



Sergeants Major Association Newsletter

Sergeants Major Association Newsletter • Volume XXXXI Number 2 • August 2009



Presidents Corner:

Thanks to the SMA membership for a successful Mid-Year Conference held at Camp San Luis Obispo in February 2009. On behalf of all attending, I would also like to extend our appreciation to our guest speakers, **CSM Michael Winstead and CSM Andy Roman**. Their message was strategically informative as well as pertinent to both our active and retired members.

They provided a view of our Guard today, giving an accurate perspective of our current OPTEMPO and the effects the war has on our active members.

From the beginning, when elected vice president and now serving as your association president, I pledged to work tirelessly to increase senior NCO participation in the SMA, to pursue and convince the California National Guard E-7s and above to actually join and become ACTIVE participants in the association. Their involvement is crucial if we are to continue to provide the essential and timely support of our soldiers, airmen and their families. With increased membership, we can continue to nurture our association with the hope of regaining the prestige we once had in the California National Guard.

Our recruiting efforts still need work. As of 3 December 2008, we have 16 new members. In the previous year we had 22 new members join our ranks. I

know we can do better if everyone gets on board and contributes their efforts towards increasing our organization and return it to the strong organization that it must be. My vision is to contact these young senior non-commissioned officers to get them involved and make them a part of the SMA as they should be! In order to do that, we must all actively engage ourselves in this effort as well. As stated before, the organization is only as good as its members who actively participate and support the organization. Since my transition to complete the current term as president, my focus and commitment are to make The Sergeants Major Association of California a significant organization committed to being there for our soldier and airmen. In order to reach this goal, I NEED YOUR HELP!

All SMA members are earnestly encouraged to attend and participate in "Welcome Home" ceremonies near/close to your areas. Go out and get involved and be a part of the festivities for our warriors returning from

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Sergeants Major Association
42nd Annual Conference
 9-11 October 2009
 Anaheim Sheraton
Guest Speaker BG Charlotte L. Miller
Make your hotel reservations NOW!

Call 714 778-1700 to get the group rate of \$110.00 per night.
 Use the group name - **Sergeants Major Association of California**

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deployments from various theaters of operation to include Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. They and their families deserve our support and recognition for a job well done. A robust and patriotic welcome by Patriots for Patriots is, without a doubt, a serious morale booster and force multiplier for the returning warriors and their families. Your enthusiastic support and participation provide another opportunity to convey that we care and we are there for them. At the same time, you put a face on The Sergeants Major Association and let them know we are there to offer assistance to answer the call for help in the future.

On that note! I just have to take a moment to recognize and extend our deep appreciation to **MSG Ken Wahl (Ret) and SFC Chuck Massicotte (Ret)**. Without their continued dedication, selflessness and tireless service to our soldiers and airmen, we'd be adrift.

I've said it before, and it's no secret, the Chaplain's Fund touched each and every one of us at some time or another in some way. This is especially so for our soldiers, airmen and their families in time of need. Hopefully you will keep the California National Guard's safety net in place through your continued contributions and support of the SMA Chaplain's Fund. Your support is greatly needed. The current state of our economy is acutely felt by our soldiers and airmen; **NOW MORE THAN EVER.**

Hey now, it's that time again! We will hold the **42nd Annual SMA Conference at the Anaheim Sheraton in Anaheim California 9-11 October 2009.**

All members are invited to participate in the golf tournament on Friday, 9 October at the Seal Beach Navy Golf Course, Cypress, California. This is the "traditional" kick-off event for the annual conference. As usual, MSG Ken

Wahl (Ret) is the coordinator of this auspicious event. Because he always does such an outstanding job, you are guaranteed another of his fun-filled, much anticipated, always successful golf competition. You will miss a treat if you miss this one. We count on your support again to help make this another tremendous success.

Just a reminder – elections for SMA President, vice president, secretary treasurer and southern chapter vice president will be held during this conference. So, please give serious consideration to nominees for these positions as you review the ballots that are included with your registration packets. **EVERY VOTE COUNTS** and your vote will determine the future of the SMA.

You are cordially invited to come share your enthusiasm, ideas and an oppor-

tunity to help shape the future of the California National Guard. It will be a great weekend sharing with the titans (OGs) from an earlier era who look forward to sharing their memories, lessons learned, give their sage advice and enjoy their antics. Bring the family and your California Guard friends. We count on you pro-active and forward-leaning M-Day members to get the word out to bring the senior NCOs from your battalions, brigades and wings out to an enriching event.

1SG Reggie Jones
President



ELECTIONS:

Elections will be held at our Annual Meeting in October. The following members have been nominated for the following offices.

PRESIDENT:	1SG Reggie Jones
VICE-PRESIDENT:	MSG Lorie Clayton (Ret) CSM Lenny McAdams
TREASURER:	OPEN
RECORDING SECRETARY	SGM Linda Korbel
SOUTH V.P.	CSM Ronald David Cravera

Anyone who is a member in good standing may be nominated on Friday Evening, 9 October 2009, during our First Business Session. Elections will be held during our Second Business Session on Saturday, 10 October 2009.

If you can not attend be sure to send your proxy in and choose someone you know who will be attending to cast your vote. Proxies will be due by end of First Business Session on Friday.

Submitted by SGM Andrew Strauss, Election Chairman

Southern Chapter:

The Southern Chapter of the Sergeants Major Association will host the 42nd Annual Conference from 9-11 October 2009, at the Anaheim Sheraton. The hotel is located at 900 South Disneyland Drive, Anaheim 92802 (adjacent to the Disneyland Park). The hotel provides free shuttles from hotel to either Disneyland or California Adventure Land. The rate for the hotel is the State Government Rate of \$110.00 + tax/night, no charge for parking. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel at 714-778-1700. Ask for the Group Rate for the Sergeants Major Association.

If you are unable to attend our weekend conference, please try to support our Golf Event on Friday, 9 October 2009 at the Navy Golf Course, Seal Beach, adjacent to AFRC. For registration of this event contact, KEN WAHL at 916-300-1411 or e-mail to kwahl1@sbcglobal.net. The fee for the "Swing for the Chaplain's Fund" will be \$65.00. This includes Greens Fees, Cart, & Prize Fund. No WALK-ONS accepted. Shotgun starts at 0730 hrs; so come early for warm-up and Golfers Meeting and Orientation.

If you cannot participate in the Golf Event, please support the Chaplain's Fund with a **TEESPONSORSHIP**. This information is also available from Ken Wahl.

The following is a short review of the weekend events:

9 October, Friday

0700 "Swing for the Chaplain's Fund"

The Navy Golf Course – Seal Beach 5660 Oranewood Ave., Cypress, CA 90630
www.navygc.com

1400-1800 Conference Registration, Anaheim Sheraton Hotel

1400 Hospitality Room Opens

1830 Business Session #1

2000 FIESTA NIGHT in Hospitality Suite, NO FEE – Come & Enjoy

10 October, Saturday

0700 Late Registration

0730 Continental Breakfast

0800 Opening of Second Business Session

1500 Hospitality Room

1730 VIP Reception in Hospitality Room

1800 Cocktails

1900 Mess Call/Evening Program

Guest Speaker - Asst Deputy Cmdr BG Charlotte Miller

2200-? Hospitality Room

11 October, Sunday

0800 Breakfast & Raffles

1000 Executive Board Meeting TBA

1000-1200 Hospitality Room

SGM Andrew Strauss (Ret), Southern Chapter V.P.

California Army National Guard gets First Female General

Charlotte Miller, the daughter of an Air Force Master Sergeant, joined the military in 1979. Because the Army only required a two-year enlistment commitment, she chose it rather than the Air Force which required four years. She never dreamed that her initial enlistment would lead to her promotion to Brigadier General. Her promotion from colonel marked the culmination of a thirty-year Army and National Guard career that she started as a teletype operator in Germany.

BG Miller earned a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. This was her second graduate degree. She directed manpower and materiel during CANG missions from the Loma Prieta earthquake near San Francisco to military deployments in Iraq and Kuwait. BG Miller traveled to Ukraine to conduct training in the "Partners for Peace" program with the Ukrainian military as well as logistical exercises with the South Korean army.

She is the second highest officer assigned to the California Army National Guard. Since 11 September 2001, the 17,000 member CARNG has deployed 15,000 members overseas to include 9,500 to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Charlotte Miller's ascent in the Army National Guard follows the promotion three years ago of Brigadier General Mary Kight, the first female general in the California Air National Guard. Charlotte is married to Colonel Charles Miller (Ret). They recently celebrated their twenty-year wedding anniversary.

We wish her well in her the remainder of her career and future endeavors.

Sergeants Major Association of California 42nd Annual Conference 9-11 October 2009

INFORMATION

The **Sheraton Anaheim Hotel** is located at **900 South Disneyland Drive, Anaheim, CA 92802.**

That's just off I-5, Just South of the 91 Freeway www.sheraton.com/anaheim

Make your Hotel Reservations by calling **714-778-1700** or **1-800-325-3535**. **Group name is the Sergeants Major Association of California. Rate is State per diem rate of \$110.00 + Tax. Reserve your room NOW – the number of blocked rooms is limited.**

Conference Registration: We request that all guests as well as members check in at the registration table as soon as possible upon arrival. The registration fee is **\$75.00** for DUES PAYING MEMBERS. The registration fee for NON-DUES PAYING MEMBERS and NON-MEMBERS is **\$85.00**. Your fee includes: The registration for the Conference, Continental Breakfast on Saturday for you and spouse or guest; and Dinner on Saturday Night for you and spouse or guest.

Friday Evening, immediately after the first Business Session, we will host a **FIESTA NIGHT** in the Hospitality Suite. We'll have ample food and Margaritas available. There is no charge for this, so come and enjoy.

The meal for Saturday evening: Dinner is a choice of *Chicken Marsala*, or *Roasted New York Sirloin*. A Vegetarian plate is also available. There is a **\$40.00 per meal** charge for an extra guest. There will be a no-host bar available at the Banquet Room.

Breakfast on Sunday morning is an additional fee of **\$15.00 per person** (including members) and will consist of a sit-down breakfast meal. A fund raising raffle and auction will follow.

Please make your checks payable to **SMA** and mail your registration form to: Charles Massicotte: 7785 La Mirada Circle, Buena Park, CA 90620.

The SMAA meeting on Saturday is open to everyone. Times TBA.

The **Hospitality Suite** will operate except during meetings and the Military Banquet.

Uniform: The uniform for the conference will vary as follows:

Friday Evening	1 st Business Session	Civilian Casual
Saturday Morning	2 nd Business Session	Class "B" Uniform, ACU's or Civilian Business Casual
Saturday Evening	Military Banquet	Formal Military or Civilian "Black Tie"
Sunday Morning	Breakfast/Auction	Civilian Casual

Swing for the Chaplains Fund on Friday 9 October 2009, Navy Golf Course Seal Beach; 5660 Orangewood Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. Fee will be \$65.00 before October 1, 2009. Absolutely no walk-ons permitted. Entry includes Green Fees, Cart & Prize Fund. Golfer's Meeting at 0700hrs and Shotgun Starts at 0730hrs.

For more information or registration please contact:

Ken Wahl at 916-300-1411 or kwahl1@sbcglobal.net.

**SMA OFFICERS
2008-2009**

President

1SG Reggie Jones

Vice President

CSM (Ret) John Dearinger

Treasurer

SFC (Ret) Charles Massicotte

Recording Secretary

SGM Linda Korbel

Chapter V.P. South

SGM (Ret) Andrew Strauss

Chapter V.P. Central

SFC Ernest Hall

Chapter V.P. North

CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones

SMA Newsletter

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

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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 Dearinger

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 2008

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. 41st TERM 2008-2009 DIRECTORY

www.smaofcalifornia.org

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BOARD of TRUSTEES

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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 SGM Felix Soto Felix.Soto1@us.army.mil	29 Cranwell Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-5267	(HM) 949-215-6071 (WK) 562-795-2501



Swing for the Chaplains Fund

Friday, October 9, 2009



**The Navy
Golf Course Seal Beach**
5660 Oranewood Ave, Cypress, CA 90630
www.navygc.com

\$65 Entry before October 1, 2009
Absolutely no walk-ons accepted.

Entry Includes:
Green Fees, Cart & Prize Fund

Closest to the Pin (men & women)
4 Person Teams

Golfer's Meeting at 0700 hrs.
Shotgun Starts at 0730 hrs.

Tee Sponsorships Available
Prizes & Awards at the Conclusion

*Sponsored by the Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc and is not affiliated with or sponsored by the California National Guard or the United States Army.

Helps to support the Sergeants Major Association Chaplains Fund, a fund helping Soldiers and Airmen in times of financial emergencies.

Accommodation available at the
▶ **Anaheim Sheraton, 900 S. Disneyland Dr.** Mention the S.M.A. when making your reservations for special pricing.

Player	NCGA Handicap (if known)	# of rounds of golf played in the past 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

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