

# AltaGram

Alta California Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
November-December 2011



Photo by R. Schultz

*Presidents Message continued-*

Honored World War 1 veterans. After having been through both World War 11 and the Korean War, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of veterans service organizations, amended the act of 1938 by striking out the word Armistice and inserting the word Veterans.

Finally, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The difference between Veterans Day and Memorial day is: Memorial Day honors service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle. Deceased veterans are also remembered on Veterans Day, but the day is set aside to thank and honor veterans who served honorably in the military in wartime or peacetime.

## **MAJ Clint Andreasen USAF**

**President, Alta California Chapter**

## **45th Anniversary Affiliate Award**

Presenting President Clint Andreasen with the award is LTC Bob Huss, Director of NorCal Council of Chapters.



## **President's Message**



MAJ Andreasen

With the recent passing of Veterans Day I found the following article in the

Military .com November 9 update. It will be the subject of this message:

Veterans Day gives Americans the opportunity to celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. Veterans. However, most Americans confuse this holiday with Memorial Day, reports the Department of Veterans Affairs. What is more, some Americans do not know why we commemorate our veterans on November 11. It is imperative that all Americans know the history of Veterans Day so that we can honor our former service members properly.

### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY**

Veterans day was formerly known as Armistice Day and was originally set as a U.S. to honor the end of World War 1, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. Legislation was passed in 1938 found that November 11 was dedicated to the cause of world peace and to hereafter be celebrated and known as Armistice Day. As such, this new legal holiday

## **December Meeting at Lake Wildwood Club House**

**DATE: 7 December**

**TIME; 11:00 Hours**

### **Menu**

A choice of:

1. Chicken Cordon Bleu with a light sauce, wild rice and seasoned vegetables

**Or**

2. Rolled pork tenderloin stuffed with gouda cheese and spinach

**Or**

3. A veggie meal can be provided

Rolls and butter, chocolate mouse with peppermint candles and coffee at the table is included

**Cost \$20 per person**

**Entertainment by  
Lake Wildwood Women's Chorus**

Please make reservations and **STATE MENU CHOICE** by contacting LTC Dewey Mostad on or before

**1 December.** [dewmos80@att.net](mailto:dewmos80@att.net)

Or call 530-822-0364

### **Directions to Lake Wildwood**

From Route 20, follow Pleasant Valley Road to main gate of Lake Wildwood using the inside lane. Present names to guard who will have a list which is why reservations are necessary. Proceed ahead to first stop sign, turn right to club house. LTC Bev Barnett has arranged for the shuttle at the parking lot to take members and guests **UP** to the Club House and back when the meeting is over.

**ALTA CALIFORNIA CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

**Minutes of  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING November  
1, 2011- Recci Point**

**Members Present: President: MAJ Clint Andreasen, Secretary COL Jim Buchan, Treasurer, LTC Dan Jacuzzi, Past President LTC Mort Jarvis, Membership LTC Shirley Schultz, Auxiliary Liaison Sonya Woods, Reservations LTC Dewey Mostad, Alta Gram Assistant Editor MAJ Bill Clark**

1. **Call to Order-1310 hours**
2. **Approval of Minutes- October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting**  
Motion to approve the October minutes was made by Auxiliary Woods and seconded by LTC Schultz. It was unanimously approved.

**3. Reports**  
**A. Treasurers Report. LTC Dan Jacuzzi**

1. **Bank Balance**  
1 Sep 2011 = \$2,310.59
2. **Annual Meeting Report**  
41 members and a guest were present.  
Dining Profit - \$74.46  
Raffle Profit 35.92  
Beverage Profit 61.70  
**TOTAL MEETING PROFIT \$172.08**

**3. Gratuity**

Should the Alta Chapter pay a gratuity in addition to the bill as presented? A discussion was held, and we will check with other organizations that hold their meetings in the Plaza Room to see if they pay a gratuity in addition to the bill as presented.

NOTE: The Rotary Club that meets there weekly does NOT pay a gratuity. There belief is that if the Plaza Room wants a gratuity, they should put it in the bill.

4. **Dues Collection to date**  
10 Members Paid Dues \$200.00  
1 Auxiliary Paid Dues 10.00  
**TOTAL DUES RECEIVED \$210.00**

5. A motion was made by LTC Schultz and seconded by LTC Mostad to accept the Treasurer's report. It was passed unanimously.

**B. Membership – Lt Col. Shirley Schultz**

1. **Membership Renewals**  
Members Renewed 28  
Auxiliary Renewed 3  
New Member 1  
Possible Renewals 161  
**Total Possible Members 193**

Minutes 1 Nov 2011 continued

2. **New member form was distributed**

3. **Membership Eligibility.**
  - a. Members – anyone who served as an officer in any military branch of the service
  - b. Auxiliary member is a widow or widower of a member. If the member was a Life Member of MOAA, the widow or widower the membership continues but with a different membership number.
  - c. Motion was made Auxiliary Woods to remove MAJ Dean Munson from Treasurer and add MAJ Mackensen. It was seconded by LTC Mostad and unanimously carried.
  - d. Motion by LTC Schultz and seconded by LTC Mostad to accept David Capito as a new member was unanimously passed.

**C. Auxiliary- Sonya Woods**  
Auxiliary Woods requested that members and auxiliary bring homemade cookies to the December meeting. They will be given to Beale AFB for the single airmen who are away from home on Christmas.  
**See Opn Warm Heart p.3**

4. **New Business**
  - A. **Approval of New Bill**  
Printing and Postage \$179.94  
Reservation Phone 9.61  
Wine for lunch 32.17

A motion to accept these new bills was made by LTC Schultz and seconded by COL Buchan, and it was passed unanimously..

- B. **Holiday Meeting**
  1. **Installation of 2012 Officer-**  
Change of officers was discussed.
  2. **Do we have a First VP Candidate?**

3. **Operation Warm Hear**  
A donation to Operation Warm Heart was discussed by charging \$20 for the luncheon. Members wishing to donate to Operation Warm Heart should bring checks to the Holiday meeting.

4. **MOAA Scholarship Fund**  
This is a National MOAA scholarship, and in the past the Alta Chapter has donated \$250. It was moved by LTC Schultz and seconded by COL Buchan that the Alta Chapter pay this donation after 1 Jan 2012. Motion passed.

Minutes 1 Nov 2011 continued

5. **Old Business**
  - A. **Stand Down Banner, Do we have it Redone?**

The banner that we have been using has Walmart on the banner with MOAA. Walmart did not do much for the Stand Down, and the discussion was about removing Walmart from the banner.

**B. Sign Painting Vendor?**

The matter was discussed, and the consensus was that we have Jack Wilbanks at he Golden Rule sign company make the change

**C. Better location of booth?**

Discussion was held.

**6. Next Board Meeting -  
January 3, 2012**



COL Bob Downs receives a certificate from President Clint Andreasen for his many years as Editor of the Alta Gram. The Executive Committee hopes that Bob will continue to send us his **Downs Beat** column.



## LTC Eric Hellberg

LTC Eric Hellberg passed away on 23 October surrounded by his family members. Born 78 years ago on Long Island in Lynbrook, NY, Eric retired from the Air Force after serving 30 years.

He was the youngest aircraft commander in the Strategic Air Command, and he flew 80 combat missions in the Vietnam War. On one such mission, he was credited with locating, protecting and coordinating the rescue of a downed B-52 crew in the South China Sea. He received many military awards which included multiple Air Medals and the Bronze Star. He flew 6,500 flight hours.

After retiring from the Air Force, LTC Hellberg and his wife, his high school sweetheart, Teresa, settled in Yuba City and began a new career working for the City of Yuba City as its purchasing agent. He retired from city government work in 1995. In 1998 he was elected to the City Council and re-elected in 2002. In 2006, Eric was the Mayor of Yuba City, and at the end of the term LTC Hellberg was recognized as the Outstanding Veteran of the year for both Sutter and Yuba Counties. He was a staunch supporter of the development of Gauche Aquatic Park and the renovation of Plumas Street in downtown Yuba City.

When asked of what he was most proud, he answered: "My loving wife, my family, my country, our city, my belief in God as my savior and almost 50 years of public service." Eric was a voice for the people and a real patriot.

Eric is survived by his wife of 57 years, Teresa, their four children: Eric, Craig, Mark and Karin; a grandson, Adrian and a grand-daughter, Mary.

## OPERATION WARM HEART AT BEALE AFB

Operation Warm Heart is a program designed to assist both military and civilian personnel assigned to the base. The goal is to provide financial assistance and emotional support to base personnel and families during times of need and transition.

More than 500 families benefit directly through grants based on need and their respective First Sergeant's advice with Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets and gifts to enhance their holidays. Warm Heart also funds and supports a number of community programs sponsored and organized by the Airman & Family Readiness Center which include:

**Quarterly Hearts Apart Dinner** - Spouses/families of deployed personnel are given a night out and special recognition.

**Heart Link** - This is an orientation for new military spouses focusing on introducing them to the Air Force and various support agencies with assistance from senior leadership for this superb program.

**Spouse Appreciation Day** - This special day is designated to provide spouses an opportunity to receive life education and most importantly stress management techniques. This is organized by the caring personnel at the Airman & Family Readiness Center.

**Volunteer Appreciation Day** - This event recognizes the selfless contributions of our Warriors. A BBQ is organized for those nominated by their First Sergeants and award these people for their thoughtful actions.

**Beale Family Day** - Dozens of military displays and demonstrations educate the families to what their father, mother, husband, or wife do on a daily basis. A hamburger and/or hot dog lunch is served free of charge.

**Holiday Meals for Families of Deployed Troops** - Free Thanksgiving and Christmas meals are provided for the families of deployed members at Team Beale's own, Contrails Inn Dining Facility.

**Angel Tree Augmentation** - Operation Warm Heart supplements the gift baskets for the children of low income Team Beale families.

**Team Beale's Annual Cookie Caper** - A program designed to provide a small "Thank You" gift for all Team Beale Warriors residing in the dormitories. A "cookie/sweets" basket is constructed and provided to every resident. On average, over 5,000 cookies are made and given to our unaccompanied troops.

**Operation Warm Heart raises money through a variety of endeavors to include:**

On-Base fund raisers such as the First Sergeants commissary bagging event - Combined Federal Campaign contributions - Beale Military Liaison Committee's letter writing campaign to the local community - Squadron Booster Club Donations - Private donations from civilian, active duty and retired military members (**MOAA members**) A tremendous number of donations come from gracious community partners and private citizens

## **Will You give this to my Daddy?**

As a Company, Southwest Airlines is going to support 'Red Fridays.'

Last week I was in Atlanta , Georgia attending a conference. While I was in the airport, returning home, I heard several people behind me beginning to clap and cheer. I immediately turned around and witnessed One of the greatest acts of patriotism I have ever seen.

Moving thru the terminal was a group of soldiers in their camos. As they began heading to their gate, everyone (well almost everyone) was abruptly to their feet with their hands waving and cheering.

When I saw the soldiers, probably 30-40 of them, being applauded and Cheered for, it hit me. I'm not alone.

I'm not the only red-blooded American who still loves this country and supports our troops and their families. Of course I immediately stopped and began clapping for these young unsung heroes who are putting their lives on the line everyday for us so we can go to school, work and home without fear or reprisal.

Just when I thought I could not be more proud of my country or of our Service men and women, a young girl, not more than 6 or 7 years old ran up to one of the male soldiers. He kneeled down and said 'hi...'

The little girl then asked him if he would give something to her daddy for her...

The young soldier, who didn't look any older than maybe 22 himself, said he would try and what did she want to give to her daddy. Then suddenly the little girl grabbed the neck of this soldier, gave him the biggest hug she could muster and then kissed him on the cheek.

The mother of the little girl, who said her daughter's name was Courtney, told the young soldier that her husband was a Marine and had been in Iraq for 11 months now. As the mom was explaining how much her daughter Courtney missed her father, the young soldier began to tear up.

When this temporarily single mom was done explaining her situation, all of the soldiers huddled together for a brief second... Then one of the other servicemen pulled out a military-looking walkie-talkie. They started playing with the device and talking back and forth on it..

After about 10-15 seconds of this, the young soldier walked back over to Courtney, bent down and said this to her, 'I spoke to your daddy and he told me to give this to you.' He then hugged this little girl that he had just met and gave her a kiss on the cheek. He finished by saying 'your daddy told me to tell you that he loves you more than anything and he is coming home very soon.'

The mom at this point was crying almost uncontrollably and as the young soldier stood to his feet, he saluted Courtney and her mom. I was standing no more than 6 feet away from this entire event.

As the soldiers began to leave, heading towards their gate, people resumed their applause. As I stood there applauding and looked around, there were very few dry eyes, including my own. That young soldier in one last act of selflessness turned around and blew a kiss to Courtney with a tear rolling down his cheek.

We need to remember everyday all of our soldiers and their families and thank God for them and their sacrifices. At the end of the day, it's good to be an American.

**RED FRIDAYS** ----- Very soon, you will see a great many people wearing red every Friday. The reason?

Americans who support our troops used to be called the 'silent majority'. We are no longer silent, and are voicing our love for God, country and home in record breaking numbers.

Our idea of showing solidarity and support for our troops with dignity and respect starts this Friday - and continues each and every Friday until the troops all come home, sending a deafening message that.. Every red-blooded American who supports our men and women afar will wear something red.

If every one of us who loves this country will share this with acquaintances, co-workers, friends, and family. It will not be long before the USA is covered in RED.

The first thing a soldier says when asked 'What can we do to make things better for you?' is.....We need your support and your prayers.

Let's get the word out and lead with class and dignity, by example.



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**NOVEMBER DECEMBER ALTA GRAM**



**DECEMBER MEETING AT LAKE WILDWOOD CLUB HOUSE. YOUR 2012 DUES ARE NOW DUE**

***The Alta Gram***

is the newsletter of Alta California Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America

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[www.cal-moaa.org/chapters/alta-california/](http://www.cal-moaa.org/chapters/alta-california/)

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