



Silicon Valley Chapter

Military Officers Association of America

The Bulletin



Volume VIII Issue 6

June 2011

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

LUNCHEON PROGRAM

16 June

Social Hour: 11:00 AM

Luncheon: 11:45 AM

LTC Jay Craddock, USAF


Alaskan Reminiscences

Luncheon is \$24.00

See Back Page For Reservation Form and Directions

GONE FISHIN'

The Monterey Bay Veterans, Inc., held its 24th annual wheelchair salmon fishing tournament May 14th when disabled veterans and wounded troops from all over the United States were invited to compete for the biggest fish. As in past years, the chapter made a \$50 donation to help defray expenses for the event.

Participants were able to spend a day at sea, fishing and bonding with other disabled veterans, and in the evening enjoy a very nice awards banquet. The fishing derby is a nationally recognized “diversion therapy” rehabilitation. 

Source: Derby Announcement

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2 June	Board Meeting	10:00 AM
16 June	Luncheon	11:00 AM
7 July	Board Meeting	10:00 AM
21 July	Military Photography	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: msc@moaa.org.

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

Thought For The Month

Absence makes the heart go wander. ☺

THE PREZ SEZ

I have just received a resignation from our Board from Commander Robert Smith due to a serious illness. Bob has served as our Secretary for many years and has also helped Keith as a proof reader for the Bulletin.

We appreciate his service and our Prayers are for his recovery. We hope to see Bob and Frances at our Luncheons as long as his health will allow. Good Luck, Bob. ☺

Jay

JUNE SPEAKER

The June speaker will be chapter president, Lt. Col. Jay Craddock, USAF-Ret, who was tasked by the California Air National Guard to fly passengers and high value cargo to some of the far reaches of Alaska. He piloted a C-47 to Barrow in the summer of 1951. He and his crew departed the Hayward ANG base for McChord AFB in Washington State in order to undergo special Arctic survival training and load safety equipment. He continued to Ketchikan and then Juneau where he took on passengers and cargo, then it was on to Anchorage, Bethel, Nome, Kotzebue, Fairbanks, and ultimately Pt. Barrow. He later returned by pretty much the same route. Jay will tell some interesting stories of Alaska and its people as well as show unpublished photos of the days when Alaska Airlines was flying the same model aircraft but known to many as the ubiquitous Douglas DC-3, the "Starliner,"

Barrow is situated 340 miles

north of the Arctic Circle and probably the northernmost city in the world. In the good old days Alaska Airlines pilots flying into Barrow would often lightly "bump" the control column and then explain to passengers over the PA that the sensation they felt was caused by "running over the Arctic Circle." Jay will likely explain what he had to do to qualify for his May 26, 1951 entry into the "Order of the Top of the World—Arctic Circle," a journey to the gates of the top of the world. His certificate to be displayed at the luncheon was signed by the Prince of the Imperial Empire of His Majesty Boreas Rex.

The Douglas C-47 Skytrain or Dakota is a twin-engine military transport aircraft that was developed from the DC-3 airliner and it was used extensively by the Allies during World War II. It remained in front line operations through the 1950s and there are a few still flying today. The C-47 was fitted with a cargo door and strengthened floor and was used primarily for the transport of troops, cargo and wounded. Navy personnel knew the aircraft as the R4D.

Members will hear stories about how Jay's aircraft engines, while flying close to a snow-covered mountain, caused a major avalanche, and how at Bethel he had to hand-pump more than 700 gallons of fuel because of the lack of infrastructure. He will describe sights like gold dredges operating at the edge of the Nome runway, and children falling asleep right in the middle of the Barrow streets, having been up late because the sun was still shining at 2:30am.

Jay saw railroad boxcars mounted on skis moved to more distant areas where oil had been discovered; the boxcars were used for oil drilling crew housing.

Jay was more than qualified to fly into the Alaska interior even without a route pilot or guide. At the end of the Second World War he was told to go home and with that he flew his B-25 from Italy to Marrakech, Morocco, across the Atlantic to the coast of South America via Ascension Island, north to Puerto Rico and finally Savannah, Georgia, with one six-and-a-half hour leg of ocean flight navigating by compass and dead-reckoning. The June presentation is shaping up to be one exciting Alaskan flight adventure. ☺

Source: Biography

APRIL SPEAKER

The chapter's April luncheon speaker was Bulletin editor Col Keith Giles, USAF-Ret, who provided an entertaining multi-media presentation featuring his September 2009 cycling trip with an Elderhostel group along the southern coast of Sicily. For about 12 days they explored the mountains and beaches by both bicycle and motor coach.

The start point was at Caltagirone, a mountain city known for its pottery. Keith's first image was that of a quaint narrow one-lane street or alley where the B&B was located. On a day trip to Catania he rode a tour vehicle that looked like a toy train, but because of the language barrier he was frustrated

and learned little. But the coffee and sweets hit the spot.

Back in Caltagirone members of the tour group were required to demonstrate that they could ride a bike, making right and left turns and stopping. But soon the group was riding downhill and exploring agricultural greenhouses and fish landings. A day trip to Agrigento provided a chance to visit an ancient Greek ruins site.

The tour continued toward the southernmost point of land. Keith said his bicycle was like driving a truck (you weren't allowed to use your own bike). And at one point he observed that the people seemed very small; Keith, a short man himself, for once looked down on people, and that was quite an experience. Ragusa was a memorable stop—the site of the jumble of houses, churches and civic palazzo plus the Church of St. George was typical. There was a sign depicting a snail with the words “Slow Food,” a European response to America's fast food. Not far south of Noto was a monument which provided information about the WWII invasion of Sicily.

The allied invasion of Sicily, codenamed Operation Husky, was a major WWII campaign in which the Allies took Sicily from the Axis. It was a large scale amphibious and airborne operation, followed by six weeks of land combat. The overall commander was General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Husky began on the night of 9-10 July, 1943 and ended 17 August, ultimately driving Axis air, land, and naval forces from the island and opening the way to the Allied invasion of Italy. The Husky plan called for an amphibious

landing by General Patton's Seventh Army on the central southern coast and General Montgomery's British Eighth Army on the southeastern coast.

The bikers turned north up the east coast observing abandoned farm buildings, an abandoned fish factory, Greek ruins, and magnificent Baroque architecture. Keith's images of Siracusa included an extensive fish market plus an outstanding archeological park featuring a giant Greek amphitheater seating 10,000 and a modern church known as the “orange juicer” because of its tower design. ☺

Source: Speaker Presentation

INTRODUCING

WO4 Patrick Clark, AUS (RET), Chair, ROTC Awards and Recognition Committee, for years has been busy with others near the end of the academic year making presentations at south bay universities, colleges, and high



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schools. It is a delight to meet high performing and high potential cadets, award MOAA achievement medals, and well-earned certificates of achievement.

Pat joined the U.S. Army in May 1961 and served on active duty until June 1964, with 13 months in Korea. In the summer of 1965 he entered West Valley College and transferred to San Jose State where he received the BA degree in Chinese History with a minor in Philosophy. He continued another year and in 1971 received the MA in Chinese History and a minor in Modern European History. While in college he worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad.

In November 1971 he entered the Army Reserves and over time served with the 7th PSYOPS Group, the 351st Civil Affairs Command, and finally the 4th Battalion, 104th Division at Moffett Field. His specialty was counterintelligence. His diverse assignments included planning exercises such as TEAM SPIRIT; writing war plans for 2nd Infantry Division, Tonduchon, Korea; and, helping to mobilize troops to Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo. He later joined the staff of the U.S. Army Intelligence School at Ft. McArthur, CA, and taught subjects such as intelligence analysis, order of battle, and combat interrogation. Upon retirement in July 2002 Pat was awarded the Legion of Merit for which he is grateful, and was proud that his papers were signed by General Shinseki.

In the mid-1980s Pat worked for a defense contractor and traveled the world teaching tactical command and control systems. In 1986 he went to work as a special agent for what ultimately became the Federal

Investigative Service. He plans to retire 31 December 2011. ☺

Source: Biography

ID CARDS

Beginning June 1st, DOD will drop Social Security numbers from military ID cards, according to the Pentagon's Maj. Monica Matoush, USAF. It's part of an effort to protect service members from identity theft.

Criminals use Social Security numbers to steal identities, allowing them to steal resources, establish credit or to hijack credit cards, bank accounts or debit cards.

Currently, the Social Security number is printed on the back of common access cards, and on the front of cards issued to dependents and retirees. Beginning in June, when current cards expire, they will be replaced with new cards having a DOD identification number replacing the Social Security number, officials said. The DOD number is a unique 10-digit number that is assigned to every person with a direct relationship with the department. The new number also will be the service member's Geneva Convention identification number.

An 11-digit DOD benefits number also will appear on the cards of those people eligible for DOD benefits. The first nine digits are

The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran. ☺

common to a sponsor, the official said, and the last two digits will identify a specific person within the sponsor's family.

Social Security numbers imbedded in the bar codes on the back of identification cards will remain there for the time being, and will be phased out beginning in 2012.

DOD will replace ID cards as they expire. If a member has a card showing "Indefinite" a new card will be issued upon request, or the member can continue to use the current card.

"Because cards will be replaced upon expiration, it will be approximately four years until all cards are replaced with the DOD ID number," Matoush said.

The identity protection program began in 2008, when DOD started removing Social Security numbers from family member identification cards. ☺

Source: American Forces Press Service

A FAILING PROGRAM

The young soldier headed for pre-deployment training at Fort Hunter Liggett in Monterey County arrived at San Jose International Airport very tired, hungry, and short of funds, and still had to endure a three hour layover. Wouldn't it be something if that soldier could be offered a pleasant place to relax, a cold drink, and something to eat?

Located in the new Terminal B is the attractive United Services Organization (USO) facility which is open most hours to serve traveling armed forces personnel and their

dependents. Short of resources, the staff is able to provide a comfortable rest area and occasionally limited refreshments, far short of the need.

On that basis, chapter member CDR Denise McCallaCreary, USN (RET), initiated a program whereby Moffett Commissary patrons would purchase and donate certain food items and place them in on-site barrels for later delivery to the airport USO. But the program is failing. A recent inspection of the barrels showed no food donations, just a lot of trash.

It's time for Plan B. The need is there and it's very real. Members are invited to make a cash donation, if only \$5 or \$10, which will be used by chapter leaders to purchase and deliver certain specific foods for distribution to San Jose USO visitors. USO personnel have asked for beverages such as canned soft drinks, boxed juices, boxed chocolate milk, single serving hot chocolate as well as snacks such as single serving potato chips, miniature chocolate bars, cereal, oatmeal, Top Ramen specialties, and Cup-'o-Soup products.

It's easy to make a donation. Simply include an added amount with a luncheon reservation form, indicating that the donation is for the USO food program, or send a check to Lt. Col. Jay Craddock, USAF-Ret, 1448 Fallen Leaf Lane, Los Altos, CA 94024-5809, telephone number (650) 968-0446. Be sure to write on the check that it is a USO food program donation.

Service members deploying overseas will enjoy the mess hall buffet table offerings once they arrive at Hunter Liggett, Camp Roberts or other destinations. But

the pickings can be slim before they get there. It can be a real joy to know that donated dollars can make life just a bit better for some who soon will be fighting America's wars. ☹

Source: Board Minutes

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

At the April luncheon, CAPT Paul Barrish, USN (RET), Chair, Scholarship Committee, presented a \$1,000 award to Santa Clara University Bronco Battalion Cadet Larry Situ.

Originally from Los Angeles, Cadet Situ was accepted to San Jose State University as a Justice Studies major and commutes across town to participate in the Santa Clara ROTC program. Larry serves as Cadet First Sergeant. He is a graduate of a leadership training course at Fort Knox, is currently team captain for Ranger Challenge, has been a member of the color guard team, and has volunteered at the Palo Alto Veterans Medical Center. He is fluent in Cantonese. The Justice Studies program was attractive as a road to advanced leadership training and the law enforcement field. Larry expects to be commissioned upon graduation and would like to serve as an infantry or armor officer.

Cadet Situ said, "Thank you for the lunch and the scholarship. I want to serve my country and give something back to the community."

Also in attendance was U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel John Tao, Santa Clara University Professor of Military Science. He asked for continuing support. He provided each member with

a very nice steel water bottle with ROTC markings. LTC Tau has accepted a membership to national MOAA and is a new Silicon Valley Chapter member as well. ☹

Source: Luncheon Presentation

THANK YOU NOTE

U. S. Navy Petty Officer First Class Shaun Fernandez was the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship award presented at the March luncheon meeting. This is a statement of gratitude he sent to the chapter through CAPT Paul Barrish, USN (RET), Chair, Scholarship Committee.

"I'd like to thank you and your organization for the award. That lunch also really hit the spot. I really appreciate it. I just finished up my "Intro to Business" class with an 'A' and am still pressing away with History 2. I am making it a point to finish up my BS before I transfer. I recently made the selection board for CPO and LDO so I'll be hoping for some good news within the next few months. I'm going to stay optimistic, but if not this year there is always next year. Again, thank you so much." ☹

Source: Letter to Chapter

AIR FORCE ROTC DINING-IN

The San Jose State University Air Force ROTC detachment considers its combat dining -in to be the highlight of its annual activities, and it is customary for the Santa

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Clara University Bronco Battalion cadets to be invited and participate. In 2011 this event was at Moffett Field on April 29th at the Air National Guard 129th Rescue Wing hangar 2. The dining-in tradition began many years ago in England as a custom practiced in monasteries and early universities, and with the advent of the Officers' Mess, the British military establishment adopted the custom.

The Silicon Valley Chapter board has donated \$500 to help cover costs.

The dining-in is a dinner for members of a military organization, providing officers an opportunity to meet in a social setting. Given that active duty after graduation for most of these cadets will have them joining in combat or combat support activities, in this "combat dining in" the ROTC cadets were attired in fatigue uniforms and the professional ROTC staff and guests wore flight suits.

The dinner menu consisted of three courses. Toasts and challenges with verbal acknowledgements were mostly solemn and occasionally hilarious. Activities included a pre-dinner social period, the formal dinner with SVC Vice President and Scholarship Chair, CAPT Paul Barrish USN (RET), as speaker, followed by an informal period which was used for games and other entertainment.

Lt. Col. Rick G. Moxley, USAF, Commander, AFROTC Detachment 45 at San Jose State University, has expressed the appreciation of his cadets for the SVC generous gift in support of this activity. ☺

Source: Officer's Guide and field reports

MILITARY SERVICE

You can leave the military, but it never really leaves you. Occasionally, I venture back to Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi, where I'm greeted by an imposing security guard who looks carefully at my identification card, hands it back and says, "Have a good day, Chief." Every time I go back to any Navy Base it feels good to be called by my previous rank, but odd to be in civilian clothes, walking among the servicemen and servicewomen going about their duties as I once did, many years ago. The military is a comfort zone for anyone who has ever worn the uniform. It's a place where you know the rules and know they are enforced, a place where everybody is busy, but not too busy to take care of business.

There exists behind the gates of every military facility an institutional understanding of respect, order, uniformity, accountability and dedication that becomes part of your marrow and never, ever leaves you. Personally, I miss the fact that you always knew where you stood in the military, and who you were dealing with. That's because you could read somebody's uniform from 20 feet away and know the score. Service personnel wear their careers on their sleeves, so to speak. When you approach each other, you can read their name tag, examine their rank and, if they are in dress uniform, read their ribbons and know where they've served.

I miss all those little things you take for granted when you're in the ranks, like breaking starch on a set of fatigues fresh from the laundry and standing in a perfectly straight line military formation that looks like a

mirror as it stretches to the endless horizon. I miss the sight of troops marching in the early morning mist, the sound of boot heels thumping in unison on the tarmac, the bark of drill instructors and the sing-song answers from the squads as they pass by in review.

To romanticize military service is to be far removed from its reality, because it's very serious business, especially in times of war. But I miss the salutes I'd throw at officers and the crisp returns as we crisscrossed with a "by your leave sir".

I miss the smell of jet fuel hanging heavily on the night air and the sound of engines roaring down runways and disappearing into the clouds. The same while on carrier duty. I even miss the hurry-up-and-wait mentality that enlisted men gripe about constantly, a masterful invention that bonded people more than they'll ever know or admit. I miss people taking off their hats when they enter a building, speaking directly and clearly to others and never showing disrespect for rank, race, religion or gender. Mostly, I miss being a small cog in a machine so complex it constantly circumnavigates the Earth and so simple it feeds everyone on time, three times a day, on the ground, in the air or at sea.

I don't know anyone who has served who regrets it, and doesn't feel a sense of pride when they pass through those gates and re-enter the world they left behind with their youth. Any man or woman who may be asked in this century what they did to make life worthwhile in their lifetime....can respond with a great deal of pride and satisfaction, "I served a career in the United States Navy." ☺

Ken Burger/Charleston Post & Courier

Silicon Valley Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
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June 2011

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LOCATION – BILTMORE HOTEL – 2151 LAURELWOOD RD, SANTA CLARA, CA

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.

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*****LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM*****

Deadline to reach SVC no later than 10 June

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 **16 June Luncheon**
A TOTAL of \$ _____ including a donation of \$ _____ for (circle one) Scholarship, PAWS, USO 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

|
|