



Sergeants Major Association Newsletter

Sergeants Major Association Newsletter • Volume XXXXI Number 1 • January 2009

President's Corner

I would like to begin by expressing my thanks to the SMA membership for the support and confidence you have entrusted me with as President of the Sergeants Major Association of California. I look forward to the opportunity to work with as many of you as I possibly can. I'm sure this has been stated before; the organization is only as good as the members who support it and are active participants. My assumption of duties as the President necessitated the appointment of a new **Vice President: CSM (Ret) John Dearing**, who is also the senior trustee. As you might guess, he can't wait to get started, so let's encourage and support him in doing what he does best, strive to make The California Sergeants Major Association a strong and viable organization committed to always being there for our soldiers.

I must also say thanks to **SGM (Ret) Gerald Hargrove** for his undying contribution as the outgoing Northern Chapter Vice President. SGM (Ret) Hargrove has done an outstanding job as the Northern Chapter VP. He was the guiding light

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New State Military Reserve Commander

BG Kevin G. Ellsworth, Director, Joint Staff, has announced that **Colonel Roland Candee** has been selected to command the California State Military Reserve effective 10 January 2009. Colonel Candee brings over 33 years of military experience and leadership to this challenging assignment.

Colonel Candee has served in many positions with the Judge Advocate General Corps on active duty and with the California National Guard.

Colonel Candee is a graduate of the Judge Advocate General Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College.

Sergeants Major Association

Mid-Year Meeting

13-15 February 2009

Camp
San Luis Obispo

Registration Form Enclosed

Make your room reservations NOW!

805-594-6500

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UPCOMING EVENTS

13-15 February 200

SMA Mid-Year Meeting
CSLO

17-18 April 2009

NGAC Annual Conference
San Francisco

17-19 April 2009

Family Readiness Symposium
San Francisco Marriott Airport

19 April 2009

TAG BALL
San Francisco Marriott Airport

Joint Reserve Intelligence Center Opens at JFTB, Los Alamitos

BG Kevin G. Ellsworth, Director, Joint Staff, requests the pleasure of your company at the Grand Opening Ceremony of the Los Alamitos, Joint Reserve Intelligence Center on Thursday, the twenty-ninth of January at half past eleven o'clock.

Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base, Independence Avenue, Building 921.

RSVP by 23 January 2009. 1LT Magallanes (562) 936-1772, jola118@jricp.osis.gov.

Military: Duty Uniform; Civilian: Casual

Visit the
Sergeants Major Association
Web Site at
www.smaofcalifornia.org

President's Corner
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at this year's 41st Annual Conference at the Marriott Hotel in Rancho Cordova, Ca. This event was the capstone of his term. His focus and commitment was vital to making this a special event for all who attended. Thanks Jerry it was off the chain!

I want to also recognize and extend my appreciation and thanks to **MSG (Ret) Ken Wahl and SGM Adam Walker**, for making the Golf Tournament a tremendous success. Thanks to all who supported and participated in this event, members and non-members. Hopefully next year I will be good enough to hit the greens with everyone else! But only in the beginner league! Ha-ha!

I want to congratulate the newly elected **Northern Chapter Vice President CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones**. You all know her as a highly motivated, energetic Sr. NCO. As you might guess she is bringing much enthusiasm, and a host of new ideas brewing for the northern chapter.

It is no secret that the Chaplains Fund touches at some time or another, in some way, each and every one of our Soldiers, Airmen and families routinely, especially in times of need. It is my hope you will continue to keep that safety net in place through your continued contributions and support of the SMA and Chaplains Fund. Your support will be greatly needed, with the current state of our economy; it's being felt acutely by our enlisted

New Members

1SG Connie Andes
National City

SSG Cathy Strudle
Janesville

SFC John Gonzales
West Covina

CSM Earnestine Judge
Antelope

SSG Frank Chavez
Sacramento

SFC Harvey J. Steelman
Stockton

SFC Richard Furtado
Manteca

1SG Helen Nunez
Sacramento

1SG Roderick Pullen
Santa Maria

SGM Leona Wheeler
Suisun City

CSM Michael Almasy
Seal Beach

1SG Brain Barkins
Chula Vista

1SG David Budek
Covina

CSM Ron Cabrera
Cypress

SFC David Johnson
Sacramento

1SG David Harpst
Oceanside

MSG William Spruill
Elk Grove

CSM Roy Wise Jr.
Carlsbad

Soldiers and Airmen now, more than ever!

That translates into one of my primary pledges when I was first elected as Vice President: increase Sr. NCO SMA participation, with the intent of convincing all E7 and above to actually join. This is essential if we are to continue to provide support for our Soldiers, Airmen and their families. As we gain new membership we will continue to grow our association with the hope to regain the prestige we once had in the California National Guard!

As you know we just held our 41st Annual Conference at the Marriott Hotel in Rancho Cordova, California. Attendees included our **Adjutant General, MG William H. Wade II** our guest speaker and his lovely wife **Leslie**, the State Senior Enlisted Advisor **CSM William Clark** and his wife **Laurie**, **BG Kevin Ellsworth** and his wife **Sharon**, and many other members and their spouses. Thank you all for attending and supporting the California Sergeants Major Association

The time is fast approaching for the **SMA Mid-Year Conference at Camp San Luis Obispo, Ca. So mark your calendar 13-15 Feb 2009** and make your billeting and/or RV reservation early. You are cordially invited to come share your enthusiasm, ideas and an opportunity to help shape the future of the California Army National Guard. It will be a great week-end with sharing with the titans from the another era who look forward to sharing their memories, sage advise and experience. Bring the family and your Cal Guard friends. I'm counting on all you pro-active M-Day members to get the word out and bring those senior NCOs' in your Battalions, Brigades and Wings out to this valuable and enriching event.

1SG Reggie Jones, President, SMA

Mid-Year Bar-B-Q

Again this year, the Central Chapter will allow its famous "SMA BBQ Crew" to come to Camp San Luis Obispo and provide their famous outstanding evening meal at the NCO Club. The "Chief Cook and Bottle Washer", head usher, waiter, fire pit starter and a soldier that never lets a "long neck" Bud leave his hand, **CSM Terry Williams**, will lead his family, friends and "lookie loos" into the evening rain, snow or what ever and prepare enough food to feed your appetite of the best beef, chicken, beans, salsa, salad and bread one can find on the Central Coast. The price is so reasonable; one can bring their spouse, children and friends. See you all there.

California's Chinook Co. to Kandahar

A Message from Mike Wagner

I moved down to Kandahar on the 23rd, a couple days later than planned. Joe accompanied me with a 2nd aircrew and aircraft. **1LT Paul Mantiply** is our local platoon leader / commander. We have been busy and I just got set up into the computer system here. On the 24th we got our local orientation flights completed and started work on Xmas day. The 101st crews we are replacing are packed up and leaving in a couple of days. We brought with us

an extra crew from the 159th (the active duty's replacements for the 101st). The 159th PC that we brought with us is a fellow CW4, but proving to be a pain in the backside. Though we have been in country now for over 8 months, he is going to show us how to do business, he was in Iraq in 2003 and is experienced. He is learning though that we, the Nasty Guard, are running the Chinook show - he may be sitting for awhile. With the 159th taking over the task forces, things are changing - we have only 5 more weeks!! We have 5 complete crews with 4 a/c. The mission work load should not be as hectic as in Bagram. If the past couple of days are any indication of the workload for me, I will may only have time to go on 1 or 2 missions. With only 4 a/c, i am the only MTP, but there has been something for me every day. Today, I will be fling 3 of our 4 a/c for maintenance issues. I am bring one out of phase maintenance and putting one in. Coming here was my first flight south since the snows began. About 1/2 way here, the snow disappeared and the windows came open. The weather is nice down here - chilly in the mornings and nice afternoons in the 70's. the maintenance test flight area is over the red dessert, which is literally red sand - pretty neat! Xmas here was ok - again, not home. The food here is not as good as at Bagram. the guys here have been ordering food and have been cooking on a grill outside - Much better than the chow hall here. I have a busy day, more later!

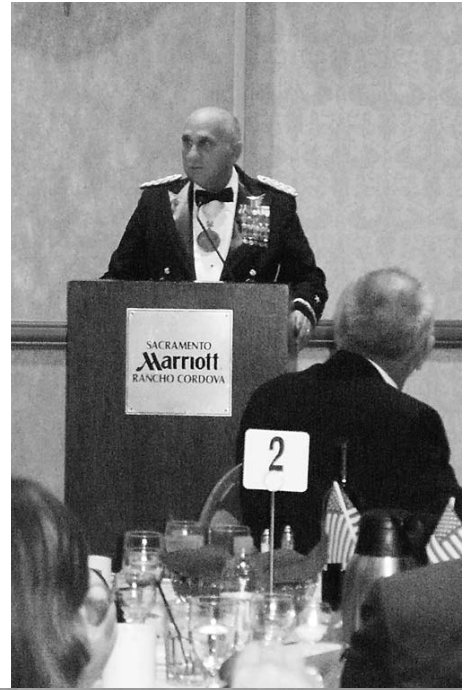
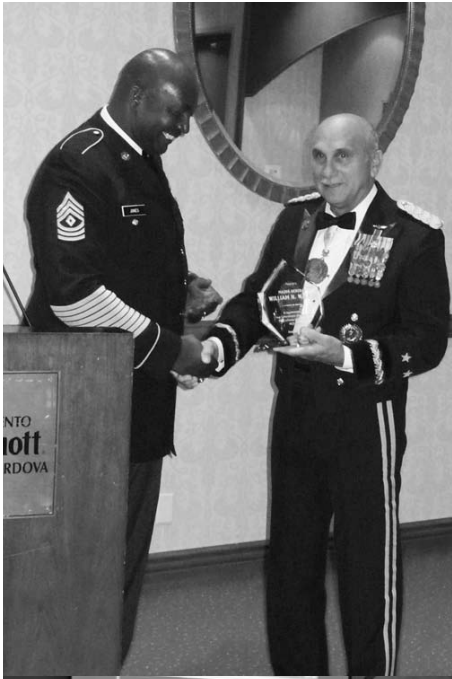
Have a Happy and Safe New Year

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



California National Guard Troop Support

*The following message was received by CSM John Jackson and was forwarded to many members in the Southern California area. The **Southern California Advisory Council** has supported this project twice with five hundred dollars of phone cards each time. CSM Jackson has worked and supported this organization not only with cash, but also with phone cards. It is just one of a few groups/organizations that are making a difference in the life of our Guardsmen and Guardswomen. We need to support them.*

Greetings -- Support Our Troops Team -- Happy New Year!!

During the 2008 holiday season, Support Our Troops sent over 500 much needed care packages to our homesick Heroes, thanks to you!!

From SGT Holly Butler, 1498th Transportation Co., 40th National Guard: We got packages! Thank you so much for all of the great stuff. The phone calling cards are like gold to the soldiers...it means a lot: I will take some pics of their smiling faces...I wish you could see for yourself the difference your organization and community are making over here.

*Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday!
- The Soldiers of the 1498th Trans. Co.*

With Valentine's Day 2009 approaching, Support Our Troops will be sending Valentine cards and letters, and prepaid global calling cards so our deployed service members can call their Valentines here at home.

If you would like to let our Troops know how special they are to us, we would greatly appreciate your Valentines cards and letters, and tax deductible monetary donations (made out to "Grace Community Church of Seal Beach", with "Troops" in the memo line, and mailed to the address below) for our purchase of global phone cards, by January 19 at the latest.

Thank you in advance for your continued support in 2009 as we reach across the miles to touch the hearts and lives of our brave Troops.

Best regards,
Laurie

--

Until they all come home, thank you for supporting our Heroes!

Laurie Fulton
Program Coordinator, Support Our Troops
Grace Community Church of Seal Beach
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Seal Beach, CA 90740
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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 SGM Felix Soto Felix.Soto1@us.army.mil	29 Cranwell Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-5267	(HM) 949-215-6071 (WK) 562-795-2501

**SMA OFFICERS
2008-2009**

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SGM (Ret) Andrew Strauss

Chapter V.P. Central

SFC Ernest Hall

Chapter V.P. North

CSM Vickie Dunlap-Jones

SMA Newsletter

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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/Cal-EANGUS
13-15 February 2009**

I N F O R M A T I O N

QUESTIONS: Members may call the following for any questions concerning the Mid-Year Meeting:

1SG Reggis Jones:	HM: 916-725-0390	CSM John Dearing (Ret)
	MBL: 559-804-5204	WK: 805-485-3175
	E-Mail: reginald.jones@us.army.mil	E-Mail: dearinger@aol.com

POTATO BAKE: Friday night potato back will be provided by SMA & CAL-EANGUS Auxiliary at a cost of \$5.00/person.

LUNCH: Lunch will be provided by the CAL-EANGUS and SMA Auxiliary at a cost of \$8.50/person.

DINNER: Barbecue Tri-Tip complete with all the usual trimmings will be served. The event will be at PARKER HALL at a cost of **\$13.00 for SPOUSE/GUESTS**. A member's registration fee for the Mid-Year Meeting will include their fee for the barbecue, **not for their spouse or guests**.

BREAKFAST: The Sunday morning breakfast will be supplied by the SMA and CAL-EANGUS Auxiliary at a cost of \$6.50/person

ALL EVENTS will take place at the NCO CLUB (Parker Hall), to include registration on Friday, 13 February 2009.

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 **1700-2100hrs on Friday, 13 February 2009** and on **Saturday, 14 February 2009 from 0700 -0800hrs**.

REGISTRATION FEES/TARIFFS: A REGISTRATION FEE OF **\$ 25.00** WILL BE CHARGED TO EACH MEMBER ATTENDING. This fee includes: coffee, refreshments, snacks, and barbecue. The guest tariff for non-members (ie: spouse) for the barbecue will be **\$13.00**. Lunch on Saturday will cost **\$8.50** per person and Breakfast on Sunday Morning will cost **\$6.50** per person. The Auxiliary will also be having a **POTATO BAKE** on Friday Night at a cost of **\$5.00/person** attending. This will be at the NCO Club.

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

**SFC (Ret) Charles Massicotte
7785 La Mirada Circle
Buena Park, CA. 90620-2306**

Any Questions regarding BILLETING call Maureen at CSLO Billeting, 805-594-6500