



Sergeants Major Association Newsletter

Sergeants Major Association Newsletter • Volume XLIII Number 2 • June 2011



President's Corner:

It's been a while since I left for this deployment. I was glad to hear that the Mid-Year Conference was a success. On March 6, 2011 The 40th Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) took over Camp Taji. The Transfer of Authority (TOA) ceremony formalized the start of the 40th CAB's year-long mission. Our call sign is Task Force Condor. We took over operations from the 1st CAB, which returned home to Fort Riley after a successful mission.

On that day **COL Mitchell Medigovich** and **CSM David McFerrin** uncased the brigade colors as both brigades and many general officers and Iraqi distinguished guests looked on. The 40th CAB took over during a critical year in Iraq. As our forces draw down, the Iraqis take responsibility for their own security. The CAB is a unique collection of five battalions from the National

Guard, Army Reserves and Active Army from 22 states.

The 40th CAB has more than 3,000 Soldiers and 200 aircraft. We are glad to be here and always happy to receive support from many organizations throughout California. As I monitor e-mail traffic from the Association, I am proud to see that our **VP MSG (Ret) Lorie Clayton** is keeping the SMA up and running and doing an outstanding job. I have also noticed the involvement of our chapter VPs as well. Making contact with the current members is an excellent way to stay in touch with members of the respective chapters. Great job Southern VP. Keep up the good work; I know that our Association is well on its way to being as strong in membership as it once was. With the continued commitment from our current and future members, I have no doubt we will reach this milestone.

Also, let's welcome our Northern Chapter VP home from her deployment, **CSM Vickie M. Dunlap-Jones**. I'm sure once she gets her footing back on the ground; she will be back on the scene as always.

I would like to thank all of our members for your continued support and dedication to our Association. I look forward to re-joining you all at the end of the year! Keep up the good work building our Association.

1SG Reggie Jones
President

Vice President's Corner:

In spite of a Training Schedule conflict, our Mid-Year Conference in February 2011 was well attended, albeit by our retired members. We were, however, fortunate enough to have a good attendance and representation from a number of guest speakers and vendors. I would like to thank the following: **SGM (Ret) Tim Smith** - Casualty Branch; **CSM Bobby Rollins** - Accession Task Force; **CSM Joseph Menard** - Camp Roberts and Camp San Luis Obispo; **CSM Jerry Hargrove** - State Military Reserve/ California Center for Military History; **Ms Hillary Perez** - Tri-West; **LTC Al Gordon** - 223rd Regiment; **COL John Smith** - USP&FO; **Ms Robin Rohr**

Continued on page 2

Inside	Page
President's Corner	1
Vice President's Corner	1
Chaplain's Corner	2
Swing for the Chaplain's Fund	2
Southern Chapter	3
Central Chapter	3
Northern Chapter	3
New Members	4
Election	5
Patriot's Corner	5
Directory	6
Membership Application	7

Chaplain's Corner

One of our Gold Card Members since 1 January 1974 has gone on where there will not be any pain or sorrow. We certainly will miss MSG (Ret.) Elliot Bernard Gibson who left us on 20 March 2011.

My wife and I were privileged to attend the Memorial Service and the Military Ceremony in the Sacramento area. Laurel and Jerry Hargrove were our gracious hosts. We found many friends and family of Elliot's who made us welcome and who have been touched by Elliot's life. He instilled encouragement and joy in all he encountered. Elliot was always full of joy and love for all.

Our prayers and love reach out to Debra, who faithfully stood by his side through the good and bad. God bless you Debra.

In Elliot's Celebration of Life, a poem called, "A Psalm for the Dying," was included and I would like to share a part of it with you.

TO THOSE I LOVE
WHEN I AM GONE, JUST RELEASE ME,
LET ME GO -SO I CAN MOVE INTO MY
AFTERGLOW, YOU MUSTN'T TIE ME DOWN
WITH YOUR TEARS; LET'S BE HAPPY
THAT WE HAD SO MANY YEARS. I GAVE YOU
MY LOVE, YOU CAN ONLY GUESS
HOW MUCH YOU GAVE ME IN HAPPINESS
I THANK YOU FOR THE LOVE YOU EACH HAVE
SHOWN, BUT NOW IT'S TIME I TRAVELED ON ALONE.
SO GRIEVE FOR ME AWHILE, IF GRIEVE
YOU MUST, THEN LET YOUR GRIEF BE COMFORTED
WITH TRUST. IT'S ONLY FOR A WHILE THAT
WE MUST PART, SO BLESS THE MEMORIES WITHIN
YOUR HEART. AND THEN, WHEN YOU MUST
COME THIS WAY ALONE, I'LL GREET YOU WITH
A SMILE AND A "WELCOME HOME."

MSG Robert Embrey, Retired
SMA Chaplain

Swing for the Chaplain's Fund

Mark your calendar for **Friday, 7 October 2011** for the Annual Sergeants Major Association "Swing for the Chaplain's Fund" golf tournament at beautiful **Haggin Oaks-Alister MacKenzie Golf Course** in Sacramento. We will be limited to 48 golfers for a shot-gun start at 8:30 a.m. As in the past, you, your unit or your business will have the opportunity to sponsor a "tee box" for a very reasonable price. Details and registration information are due out in late July. So, be sure to put us on your golfing appointment calendar. Many less-experienced golfers make this the one event of the year that they support. Get your foursome together and join us. **Support your Chaplain's Fund.**

MSG Ken Wahl, Retired
Immediate Past President, SMA Golf Coordinator

VP - Continued from page 1

- Tea Party: American Revolution: Laurel Hargrove - SMAA; **Cindy Osgood** - Parker Hall; **CSM (Ret) Harry Courtney** - CA-EANGUS; **CSM (Ret) Jon Cornett** - USAA; and **MSG (Ret) Bob Embrey** - Chaplain's update. It was my honor to update the members on the National Guard Association of California (NGAC) and the Southern California Advisory Council (SCAC). The members of the SCAC donated \$167.50 to the Chaplain's Fund.

The Friday night "welcome" mixer was organized and produced by **Laurel Hargrove** and her faithful assistants from the SMAA. We thank you for keeping the troops well fed. Our Saturday evening Barbeque was once again prepared by **CSM (Ret) Terry Williams, CSM Lou Alvarez, Sharon Bannon** and **Lorjay Alvarez**. The Northern Chapter members assisted with serving and cleaning up. After we were well "stuffed," we participated in the distribution of a great number of raffle prizes. We left Parker Hall at the conclusion of another mid-year event feeling grateful that we could once again see "old" friends and share happy times. Thanks to all who worked so diligently to make the evening another fun-filled and successful event.

If you did not attend this conference, you certainly missed a wealth of information and good times. We hope that you will join us in Sacramento 7-9 October 2011 when the Northern Chapter will host the "Swing for the Chaplain's Fund" Annual Golf Tournament and the 44th Annual Sergeants Major Conference at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, California.

MSG Lorie Clayton, Ret.
Vice-President

Southern Chapter Corner

The 2011 February Conference was enjoyable in several ways. First, it was a weekend retreat for my wife and I away from our busy schedules. We planned our trip to San Luis Obispo with enough time to enjoy the drive up from Orange County and focus on each other. Second, the serenity of the California Central Coast area was impressionable and the historic Camp SLO accommodations were comfortable. The Friday and Saturday night BBQ by the Retired Senior NCO SMA chefs along with the dining atmosphere provided quality time. For the two conferences held a year, there's much conversation to catch up on. My wife enjoyed the SLO weekend peacefulness to relax while I was there for business. The Saturday morning agenda built the momentum for the day. As I glanced around the conference room, I saw only a few SMA active Guardsmen in attendance compared to the retired members who give so much of themselves to sustain the association. If you have not noticed veteran organizations lately, the governing boards and members are aging gracefully. With that, we're the next generation to help lead the way.

There is good value to SMA membership where you can have a direct impact in how California Soldiers and Airmen come together to bring visibility to the Non-Commissioned Officer Corps and beyond. It's time for an infusion of synergy from our unseen members and future members.

Your talents, skills and leadership can help take the SMA to another level. For example, while on the subject of Soldier finances at the February conference, **CSM (Ret.) Jerry Randall** proposed his financial management skills toward a Soldier and dependent workshop. The timing could not have been better

with a Chaplain's Fund request coming through in time of need and Senior NCOs taking action to initiate this first workshop. It was standing room only at the Fresno Armory. Thanks to Central VP **SGM Fernandez**, TASMGNCO's and CSM (Ret.) Randall for making it happen. A JFTB Los Alamitos personal financial workshop is on the horizon. If SMA members are interested in helping with preparation, refreshments and attending please send me an email.

Thanks to those members who took my call recently. As I continue to work my roster to call every member in Southern California and adjoining areas I thank you for your membership and solicit your comments as your Vice President South. As mentioned, we hope to have a meet and greet at the JFTB Los Alamitos **Fiddler's Green Pub** in the coming months. Some of you have outdated phone numbers, so feel free to send me a text message with your current contact info.

Gift Idea - The SMA Chaplain's Fund. Do you have everything you basically need and would consider giving to a worthy cause; retirement, birthday or some other event, think about having family or friends direct monetary gifts in your name to a worthy tax deductible cause that improves the quality of life for Soldiers and Airmen.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Conference, Oct 7-9, 2011 in Sacramento. If you are unable to attend the Annual Conference and have input, please be sure to contact me before then.

CSM Ron Cabrera

Vice President, Southern Chapter



Central Chapter Corner

I hope that you are all enjoying the beautiful spring season as we approach the summer. I want to personally thank **CSM (Ret) Jerry Randall** for his class to the 1106th TASMG on financial responsibility. I have spoken to many of the soldiers and found the information provided to them was invaluable and what they needed to hear. The class was very informative and I would suggest that your respective units should have the opportunity to listen to what Jerry has to say to help those of us who are having difficulties making ends meet. So, once again, many thanks to Jerry Randall for his help for our soldiers in need.

The Central Chapter has been recruiting in various locations and areas to promote the SMA of CA. I have been successful for the Northern Chapter; not so much for ours. To date, I have recruited two for the North and one for the Central. I will continue to be an advocate for the SMA and I encourage all of you wherever you find yourselves, especially at conferences, to push for the SMA whether for your specific areas or another's. We need more participation from our senior NCOs who have the attention of their subordinates during their formations and informal meetings. I hope all of you are doing well this spring and hope to see you soon.

SGM Carlos J. Fernandez

Vice President, Central Chapter

Northern Chapter Corner

The Northern Chapter continues to prepare for the 2011 Annual Conference in October. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

CSM Jerry Hargrove, Retired

Acting VP, Northern Chapter

Welcome to New Members

It is with extreme pleasure that we welcome 46 new members to the Sergeants Major Association. **CSM Robinson** recruited 17 members of the **640th ASB** while deployed in theater. **MSG Rae** came in “second” in the recruitment race. He signed up five new members of the **749th CSSB** who are also deployed. We wish these soldiers a safe tour while away from home. Thanks to all the sponsors who helped to “spread the word” about the SMA. Keep up the good work.

We invite the new members who are in CONUS to join us at the 44th Annual SMA Conference in Sacramento 7-9 October 2011.

NAME	UNIT	SPONSOR	DATE
MSG Scott Witt	224th SB	Self	10/02/2010
SFC Joseph Kim	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/18/2010
SSG Daniel Stiles	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/19/2010
SSG Devin Sorensen	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/19/2010
SFC Jorge Corado	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/19/2010
SFC Christine Buliez	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/20/2010
SFC Michael Soto	Co B, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/21/2010
SSG Martine Beltran	640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/22/2010
MSG Kimber Smith	HSC, 640th ASB (Rear Det)	CSM Robinson	10/22/2010
1SG Drew Walker	Co C, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/25/2010
SSG Randal Mertz	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	10/27/2010
SSG Catherine Rivera	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	11/01/2010
SFC Tina Bautista	HSC (-) 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	11/01/2010
MSG Phillip Avilla	746th CSSB	Self	11/02/2010
SFC David Dubell	Co B, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	11/04/2010
SGM Brian Beetham	Co A, 5/19th SFG (A)	Self	11/09/2010
SFC Frank Briseno	HSC, 640TH Avn Bde (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	11/09/2010
1SG Daniel Garza	11th FSC 111th ACR Bn (Fires) 144th FA	CSM Kent	11/11/2010
SFC Linda Scott	HSC, 640th ASB (Deployed)	CSM Robinson	11/12/2010
SFC Fernando Cornejo	HSC, 640TH ASB	Self	12/23/2010
1SG Louis Ponticas	Co D, 185th AR	CSM Jolicoeur	01/01/2011
SSG Richard Ballard	Co B, 640th ASB	CSM Robinson	01/06/2011
1SG Carlos Negrete	Co C, 223rd MI Bn (L)	CSM Antone	01/06/2011
MSG Cari Beetham	Co D, 223rd Regiment	MSG Beetham	01/11/2011
1SG James Jordan	Co A, 1106th TASMG	SGM Fernandez	01/12/2011
SGM Javier Becerra	HSC, 40th ID (G1)	1SG Reggie Jones	01/14/2011
1SG David Eckert	579th EN BN (Deployed w/640th ASB)	CSM Robinson	01/16/2011
MSG Daniel Parrish	HHC 40th ID Los Alamitos	CSM Roman	01/19/2011
1SG Juan Puentes	Co C, 1-185th AR	Self	01/30/2011
BG Keith Jones	HQS, 40TH INF DIV	CSM Roman	02/07/2011
1SG Al Smoot	Co C, 1-168th GSAB	SGM Fernandez	02/12/2011
MSG Janet Graves	3/140th Avn	SGM Fernandez	02/12/2011
1SG Rodney Plamondon	Co B, 1/184th Inf	Self	02/25/2011
MSG Mark Rose	115th RSG	CSM Cady	003/6/2011
SFC Derrick Boutte	118th Maint Co	CSM Chapman	03/16/2011
CSM Brian Chapman	185th QM Bn	CSM Cady	03/16/2011
SFC Michael Marsh	1113th Trans Co	CSM Chapman	03/23/2011
1SG Andrew McKinley	C Troop, 1-18th Cav	CSM Claude	03/28/2011
1SG Robert Greaux	D Co, 40th BSB	CSM Claude	03/28/2011
SFC Kamini Del Barba	749th CSSB (Deployed)	MSG Rae	04/09/2011
SFC Donald Jenkins	749th CSSB (Deployed)	MSG Rae	04/09/2011
SFC David Hillyer	749th CSSB (Deployed)	MSG Rae	04/09/2011
CCM Michael Koslow	JFHQ-AIR	MSG Clayton	05/07/2011
1SG Brian Murphy	Co B, 340th BSB	CSM Juelch	05/20/2011
SFC Andrew Foster	749th CSSB (Deployed)	MSG Rae	05/27/2011
MSG David Diaz	749th CSSB (Deployed)	MSG Rae	05/27/2011

Elections:

October 2011 is the time that we will conduct elections for the following offices:

President – Two-year term

Vice President – Two-year term

Northern Chapter Vice President – Three-year term

At the February 2011 the chapters nominated the following candidates:

Chapter	Position	Nominee
North	President	CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones
	Vice President	No Nominee
	Chapter Vice President	SGM Steven Ruiz
Central	President	No Nominee
	Vice President	CSM Robert Liles
		CSM Adam Walker
		CSM David Mc Ferrin
South	President	MSG (Ret) H. Lorie Clayton
	Vice President	No Nominee

If your chapter wishes to nominate additional/other candidates for any of the above listed positions, please submit your recommendations to the Elections Chair, **SGM (Ret) Andrew Strauss** – strauss.studio@mac.com. You may also nominate candidates “from the floor” at the Friday (7 October) 1st SMA Business Session.

Patriot's Corner:

As another year “flies by,” we celebrate the 63rd Flag Day on 14 June 2011. Although we may fly “Old Glory” any time, following are the dates for the rest of 2011 that are the Official Flag-Flying Days:

June 14	Flag Day
June 19	Father's Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
September 11	Patriot Day
October 10	Columbus Day
November 8	Election Day
November 11	Veterans' Day
November 24	Thanksgiving Day
December 7	Pearl Harbor Day
December 25	Christmas Day

The laws relating to the flag of the United States of America are found in detail in the United States Code. Title 4, Chapter 1 pertains to the flag. Title 18, Chapter 33, Section 700 regards criminal penalties for flag desecration. Title 36, Chapter 3 pertains to patriotic customs and observances. These laws were supplemented by Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations.



SERGEANTS MAJOR ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, Inc. 43rd TERM 2010-2011 DIRECTORY

www.smaofcalifornia.org

PRESIDENT 1SG Reggie Jones reginald.jones@us.army.mil	4905 Fountainwood Court Antelope, CA 95843-5603	(HM) 916-725-0390 (WK) 916-854-3814 (Cell) 559-804-5204
VICE-PRESIDENT MSG (Ret) H. Lorie Clayton loriec69@aol.com	2326 Via Mariposa West - Unit Q Laguna Woods, CA 92637-2142	(HM) 949-707-1746 (Cell) 949-212-1586
TREASURER SFC (Ret) Charles Massicotte cmassicotte@roadrunner.com	7785 La Mirada Circle Buena Park, CA 90620-2306	(HM) 714-522-0736
RECORDING SECRETARY SGM Linda Korbelt topkorbelt@aol.com	730 Sunningdale Drive Oceanside CA 92057-5017	(HM) 760-722-2713 (Cell) 760-518-6689
CHAPTER V.P. SOUTH CSM Ronald Cabrera ronald.d.cabrera@us.army.mil	8402 Carob Street Cypress, CA 90630	(WK) 310-900-6934 (Cell) 714-319-3923
CHAPTER V.P. CENTRAL SGM Carlos J. Fernandez mehringeresm@yahoo.com	2532 Hillcrest Street Selma, CA 93662-4316	(HM) 559-347-5511 (WK) 559-449-4558 (Cell) 559-824-1471
CHAPTER V.P. NORTH CSM Vicki Dunlap-Jones	4905 Fountainwood Court Antelope, CA 95843-5603	(HM) 916-725-0390

BOARD of TRUSTEES

CSM (Ret) JOHN DEARINGER dearinger@aol.com	1118-D Creekside Way Ojai, CA. 93032-3149 (M/A: 2250 Craig Dr., Oxnard, CA 93036)	(HM) 805-646-9760 (WK) 805-485-3175 (FAX) 805-485-4965
CSM (Ret) ROBERT W. DELANEY RDELA9842@aol.com	1220 East Trenton Avenue Orange, CA 92867-3808	(HM) 714-633-7569 (FAX) 714-633-2582 (Cell) 714-504-0483
MSG (RET) KEN WAHL kwahl1@sbcglobal.net	1411 Castle Creek Ranch Road Newcastle, CA 95658-9565	(HM) 916-663-3860 (WK) 916-274-5947
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT Debra Wade debra.wade1@us.army.mil	9641 Nordman Court Elk Grove, CA 95624-4455	(HM) 916-685-6086

APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT

CHAPLAIN MSG (Ret) ROBERT EMBREY kd6dkv@earthlink.net	16547 Masline Street Covina, CA 91722-1100	(HM) 626-339-3402
QUARTERMASTER	Vacant	

**SMA OFFICERS
2010-2011**

President

1SG Reggie Jones

Vice President

MSG (Ret) Lorie Clayton

Treasurer

SFC (Ret) Charles Massicotte

Recording Secretary

SGM Linda Korbel

Chapter V.P. South

CSM Ronald Cabrera

Chapter V.P. Central

SGM Carlos J. Fernandez

Chapter V.P. North

CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones

SMA Newsletter

**Published by the Sergeants Major
Association of California, Inc.**

7785 La Mirada Circle
Buena Park, CA 90620-2306
Web Site: www.smaofcalifornia.org

1SG Reggie Jones

President

CSM (Ret) Rolland Alexander

Editor

MSG (Ret) Lorie Clayton

Copy Editor

CSM (Ret) John Dearing

Publisher and Printer

“We, the Sergeants Major of the California National Guard, being desirous of improving the status and image of the National Guard and promoting the well-being, welfare and qualifications of the enlisted members of the National Guard, dedicate ourselves to maintaining the professionalism required of us and pledge ourselves to the creed.”

Join the SMA

Application For Membership: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor: _____

Name/Rank: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

SSN: _____ Date of Birth _____

Basic Pay Entry Date: _____

Unit: _____

Military Status: M-Day Tech AGR Retired

Branch of Service: Army Air Force Other _____

Dates of Service: _____

Beneficiary: _____

Beneficiary Relationship: _____

Address of Beneficiary: _____

Please enter dates in this format: Jan 01 2011

Regular Members fill out this application and enclose it with a payment of \$50.00 to cover initiation fee and one year's dues.

NEW!

Associate Members fill out this application and enclose it with a payment of \$100.00 to cover one year's dues.

Mail to:

Sergeants Major Association Of California, Inc.

7785 La Mirada Circle, Buena Park, CA 90620-2306

Associate Membership Now Available

Associate Membership is available to those individuals not otherwise eligible for regular membership who share the goals and philosophy of the Association. Associate Members receive our newsletters and are invited as guests to our functions.

Annual dues are \$100.00 for Associate Membership.

We invite all those who support our Association to become Associate Members.



Sergeants Major Association
of California, Inc.
7785 La Mirada Circle
Buena Park, CA 90620-2306

Sergeants Major Association

44th Annual Conference

October 7-9th, 2011

Doubletree Hotel

Sacramento, California

Room Reservations

Call 800-548-8690 OR 916-929-8855

Conference registration and information

will be in the August newsletter