



# Sergeants Major Association Newsletter

Sergeants Major Association Newsletter • Volume XLII Number 3 • August 2010



## President's Corner:

Our Annual Conference is near. From what I have been briefed, this will be an outstanding event. **CSM Bruce Meh-ringer** has worked vigorously, putting together our 43rd Annual Conference. Thank you CSM, your dedication and hard work is appreciated.

In the July edition, I mentioned that an invitation had been sent to our

**Adjutant General, Brigadier General Kight**. Unfortunately, her hectic schedule will not permit her to attend our event. However, she has asked **COL. Kelly Fisher, commander of the 223<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment** to represent her at the conference. COL. Fisher has been a longtime supporter of our organization and is delighted to speak at our event.

I stated this before in previous messages and I feel compelled to mention it, once again. We, as an organization, HAVE to continue to fill our rolls with new members. Again, I ask you all to become actively involved in the recruiting efforts to strengthen our membership. If you are engaged, I thank you and appreciate your efforts. If you are not, I ask that you become involved in actively recruiting new members.

My goal is to get all the SGMs & CSMs to become active participants in the Sergeants Major Association, as they

should be! I need our active members to reach out to our comrades and let them know we need them to be a part of the organization. Their participation in the organization is vital. How can we ask E-7s and E-8s to be a part of the Sergeants Major Association, when E-9s do not participate? In this case, we start from the top and work down. **SO LET'S GET MOTIVATED!**

We have elections coming up, for the Central area, so I ask you to take a look around to see who is motivated, committed and will do a good job for the Central area.

On the deployment front, join me in welcoming home, **CSM Robert Liles, 49<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade**, who just completed his OIF tour. The Brigade did an outstanding job. Some of you who subscribe to Facebook may have viewed the accomplishments and activities during their deployment. I am sure it made you proud.

One specific event that made me ex-

*Continued on page 2*

**Sergeants Major Association  
43rd Annual Conference**  
8-10 October 2010

Camp San Luis Obispo  
*Make your reservations NOW!*  
**Call 805 594-6400**

Use the group name - **Sergeants Major Association of California**

**See page 5 for details**

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tremely proud was CSM Liles' efforts to arrange for the **Command Sergeant Major of the Army, CSM Kenneth O. Preston**, to promote members of the 49th MP Bde to the rank of Sergeant. This had to be an exciting event for the soldier; to be promoted to Sergeant by the CSM of the Army. Great job CSM Liles!

As you know, our Northern Chapter Vice President, **CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones** is currently deployed to Iraq. She is doing a phenomenal job while serving with the 224th Sustainment Brigade. She wants you all to know that she appreciates the e-mail messages that she has received. She looks forward to her return early next year.

One last note, please make your billeting and / or RV reservations early. Come! Share your enthusiasm and ideas. Take this opportunity to help shape the future of the California National Guard. As always, it will be a great week-end in the company of the Cal Guard's "Old Guard" the titans from another era who look forward to an opportunity to also help shape the future Guard by mentoring and sharing special memories, offering sage advice and sometimes just bring the "house down" with their antics and anecdotes. Sometimes even a few verbal "crossed swords" action takes place. Which is a always a treat! Their way of reinforcing they are still SGMs and CSMs. retired or not!

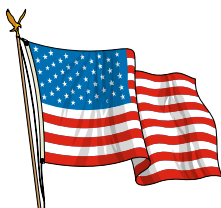
**1SG Reggie Jones**  
President

## Vice President's Corner:

As our year 2010 progresses with a very high "Op-Tempo," we are rapidly approaching our 43rd Annual Conference. The Central Chapter, under the direction of **CSM Bruce Mehringer**, will host this event at Camp San Luis Obispo. CSM Mehringer will provide the details of conference events. Members of the Northern Chapter are "scouting" for sites in the Sacramento area for October 2011. **SGM Hargrove** will update you on their activities. **CSM Cabrera** will brief you as to the Southern Chapter's endeavors for 2012.

Due to the high demand for facilities at Camp San Luis Obispo during the month of February 2011, we are limited to conducting our **Mid-Year Conference** on the second week-end in February – **11-12-13 February 2011**. Many members indicated that they no longer wish to hold the conference over the President's Day weekend. CSLO is booked for training on the remaining weekends. Please mark your calendars accordingly. Hopefully we can do another "Swing for the Chaplain's Fund" golf tournament.

**MSG Lorie Clayton, Ret.**  
*Vice-President*



## Central Chapter Corner

I hope that all members had a great summer season. It's now time to think about the Annual Conference in CSLO. The initial planning is laid; however, there are still many aspects of the affair to be addressed. I will call many of you prior to you receiving this newsletter. I will ask all to become involved in one way or another and to run certain portions of the weekend. I tried to put this entire event on and it is physically impossible to do so. I hope that we have a successful event as I know it can be. All take care and I will see you down the road in San Luis Obispo.

**CSM Bruce Mehringer**  
Vice President, Central Chapter

## Northern Chapter Corner

Your 2011 Site Committee is working hard to find a location for our annual conference on 7, 8, and 9 October 2011. Our Chapter VP is currently deployed but will be back in time for our final conference planning. Meanwhile, we are looking at Folsom, Sacramento, Roseville, Fairfield, and Travis AFB.

I hope to see many of the Northern Chapter members at the **2010 Annual Conference on 8, 9, 10 October in San Luis Obispo**. The Northern Chapter needs volunteers to assist in putting on the conference as there is a lot to do. You can contact me at [ghargrove1965@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ghargrove1965@sbcglobal.net) if you can help with the Conference planning.

**SGM Jerry Hargrove (Ret)**  
Vice President, Northern Chapter  
Site Committee Chair

### 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

## Southern Chapter Corner

Several weeks ago two events transpired that reminded me of Soldier care. First, I said good bye to 1-140th as they left for the second time to Iraq. Later in the year, the 40th Combat Aviation Brigade will be following. I know many of these Soldiers and have seen their families grow. There are also many new faces of young Soldiers with establishing families. On behalf of the SMA, we wish them a safe journey and God's speed. The second was the Adjutant General's Senior Leader Conference conducted at Camp Luis Obispo. Senior Leaders throughout the Army and Air Guard were present. Between the information disseminated and eloquent speeches, it was a reminder of how the leadership at the highest level cares. One point made was the emphasis on the Guard's involvement in the community. Guidance relating to community support is forthcoming. With all considered, it was a reminder that we continually look out after our own and the SMA is a part of the process. Upon the eve of producing this article, email was shared of how the SMA impacted a Soldier's life in time of need. The young PFC's response was inspiring that SMA membership makes a difference.

Your membership is deeply appreci-

ated and encouraging your Senior NCO's to join helps the SMA that much more reaching out to Soldiers. I welcome all Southern California members to just say hello with your contact info so I can learn about you, and let me know if you're available for any future events supporting our association or community events. For example, the Bob Hope Hollywood USO may ask for help with their annual fundraiser. Moreover, I invite your ideas to increase membership and opportunities to reach out to the community. You can reach me at [ronald.d.cabrera@us.army.mil](mailto:ronald.d.cabrera@us.army.mil) or at 714-319-3923.

As the summer is nearly over, I trust all have enjoyed some type of vacation and quality family time. The school year begins and family OPTEMPO escalates as the days grow shorter. I ask all that safety be a daily practice in and out of the house. Give thanks for our daily blessings, call your Soldiers randomly to see how they're doing and thank them for being part of the Guard family and keep our deployed troops in your thoughts and prayers. I look forward seeing SMA members and guests at the October conference.

Respectfully,

**CSM Ron Cabrera**

Vice President, Southern Chapter

## Patriot's Corner:

In the previous issue, we told you how Flag Day grew into a nationally recognized day. In this issue we will present "Flag Protocol."

### Our Flag "Old Glory"

The American Flag does not belong to the government, the politicians, the States or the communities, but belongs to every American citizen. When anyone, despite their position in society, disrespects, defaces, destroys, dishonors, insults or demeans "Old Glory," our flag, it is an act against each citizen. We individuals, as part of our being and existence as American citizens, have a commitment to honor. Respect and protect our flag. Let all of us commit ourselves to deepen our patriotism by honoring, respecting and protecting "Old Glory."

### *Pledge of Allegiance ~*

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, on Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

### *National Anthem:*

"The Star Spangled Banner"

"Oh, say! Can you see by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, o'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's re glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say! Does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

**Veterans** are now permitted to render a hand salute when the U.S. flag is raised and lowered, passes in review, during the Pledge of Allegiance and the playing of the National Anthem. (Authorized by the National Defense Act of 2008)

## SWING FOR THE CHAPLAIN'S FUND

This year we will conduct Swing for the Chaplain's Fund in conjunction with the 2010 Annual Sergeants Major Association Conference. Mark your calendar for 0800 hrs, **Friday, October 8, 2010 at the challenging San Luis Obispo County's Dairy Creek Golf Course.** Come for the golf; stay for the weekend. If you would like to support your Chaplain's Fund, there are several ways to support the tournament. Anyone can enter to golf, but more importantly, support the event by sponsoring a tee box for yourself, a unit, or a business on a nice poster. Better yet, sponsor a young soldier's golfing adventure with us or simply make a donation to the Chaplain's Fund. If you have any merchandise for raffle prizes, we appreciate those donations as well. See our website at: [www.smaofcalifornia.org](http://www.smaofcalifornia.org). If you have any immediate questions, contact **Ken Wahl at 916-300-1411 or [kwahl1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kwahl1@sbcglobal.net).**

## *The Benefits of Joining a Professional Military Association*

No matter what your chosen military branch or occupational specialty, as a military professional you want to remain in the mainstream of your National Guard service. There are numerous ways that you can accomplish this ~ networking, military and professional journals, etc. However, one great way to accomplish this is by joining a professional organization. The benefits of joining professional organizations are abundant. **The Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc. (SMA)** since its inception in 1968, has realized the importance of professional organizations. SMA is committed to 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. It also provides a forum for Senior Non-Commissioned Officers to meet and share ideas and experiences to improve and maintain the professionalism of the NCO Corps.

Other professional military organizations are available for almost any branch of service or specialty. Some include specific trade or specialty type associations; many are members of The Military Coalition (TMC). TMC consists of 33 associations who represent the interests of the entire uniformed services community, including members' families and survivors. (<http://www.themilitarycoalition.org>)

Thanks to ever-growing digital technologies, information abounds. Sometimes sifting through the mass can be overwhelming. The organizations can provide you access to journals, newsletters and websites with invaluable information on current issues, networking opportunities and developments specific to your leadership level or occupational specialty. As a California Senior NCO, the most important military professional organizations to you are the **SMA** (<http://www.smaofcalifornia.org>), **EANGUS** (<http://www.eangus.org>) and **CAL-EANGUS** (<http://www.cal-eangus.org>). These organizations focus on improving readiness, quality of life and benefits specifically for Air and Army members serving the National Guard through state and federal legislation.

Hundreds of thousands of military professionals have discovered just how rewarding membership can be in some professional military organizations or another. When you join a state or federal association, you will add your voice to your state's network working hard to pass both state and federal legislation such as education benefits for CNG members.

Prospective employers seek out individuals whose field knowledge is not solely dependent on college studies; therefore, association memberships are excellent supplements for your resume. Memberships convey to an employer that you are dedicated to your field of study, while your savoir-faire during an interview will have you shining above other applicants. Your membership could open doors of opportunity as you are provided with greater exposure to the job market attending conferences. These conferences can give you access to many corporate sponsors who do business with the Department of Defense and the National Guard.

Therefore, whether you are looking to become part of a community within your chosen branch of service, occupational specialty or are searching for professional development to enhance your career opportunities, professional military organizations are most certainly the way to go!

Colonel Kelly Fisher,  
President, NGAC

MSG Lorie Clayton, Ret,  
Vice President, SMA

## **Preserving California's Military Heritage**

Every day we lose a part of our military history and every day we make history.

The California Center for Military History, as part of the State Military Reserve, supports the State Military Museum and provides historical support for the National Guard and other military and Civic organizations within California. In other words, we preserve history by protecting our historical artifacts and recording unit and personal histories.

We currently have units in the following locations:

Sacramento at the California State Military Museum and Sacramento Army Depot

Los Alamitos Armed Forces Reserve Center

Camp Sam Luis Obispo

Camp Roberts

Regimental Armory, 185th Armor Regiment, San Diego

Glendale (Naval History)

Currently, we are looking for Historians, Researchers, Supply Management Specialists, Restoration Specialists (vehicle, weapons, electronics, etc), Photographers, and Computer Specialists.

Visit our website at <http://military-museum.org/CMH.html> or the State Military History Museum and [www.militarymuseum.org](http://www.militarymuseum.org).

Submitted by:

**Jerry Hargrove**

Center for Military History  
Command Sergeant Major

# Sergeants Major Association

## 8-10 October 2010

### INFORMATION

**QUESTIONS:** Members may call the following for any questions concerning the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference:

1SG Reggie Jones:	CSM Bruce Mehringer
HM: 916-725-0390	HM: 831-649-1532
MBL: 559-804-5204	MBL: 831-607-4742
E-Mail: <a href="mailto:reginald.jones4@us.army.mil">reginald.jones4@us.army.mil</a>	E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mehingercsm@yahoo.com">mehingercsm@yahoo.com</a>

**BELLA NOTTE:** Friday night Italian themed supper. - presented by Central Chapter and Auxiliary - cost = \$7.50/person in Parker Hall (NCO Club), starting at 1800 hrs on **Friday, 8 October 2010**.

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST:** **Saturday - 0700 hrs - 9 October 2010** – in classroom(s) (included in registration fee).

**LUNCH:** **Saturday - 11:30 hrs - 9 October 2010** - cost = \$7.50/person – Camp San Luis Obispo Consolidated Mess Facility (Building #854).

**BANQUET DINNER:** **Saturday - 1800 hrs - 9 October 2010** - Catered by Phoenix Fine Catering - CSLO Officers' Club. (included in member's registration fee and ONE guest). Additional guest(s) \$50.00.

**SIT-DOWN BREAKFAST:** **Sunday - 0800 hrs ~ 10 October 2010** CSLO Officers' Club - cost = \$24.00/person. Followed by the **NOT-SO-SILENT AUCTION!**

**GOVERNMENT QUARTERS:** The Camp has excellent government quarters available on a first come first served basis. Maid service is included. Spouses are welcome. Remember, we can not guarantee Government quarters, however there are many local hotels, with very favorable rates for the military. **NO PETS ALLOWED IN GOVERNMENT QUARTERS.**

**RV PARK:** The Camp has an excellent recreational vehicle park located next to PARKER HALL. Water and electricity on each site. A dump station is located nearby.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Driving is the best way for you to get to CSLO. The Camp is located on California Highway 1, just off of Highway 101, between San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration will be at PARKER HALL (NCO CLUB), from **1700-2100 hrs on Friday, 8 October 2010** and on **Saturday, 9 October 2010, at BLDG. TBA from 0700 - 0800 hrs. Bldg. #TBA** is scheduled as the location for the Annual Meeting. Auxiliary will meet at Parker Hall.

**REGISTRATION FEES/TARIFFS:** THE COST FOR REGISTRATION IS \$ 75.00 FOR EACH MEMBER ATTENDING. This fee includes: continental breakfast on Saturday morning as well as the banquet dinner for the member and one guest additional guest(s) fee is \$50.00. Lunch on Saturday will cost \$7.50 per person and breakfast on Sunday morning will cost \$24.00 per person. The Central Chapter will present an Italian themed "Bella Notte" supper at Parker Hall - the NCO Club.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION FORM...ALONG WITH ALL FEES AND TARIFFS TO:

SFC Chuck Massicotte, Ret.  
7785 La Mirada Circle  
Buena Park, CA 90620-2326

**Any questions regarding BILLETING call CSLO 805-594-6500**

# SERGEANTS MAJOR ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, Inc. 42nd TERM 2009-2010 DIRECTORY

www.smaofcalifornia.org

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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
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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 SFC David Coss	3187 Fine Avenue Clovis, CA 93612	(Cell) 559-392-4016

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**SMA Newsletter**

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*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 2010**

**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.

# SA Annual Swings FOR THE Chaplains Fund

FRIDAY OCTOBER 8, 2010



## SPONSORED BY

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

## HELPS TO

support the Sergeants Major Association Chaplains Fund, helping soldiers and airmen in times of financial emergencies.

helping soldiers

Entry Fee Includes: Golf, Cart, Prize Fund & Lunch

Dairy Creek Golf Course

## TIME

Golfers Meeting at 0800 hrs  
 Shotgun starts at 0830 hrs

## PLACE

Dairy Creek Golf Course, 2990 Dairy Creek Road,  
 San Luis Obispo right off of Highway 1  
[HTTP://WWW.SLOCOUNTYPARKS.COM/FACILITIES/DAIRYCREEK.HTM](http://www.slocountyparks.com/facilities/dairy creek.htm)

## REGISTRATION

\$65 Due NLT September 21, 2010  
 Entry Fee Includes: Golf, Cart, Prize Fund & Lunch  
 Absolutely no walk on registrations please

## TEE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Closest to the Pin Holes (Men & Women)

The Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc.  
 is a 501(c)(19) Non-Profit Veterans Organization,  
 Tax ID #23-7104032.

Player	NCGA Handicap (if known)	#of rounds of golf played last year
1		
2		
3		
4		

We will again use a modified handicap system.

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to and mail to:  
 Sergeants Major Association  
 7785 La Mirada Circle  
 Buena Park, CA 90620-2306

Questions? Ken Wahl 916.300.1411  
 kwahl1@sbcglobal.net



SEARGEANTS MAJOR ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

10.08.10

Annual Swings for the Chaplains Fund