



Sergeants Major Association Newsletter

Sergeants Major Association Newsletter • Volume XLIII Number 3 • August 2011



President's Corner:

After my recent RR (which was far too short), I'm back into full tempo. Our enlisted folks are doing an outstanding job and all is going well. The **40th CAB** will begin the home-coming process in the next few months. A year seems long when looking forward; however, once it's behind us, the time goes fast (but not fast enough).

246 members of the **1/140th Aviation Battalion** landed at **JFTB Los**

Alamitos Airfield on 1 August 2011. They logged 15,000+ flying hours executing 20 assault missions. Welcome home – Job well done!

ISG Reggie Jones
President

Vice President's Corner:

As the 44th Annual Sergeants Major Association Conference draws near, the Northern Chapter is gearing up to provide us with a fun-filled and informative time. The weekend will begin on Friday morning with a Golf Tournament at **Haggin Oaks Golf Complex – Allister Mac Kenzie Course** – 3645 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento. **The California Military Museum** in Old Sacramento will open its doors to us for the first business session on Friday evening. So that we may enjoy all that the Museum offers, we will receive an escorted tour and take part in a "Meet & Greet" event.

Following a Continental Breakfast at the DoubleTree Hotel on Saturday morning, we will have a variety of guest speakers and sponsors to include **AAFES, Bellevue University, ESGR, Family Assistance Network, USAA** as well as representatives from Joint Forces Headquarters. For the evening banquet, we are honored to have **MG (Ret) Peter J. Gravett, Secretary, California Department of Veterans Affairs**, as our keynote speaker. The evening will include the presentation of **SMA Gold Cards** to those long-time members who have earned the privilege and benefit of the Gold Card Status. The Chapter will also sponsor a Hospitality Room for our enjoyment and camaraderie.

On Sunday morning you will be on your own to "sleep-in" and enjoy the Sacramento area. We hope to see many members, spouses and families so that you may renew "old" friendships and make new contacts.

MSG Lorie Clayton, Ret.
Vice-President

**Sergeants Major Association
44th Annual Conference**
7-9 October 2011

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Sacramento

Make your reservations NOW!
Call 800 686-3775

Use the group name - **Sergeants Major Association of California**
See enclosed sheet for details

Inside	Page
President's Corner	1
Vice President's Corner	1
Welcome New Members	2
Northern Chapter	2
Swing for the Chaplain's Fund	2
Chaplains' Fund Report	3
Chaplains' Fund Donors	3
Gold Card Members	4
Southern Chapter	5
Directory	6

Northern Chapter Corner

The Northern Chapter is going full speed ahead getting the **2011 Conference** ready for **7-8-9 October 2011** at the **DoubleTree Hotel**. The hotel address is 2001 Point West Way, **Sacramento 95815**. It is just off the Capitol City Freeway (Business 80) at Arden Way. The Arden Fair Shopping Center is across the Street on Arden Way.

On Friday (7 October) evening, we will conduct the **1st Business Session** at 1800 hrs (6:00 p.m.) at the **California State Military Museum**. After the business meeting, the Northern Chapter will host a "Meet & Greet" tour and have refreshments available. We will have shuttle service available for those who need it.

MG (Ret) Peter Gravett, Secretary of California Department of Veterans Affairs, is the guest speaker for the Military Banquet. **SGM (Ret) Larry Ellsworth** is our Master of Ceremonies.

We are not planning a Sunday breakfast or event. This will give you time to visit Sacramento to shop or go to the local casinos. Some may just want to sleep in or head home early to rest. Please make your reservations early as **September 15th is the last day for our block of rooms**. Also, we need to know how many are coming especially for Friday evening. As you all know, headcounts are very important.

Be sure to check our www.smaofcalifornia web-site for any updates. Thank you to **MSG Steve Ruiz** for his work coordinating the facilities and meals with the DoubleTree Hotel staff. Also thanks to **SGM (Ret) Tim Smith** for taking on Registration and **SGM (Ret) Dan Sebby** for the tour of the Military Museum. Thank you to **CSM (Ret) Jay Harris** and **SGM (Ret) Joe Gipson** for doing the Hospitality Room.

CSM Jerry Hargrove

Acting Northern Chapter Vice President

Welcome to New Members

It is with great pleasure that we welcome three new annual members and one new Associate member to the Sergeants Major Association.

We invite the new members who are in CONUS to join us at the 44th Annual Conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Sacramento on Columbus Day Weekend, 7 – 9 October 2011.

Annual Members

NAME	UNIT	SPONSOR	DATE
SFC Emily Toomey	1977th Supply Det	CSM Jolicoeur	26 July 2011
1SG Jimmy Garcia	315th ENVCC 578th En Bn	CSM Mike Baker	15 Jun 2011
1SG John Patchen	118th Maint Co	Self	3 Jun 2011
MSG Oren Rae	HHC 749th CSSB	1SG Ken Baker	16 July 2011

Associate Member

BG Keith Jones	HQs, 40th Inf Div	CSM Roman	7 Feb 2011
-----------------------	-------------------	-----------	------------

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 shotgun 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

Social Security Number off ID Cards!

To protect your privacy and personal identity information, the Social Security Number is being replaced with a DoD ID Number on all ID Cards.

ID Card Changes:

- As of June 2011, SSNs will no longer be printed on any new ID Card.
- SSN removal will occur in three phases.
- Your new ID Card will have a DoD ID Number in place of your SSN.
- Your DoD ID Number will be used as the Geneva Convention serial number.
- If you are eligible for DoD benefits. There will also be a DoD Benefits Number printed on your new ID Card.

Phase I – Remove Dependent SSN (started in December 2008)

Phase II – Remove All Printed SSNs (started June 2011)

Phase III – Remove SSNs Embedded in Barcodes (beginning by end of 2012)

COL Steve Palumbo Golf Tournament

The COL Steve Palumbo Golf Tournament was established in 2008 by SGM Terry Block to honor a great individual who always went out of his way to help others. COL Palumbo passed away unexpectedly in March 2006. The stipulation under which this tournament was created is that any of the funds that were raised would be donated to an organization that helps fellow Guard members. The organization that was chosen is the Sergeants Major Association's Chaplain's Fund. This annual tournament is a combined effort on the part of CPT Walter Wade, President of the JFHQ Employee Council and SGM Terry Block as part of the J-6.

This event, usually held in May, was held in June this year at the Wildhawk Golf Course in Sacramento. It has drawn an average of 115 golfers each year. With the support of sponsors and players, the Chaplain's Fund has been the recipient of \$10,000.00 over the years. This year's donation is pending and will be presented to the SMA Chaplain's Fund at the 44th Annual Conference, 7-9 October 2011, in Sacramento, CA.

SGM Terry Block

Tournament Founder/Coordinator

Chaplain's Fund Report:

The first half (plus one month), of this year has been a very busy one for the Chaplain's Fund board. Through July 30th this year we provided \$36,124.42 to assist California National Guard Soldiers and Airmen who had financial crises. Of that total, almost one third, \$11,799.23, was paid out in the month of July.

How did we help? We provided assistance to help with a myriad of problems. We paid mortgage payments, rent payments, gas, electric and phone utilities as well as money for food and incidental expenses. We also helped to pay funeral expenses, paid for air fare to a funeral, and paid air fare so that a spouse could visit her sick service member husband. We paid auto insurance, auto loan payments and auto repair bills.

We received 46 requests for assistance. We turned down or did not act on five; three of those because the amount requested was simply far more than we could provide and for which we could not find a workable alternative to the amount requested, and two individuals declined assistance at some point prior to us making a decision. We did help 41 soldiers, airmen, or their families. We helped 25 with direct grants, for the other 16 we gave assistance in the form of a no-interest loan or as a combination grant and loan.

The current balance remaining in the Chaplain's Fund is \$52,850.81

**SFC Chuck Massicotte, Retired,
SMA Treasurer**

CHAPLAIN'S FUND DONORS

We want to say a very grateful "THANK YOU" to the following organizations and individuals who have made significant donations the Chaplain's Fund since October 2010. Many of these organizations and individuals have been consistent supporters over the last several years.

2010 Donations

American Innotek
James D Delk
Military Department Employees Association
SCAC
SMAA
Charles Starr
USAA
Carol Ann Young

2011 Donations

1-18th Cav
Crane Mills
Robert A. Johnson
MOAA
John Mohon
Lous Ponticas
Dixie Porter
Protestant Chapel of Los Alamitos
SCAC
Richard Ransom
TRIWEST
Richard Wolf
Carol Ann Young

The above donors contributed a combined total of \$47,475.50.

We also want to thank our members, who just by adding a small amount to their dues renewals this year, gave an additional \$3,093.00 to the Chaplain's Fund.

Donate to the Chaplain's Fund

Individual and group donations to the Chaplain's Fund are greatly appreciated.

Please send donations to:

SMA Chaplain's Fund, c/o SFC Charles Massicotte
7785 La Mirada Circle, Buena Park, CA 90620-2306

Recognizing Our Gold Card Members:

It has long been a custom of the Association to recognize our members who retired honorably from military service, by presenting them with the **SMA Gold Card** at one of our two annual membership meetings. While reviewing our membership data, we discovered that we were remiss and had not presented Gold Cards to eligible members for several years.

We are making a special effort this year to acknowledge and recognize our Gold Card members who we overlooked. We sent a special invitation to those members and asked them to attend the Annual Conference this year in Sacramento, where we will present their Gold Cards.

Many of you right now might be asking yourselves, "Wait a minute! What the heck is a Gold Card Member?"

The founders of our Association created a special category of membership, the "Gold Card Member" to recognize those members who had retired from military service. The eligibility requirements for Gold Card Membership are detailed in Article III, Membership, Section 3, paragraphs A - D, Gold Card Membership, of the Constitution and By-Laws, quoted below:

Article 3, Section 3

Gold Card Membership: Gold Card Membership will be extended to members who meet the following requirements:

A. Have been a members of the Association in good standing ten years prior to retirement from the military; and

B. Complete twenty years service and attain the age of 60;

OR

C. Members who retire from the military after completion of thirty years will become gold card members of the Association.

D. Any member not qualified in accordance with the above may be awarded a Gold Card by the Executive Board with the approval of the active membership.

To sum it up in one (long) sentence, if you retire with 20 to 29 years of service, when you reach age 60 and have been a member in good standing for ten years, you become a Gold Card Member; OR, if you are a member and retire with 30 or more years of service, you become a Gold Card Member. (While not explicitly stated in the by-laws, I would assume that you must be a member in good standing when you become eligible in either case; I can't imagine that we would take any positive action for a member not in good standing).

We hope that the above clears up any questions you might have.

SFC Chuck Massicotte, Retired
SMA Treasurer

Patriot's Corner

Five Myths About the American Flag.

Myth #1 Betsy Ross made the first American flag.

The Betsy Ross story is the most tenacious piece of fiction involving the flag. There simply is no credible historical evidence – letters, diaries, newspaper accounts, bill of sale – that Ross (then known as Elizabeth Claypoole) either made or had a hand in designing the American flag before it made its debut in 1777.

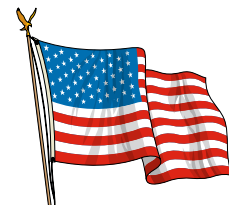
The story cropped up in 1870, almost 100 years after the first flag was supposedly sewn, when William Canby, Ross' grandson, told the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia that his grandmother made the flag at George Washington's behest. Canby's sole evidence: affidavits from family members. The iconic 1893 painting of Ross sitting in her Philadelphia parlor with the sun beaming down on the flag in her lap is a scene invented by Charles H. Weisgerber, the artist and entrepreneur who profited from the Betsy Ross legend.

While Ross did make flags in Philadelphia in the late 1790s, it is all but certain that the story about her creating the American flag is a myth.

As President Woodrow Wilson, who presided over the first official national Flag Day on June 14, 1916, is said to have replied when asked his thoughts on the story; "Would that it were true."

Extracted from The Washington Post by Marc Lepson

Myths 2 – 5 will appear in subsequent issues of the SMA Newsletter.



Southern Chapter Corner

A joyous welcome home to the **Soldiers of the 1-140th Aviation Battalion** who arrived to open arms of family and friends at JFTB Los Alamitos in early August. They performed exceptionally supporting UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter missions in Iraq. Special welcome back to the CSM of the 1-140th **CSM Troy Eck** and the fellow SMA members. The best to CSM Eck who will attend the **United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA)** immediately upon his return.

Fellow SMA Members and future members across the state, the quest continues to build our membership. The annual dues are very much appreciated but your presence at functions enhances our strength with ideas and special talents. To sustain what we have and build for the future, members willing to get involved to seek future positions such as President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Quartermaster to name a few are being sought. It's the untapped potential in members that the SMA seeks to help keep us in the forefront of the Army and Air National Guard. Mark your calendars Saturday September 10, 2011 1700hrs for the first ever SMA South "Open Grill" informal

meet and greet at the Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos **Fiddler's Green Pub**. This no host bar and grill will be an opportunity for members and future members to network and discuss ideas with their SMA South Vice President before the annual fall Oct 7-9 conference. To confirm your attendance and pre-order off the pub menu, send me an email at cabreraforcc@yahoo.com

Speaking of the fall conference, raffle prizes are always welcome and the money raised goes toward the SMA. If you have a connection to obtain a raffle item and need a SMA letter for the donator's charitable tax records, let me know promptly. Since I will be traveling to Sacramento Oct 7, any small hand carry raffle items should get to me by Oct 6 or at the Sept 10 meet and greet, large items should be coordinated before Oct 3. As mentioned before in lieu of your birthday and retirement gifts, consider encouraging family and friends to donate in your name to the SMA Chaplain's Fund.

Networking is vital in the business we do on and off duty. At some point in time, the SMA would like to know your business and how we can help each other or other military members. Recently through the SMA network, word was shared with a military retiree who was able to obtain a beach front

part-time residence job at Camp Pendleton. In the interim for So Cal SMA members, feel free to email me info, but not limited, about your business, employment opportunities for veterans and info to enhance the quality of life for us.

Point Mugu Naval Air Station Gateway Cottage: Exclusively for Senior Enlisted (E-7 to E-9), it's a one bedroom cottage situated on the beach complete with a fenced yard, fire ring, patio and BBQ. To plan your stay, call 805-989-0090 45 days out from your arrival. Seeing its location, you bet this place is highly desired. Don't forget about Camp Pendleton's beach cottages, tent camping and RV spots at 760-763-7873, Phones open at 0900, best to call after 1400 hrs but before the 1600 hrs seven days a week.

CSM Ron Cabrera,
Vice President, Southern Chapter
714-319-3923
cabreraforcc@yahoo.com



Command Chief Master Sergeant Michael S. Koslow was honored at his "Celebration of Service" Retirement Ceremony on 8 July 2011 at **March Air Force Base**. Representing the Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc., is **MSG (Ret) Lorie Clayton**, SMA Vice President



"Five recent members and an old hand displaying their SMA belt buckles and ID cards at Camp Adder, Iraq"

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) 949-212-1589
TREASURER SFC (Ret) Charles Massicotte c_massicotte@att.net	7785 La Mirada Circle Buena Park, CA 90620-2306	(HM) 714-522-0736
RECORDING SECRETARY SGM Linda Korbel topkorbel@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 csmvmd@yahoo.com	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: _____

Sponsored by: _____

New Member Name/Rank: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

Cell _____ Date of Birth _____

E-Mail: _____

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.

Associate Members Please enter only your name, rank, mailing address, and spouse name, and enclose this application 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.

Haggin Oaks Golf Complex
3645 Fulton Ave., Sacramento

SWING FOR THE CHAPLAIN'S

FUND

OCTOBER 7, 2011

Hosted by Sergeants Major Association
and Morton Golf

Registration

\$70 fee. Registration due September 26th, 2011. Sorry, no walk-ins on the day of the event. Four person teams. Limited 48 players, shot-gun start. Includes green fees, cart and awards. "Closest to the Pin" and "Longest Drive" Contest.

Time

7:00 Sign-Up and Warm Up
8:25 Start on the Allister MacKenzie Course

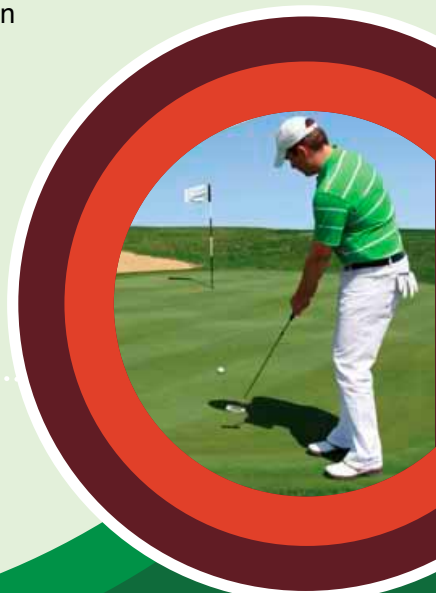
Sponsorship

Tee Sponsorship is available. Sponsor a unit, a service member, in memory of, or a business.

Supports the

Sergeants Major Association
Chaplain's Fund helping soldiers
and airmen in times of financial
emergencies.

Sign Up Today!



MAKE THE
HOLE. MAKE
A DIFFERENCE.



The Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc. Not affiliated with or sponsored by the California National Guard or the United States Army.



1
2
3
4

Player	NCGA Handicap (if known)	#of rounds of golf played last year

We will again use a modified handicap system.

Amount Enclosed _____

INFO & REGISTRATION SEND TO:

Ken Wahl
1411 Castlecreek Ranch Rd.
Newcastle, CA 95658

Questions?

Ken Wahl 916.300.1411
kwahl1@sbcglobal.net

The Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc. is a 501(c) (19) Non-Profit Veterans Organization, Tax ID #23-7104052.