



Silicon Valley Chapter

Military Officers Association of America

The Bulletin



Volume IX Issue 1

January 2012

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The Chapter Board meets at 129th Support Group,
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Please direct all correspondence to above address

RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE (RAO)
Bldg 587 on Wescoat Court, 650-603-8047
Corner of Wescoat Rd and Wescoat Ct

LUNCHEON PROGRAM

19 January 2012

Social Hour: 11:00 AM

Luncheon: 11:45 AM

LCDR Desarae A. Janszen, USCG
Eleventh Coast Guard District

Coast Guard Operations in the San Francisco Area

Luncheon is \$24.00

See Back Page For Reservation Form and Directions

Happy New Year

**If you haven't renewed, this
will be your last Bulletin.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5 Jan	Board Meeting	10:00 AM
19 Jan	Luncheon	11:00 AM
2 Feb	Board Meeting	10:00 AM
16 Feb	Mt Umunhum	11:00 AM

Board Meetings Are Open To All Members
Board Minutes Are Available To Members From The Secretary

SVC WEB SITES

Our Chapter website is www.siliconvalleymoaa.org. You can also get to it from the national MOAA site: Put the cursor over Community, then click on Chapters and Councils, Council/Chapter Locator, CA, then Silicon Valley Chapter. From there you may link over to our primary website above. ☺

TRICARE SERVICE CENTER

The TRICARE service Center is located on Wescoat Court, in Building 587, Moffett Federal Airfield. Hours are M-F 0730-1630. Phone 1-888-874-9378. ☺

REPORTING DEATHS

Members can report the death of a retiree locally through the Retire Activity Office (RAO). The phone number is 650-603-8047.

You can also notify a MOAA member's death to: MOAA, Attn: MSC, 201 N Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314-2539.

Or: Call 1-800-234-6622

Or: E-mail: mhc@moaa.org.

Notify SVC-MOAA by phoning the Membership Chair – see listing on front page of The Bulletin. ☺

Thought For The Month

Love does not consist of two people looking at each other, but of two people looking in the same direction. ☺

JANUARY SPEAKER

The chapter's February speaker is LCDR DesaRae A. Janszen, USCG, Chief, Waterways Management Division, Coast Guard Sector, San Francisco, and is responsible for management of Vessel Traffic Service, Aids to Navigation, and Waterways Safety units for all of San Francisco Bay and the delta.

She will provide an overview of Coast Guard operations in the San Francisco area, including the upcoming America's Cup event set for the summers of 2012 and 2013.

The Eleventh Coast Guard District now includes 48 units and it employs over 2,600 active duty, reserve, and civilian employees. These resources carry out Search and Rescue, Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Marine Safety, and Aids to Navigation missions over 3.3 million square miles of water.

The Waterways Management Division coordinates the safe and efficient transit of vessels in San Francisco Bay: monitoring vessel movements, informing mariners of other vessels and potential hazards, recommending courses of action when the CG sees a situation the mariner may not have seen.

LCDR Janszen is a 1994 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy with a BS degree in Government, and she later earned advanced degrees in Business Administration and Communications. She has had extensive experiences at sea on board Coast Guard cutters and buoy tenders in both operational and humanitarian assignments. She has been an admiral's aide and public affairs officer in Hawaii

where she regularly conducted media interviews with CNN, NBC, and ABC. She is a selectee for promotion to Commander. ☺

Source: Biography

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Sometimes it's an unexpected telephone call in the night; there has been a death. Yet, huge numbers of people are not ready for the upcoming estate settlement requirements and the need to deal with the many end-of-life issues involved. Family survival might well be in jeopardy.

The chapter's November speaker was Jeanne K. Smith, an estate organization expert who owns and operates a Palo Alto firm called Exit Stage Right. "An estate is like a jigsaw puzzle," she said, "and all the pieces must be put into place."

There are two gifts members can give their families:

First, downsize now. Over time "stuff" is collected, and when death comes others will get all the material possessions. "You can't take it with you," she declared. She told stories of cluttered houses with literally tons of filed paper and all kinds of stuff in storage, much of which hadn't been used for years. People even hide things in the attic insulation or elsewhere. Get rid of stuff not needed, or stuff not used for a period of time, and particularly stuff that has been misplaced or not seen for a long time. The accumulation of material things is a major cause of stress and a source of difficulties for those

charged with estate management.

Second, have a conversation now. Families have been known to come apart when the deceased failed to plan effectively, provoking what Jeanne called, “the elephant in the room.” There is a need for an advance meeting with survivors, absolute transparency, a listing and location of assets, a briefing on disposition intent, all in advance and updated periodically. A completed MOAA Personal Affairs Handbook or equivalent, a record of personal information, possessions, investments, income, liabilities, and more, would be useful. There can be a huge generation gap and without advance guidance and certain agreements made ahead of time, children, and particularly blended families, could experience the kinds of difficulties that would fracture the family.

The administration of an estate can be a complex task requiring the services of attorneys, accountants, tax specialists, and other professionals. It’s a big job to locate the deceased’s legal and financial documents, organize assets and especially family memorabilia and photos, and facilitate disposition/distribution of personal belongings. Jeanne urged named estate executors to achieve full qualifications by becoming familiar with the job, identifying tasks in advance, and speaking with knowledgeable and experienced people. Advance preparation can help guarantee emotional support and peace of mind.

Jeanne’s advice to luncheon attendees was to “Plan as if you’re going to die tomorrow; live as if you’re going to live forever!” For

further information, contact Jeanne Smith at Exit Stage Right, P.O. Box 60794, Palo Alto, CA 94306, telephone (650) 493-3948, or by e-mail Jeanne@exitstageright.com, or see the website, www.exitstageright.com. ☺

Source: Speaker

NEW FORM FOR DEATH NOTIFICATIONS

Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials report that survivors can now use a “fast form” to report the passing of a retiree on the Internet rather than waiting on the phone.

The DFAS Form 9221 for notification of death can be processed quicker than faxed or mailed forms, said officials, and they save paper and postage costs. Officials warn that if a survivor doesn’t receive confirmation of receipt from DFAS within 48 hours of submitting the form, they should call 800-321-1080.

The form can be completed and submitted online from the privacy of a customer’s home, or with the help of a casualty assistance representative. Submitting the form initiates all of the same actions a DFAS customer care center representative would:

- The retiree’s account will be suspended to avoid release of monthly payments.

- A Standard Form 1174 claim form will be sent to the retiree’s arrears-of-pay beneficiary.

- If the decedent was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan or the Retired Serviceman’s Family

Protection Plan, an annuitant care package will be sent to the beneficiary.

The notification-of-death form is only for reporting the death of a military retiree. Annuitant deaths must still be reported to one of the DFAS customer care representatives at 800-321-1080.

To access the notification of death fast form, click on the link at www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html. ☺

AF Retiree News Service

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

On Wednesday, 2 November 2011, chapter member COL Tom Sakamoto, USA (RET) sat among hundreds of aging veterans in the nation’s capital as they watched Congress award Gold Medals, its highest honor, to their old units: the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Infantry Battalion,



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and the virtually unknown Military Intelligence Service.

Tom was in Washington to accept the honor to recognizing that Japanese-Americans were as loyal as anyone else at a time when the country was battling a Japanese foe abroad and that their imprisonment during the early years of the war was one of the abominations of U.S. civil rights history. ☹

Source: SJ Mercury Article

EXCHANGE SHOPPING

On February 2, 2008, the Moffett Field Navy Exchange closed, and with that the NEX I department store, NEX II garden center, the barbershop/beauty salon, gas station, and main gate mini-mart facilities all disappeared

Although the Moffett NEX is long gone and the nearest exchange is more than 70 miles distant, it's still possible to shop military exchanges with use of a computer. Today the exchanges operate on-line stores, providing full access to a wide variety of items.

Once a customer is confirmed as an authorized patron, access is granted into the online store where they can shop and purchase

merchandise. Once a transaction is completed, the site allows customers to track their purchases and the delivery process.

Authorized personnel can shop the Navy Exchange at www.mynavyexchange.com/, and AAFES at www.aafes.com/. ☹
NEX and AAFES Commands

OBITUARY

Chapter member Col. Edward F. Hoover, Jr., USAF-Ret, passed away December 1st at the age of 94.

He was born in Charleston, WV April 4, 1917, graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1940, then attended the Army Air Forces Flight School and received his wings in 1941.

During WWII he served in New Guinea and Italy flying B25s and A20s. He retired in 1963 and went on to work for Lockheed in California.

His wife Sarah, two sons, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren survive him. Ed and Sarah lived in Los Altos for 48 years. ☹

Source: Obituary

ROAD TO CHALUS

Note: Chapter Auxiliary Mrs. Lynn Prescott offers memories when she accompanied her husband MAJ Dana Prescott, USA, a military attaché, to Iran in 1948-51. Edited for space.

Geographically Iran is divided into two parts: south of the El-

burtz Mountain Range where there is little or no rainfall in the summers and north of the range where it is lush and almost tropical. The summer after I broke my leg we went on a camping trip on the shores of the Caspian with an eclectic and delightful group of friends: an Army Mission officer, Tex, and his English wife, Kay; Mary Gharagozlou, half Persian, half American and her Swiss husband, Jacques de Bouvier; Majid Bakhtiar, a Bakhtiar tribal chief, and his wife, Janet, half Persian, half French; and Barbara, a college-age niece visiting her uncle, our ambassador.

I had one last performance as the ingénue in "Arsenic and Old Lace" which the little theatre group we'd formed had produced, so Dana and I left for the Caspian a day after the others. The Chalus road up and through the mountains was another project started by the Old Shah and it was an impressive work still in progress. It made me wish I were a geologist because the rock strata exhibited in some of the cuts through the mountains displayed so many fascinating and different types and forms.

For a while the good gravel road followed along the rushing Karach River, rushing because this was early June and the snow in the mountains was melting, and as we gradually climbed higher and higher we lost sight of the river altogether. Occasionally we could look down on green patchworks of fields where some of the valleys had water. Our poor old Ford with its lopsided bumper was panting for breath by the time we reached the top of the pass and went through a long dark dripping tunnel. From the



time we left the tunnel and started the long descent to the sea, the scenery grew progressively more green and lush. By the time we reached Chalus on the Caspian Sea we seemed in a different country altogether. We gave our passes to the roadside guard and after twenty or thirty minutes of palaver and much copying into various little books, we were allowed to go on into the green and open village of Chalus.

The semi-tropical vegetation and houses made of wood with thatched roofs made the whole village seem like quite another country altogether. By our very presence we interrupted a schoolteacher and her class of some eight or ten children seated on the ground in a semi-circle in front of her. There seemed to be no books or paper and pencils. The shy and giggling children were delighted to see such unexpected strangers. The equally shy teacher was perhaps not quite as delighted to have her students jump up to follow us through the village. The winding paths and little wooden or bamboo fences were covered with lush vines and lined with hollyhocks.

Leaving the village of Chalus, we walked on over to the town of Chalus, one of several resort towns built by the Old Shah along the southern shores of the Caspian. The town of Chalus was a world apart from the village. It had a number of handsome houses, a fine hotel, a silk factory, paved roads, shops, and a newly constructed bridge over an inlet. The town had a decided Russian flavor with many of the signs in Russian. It was mostly empty, however, as the season had not yet started. To be continued.... ☺

Persian Version: Adventures in Iran by Lynn Cragin Prescott

ROTC AWARDS PROGRAM

According to ROTC Programs Chair, CWO4 Patrick Clark, USA (RET), the chapter has year-around contact with the cadres of two universities and eight high schools and their military science programs. Chapter support is through personal contact with program cadre, presentation of awards and certificates, and monetary donations for program needs.

“Typically, March through June are the busiest months working with the senior and junior ROTC cadres and cadets,” Pat notes. “Schools are visited, a MOAA ROTC medal is left with the cadre for cadet viewing, and coordination is made for future presentation. Each school has a presentation ceremony in which a chapter representative makes the presentation of the medal and certificate.”

According to Pat, “The school’s ceremony varies in pomp. They are different when it comes to having dinners and military balls, serving refreshments, and conduct of the award presentations. Chapter representatives are invited to attend and view the proceedings.”

The MOAA medal with a certificate will be awarded to an outstanding cadet in each of the university and high school programs annually. Congratulations to those very deserving cadets!

The two universities involved are

San Jose State University and Santa Clara University. High school junior ROTC programs covered include Andrew P. Hill, five schools within Campbell Unified High School District, Milpitas, Mt. Pleasant, Oak Grove, Silver Creek, William J. Overfelt and Yerba Buena.

CWO Clark says, “It is a pleasure to be associated with cadets who are highly dedicated to the ROTC and JROTC programs. They are young students who give their own time and strive to be the best military cadets. The cadet leaders are often outstanding leaders, a tribute to the very strong cadre staff and their teachings. Parents are also an important factor in the success and discipline of their sons and daughters.” ☺

Source: Chapter website



LUNCHEON GUEST

Continuing a board policy of inviting a Veteran with contemporary experience to the luncheon meetings, MSG Matt Michelson, USA, was a chapter guest in November and was introduced by CAPT Paul Barrish, USN (RET). Sergeant Michelson is a senior military science instructor at Santa Clara University.

Master Sergeant Matt Michelson was born in Fontana, California. He joined the Washington National Guard in 1992. He completed Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood. He completed the Korean Basic Language Course at the Defense

Continued on Page 6

Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey and, subsequently, Interrogation Specialist Advanced Individual Training at Fort Huachuca, AZ.

In 1995, MSG Michelson entered active duty and completed the Fire Support Specialist Advanced Individual Training. His duty positions included Platoon Forward Observer, Combat Observation/Lasing Team Sergeant, Company/Battalion/Squadron Fire Support Sergeants, First Sergeant, and Brigade Fires Operations Sergeant. His military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, Airborne School, Jumpmaster Course, Joint Firepower Course, and the Cadet Command Pre-Command Course.

His assignments include Fort Bragg, NC; Vicenza, Italy; Fort Carson, CO and Germany. He has deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom VIII and X with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

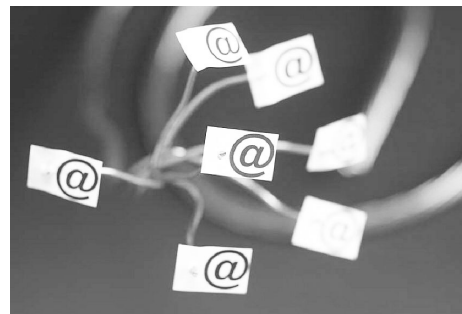
Chapter leaders will be working closely with MSG Michelson during the upcoming spring 2012 ROTC activities and awards season, and the opportunity to establish an effective relationship early-on is most appreciated. ☺

Source: SCU ROTC Detachment

E-MAIL ADDRESSES
The chapter recently received an impressive list of organi-

zations offering deep discounts to veterans on hardware, building materials, restaurant meals, and much more, and members with known e-mail addresses were promptly notified.

Chapter members who have not given their e-mail address and would like to receive short notice special events or issues announcements are invited to provide their e-mail address to COL Keith Giles, USAF-Ret, database administrator. Please send the e-mail address to ohsix@bikerider.com. Only chapter business related messages will be sent.



E-mail addresses sent to the chapter will be for chapter use only and will not be disclosed to others. Messages normally will be sent blind copy (bcc); others will not be able to obtain e-mail addresses from chapter messages. Chapter officials understand the importance and need for high levels of security; the addresses will be held in strict confidence.

Every effort will be made to post information in a timely fashion to our website, www.siliconvalleymoaa.org; members who choose not to provide e-mail addresses can watch for the postings there. ☺

Source: Board Minutes

NEW DIRECTOR

Lt. Col. Neil J. Miles, USAF-Ret, has volunteered to be the newest member of the chapter's Board of Directors. He will serve initially as Sergeant-at Arms.

Born in Chicago, he received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois, earned a MBS from Troy State, and later graduated from the Air War College.

He served as a F-4 Weapons Systems Officer in Thailand, the United Kingdom and in the New Jersey Air National Guard. On active duty he was Staff Air Liaison Officer for the 50th Armored Division, and as a member of the New Jersey Air Guard Headquarters staff he had a State mission role as the Deputy Chief of Air Operations for Civil Disturbances and Natural Disasters.

In the private sector, Neil performed varied program management duties, including the fabrication, assembly and test of spacecraft equipment and the launch of satellites.

He and his wife, Lorna, live in the San Jose East Foothills. ☺

Source: Biography

HOUSEHOLD TIP

Bananas: Peel a banana from the bottom and you won't have to pick the little 'stringy things' off of it. Also, take your bananas apart when you get home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem, they ripen faster. ☺

Taddled from RAO E-Mail

RENEW - You need 2012 on your label

**Silicon Valley Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
Mail to: SVC-MOAA, P.O. Box 2, Moffett Federal Airfield, CA 94035**

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Date _____ Enroll Me As: New Member _____ Renewing Member _____ Aux Member _____

Annual Dues: **\$26.00** \$ _____

(Auxiliary – Dues are not charged, donations gratefully accepted)

Donations to SVC Fund \$ _____ Donations to Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Donations to PAWS \$ _____ Donation to USO \$ _____

(All Donations are Tax Deductible)

Total: \$ _____ Make checks payable to SVC-MOAA and mail to above address. Please complete all applicable blanks

Status: Active _____ Reserve _____ Guard _____ Retired _____ Former Officer _____ Widow(er) _____

Name: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____
Last First MI Rank Service

Address: _____ / _____
Number Street (P.O. Box, etc.) Apt/Suite

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ / _____ Spouse's Name _____
5 Digit 4 Digit

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

SVC Dues are due 1 January and are separate from National MOAA Dues. SVC Dues support the Bulletin and Administrative functions. Luncheons are self supporting. Dues are not prorated. Donations can be made to the Silicon Valley Chapter's general fund and/or the various funds listed above.

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January 2012

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DIRECTIONS: *Going North on Hwy 101:* Exit at Montague/San Tomas, then Montague; then Right on Laurelwood. *Going South on Hwy 101:* Exit at Montague/San Tomas, then Montague, then Right on Laurelwood.

-----Cut Here-----Cut Here-----



******LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM******
Deadline to reach SVC no later than 13 January 2012
If you have not sent in your reservation form by the
above date and still wish to attend,
please call Jay Craddock, 650-968-0446
LUNCHEON PRICE - \$24.00
Times: Social Hour 11:00 AM, Luncheon 11:45 AM



Please reserve _____ places for the **19 January 2012 Luncheon**
A TOTAL of \$ _____ including a donation of \$ _____ for (circle one) Scholarship, PAWS or undesignated donation

Make checks payable to: PROGRAM CHAIRMAN
Mail to: LTC Jay Craddock, 1448 Fallen Leaf Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024-5809

RESERVE IN THE NAME OF: _____

Telephone: _____

MENU: Buffet - Two hot entrees with vegetables. Assorted breads and rolls. Desserts. Coffee and tea.

NAMES OF PERSONS WHO ARE INCLUDED IN YOUR PAYMENT

|
