wednesday, January 14th. The lunch cost is \$26.00. Lunch is served promptly at noon. The buffet menu will be chicken wings slow cooked and fried with sweet chili sauce, oven roasted potatoes, veggie salad, 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 for January will be Barbara Hopp, who for many years has been connected with CCI (Canine Companions for Independence). She will bring her therapy dog ZuZu with her. Barbara will tell us about the many things offered by CCI. ZuZu will demonstrate how smart she is. She will also look forward to loving on everyone in the room.

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

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. Safrano, 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

Directors Representing Sub-Chapters:

Mendocino: Mrs. Myrna M. Hurst 707-468-0146

MOAA VOICE

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