

# MOAA Santa Cruz

NOVEMBER 2011

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY: COL WALT WESTON USAF (RET.)



Last months speaker brought us an insight to our local area experienced by only a few. The Cowell Lime Works Historical District, a portion we see at the UCSC entrance is only a small part of the area that was the largest lime manufacturing region in California. Again, thanks to Frank Perry for this sketch of the cultural history and natural features in the Monterey Bay area.

Well we have a lot on our plate this month. November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> finds me at Morro Bay attending the MOAA Leaders workshop/CALMOAA EXCOM meeting. Primary on the agenda is the proposed re-drafting of the CALMOAA by laws. Let's hope for a speedy resolution to these matters.

We also must not forget Veterans Day and our participation in displaying the flags at the cemetery, weather permitting. There is always a need for additional folks to help in this process. The event starts at about 7am on the 11<sup>th</sup> and we would love to see "new" faces. The flags also need to be retired that afternoon so there are plenty of opportunities to help.

Now we must not forget the benefit dinner for the scholarship fund at the Shadowbrook Restaurant, Tuesday, November 29,2011. The invitation is open to all so bring family and friends. Notify the restaurant and your waiter that you are with the MOAA group to be sure the count is accurate to insure proper credit. Seems to be a fun and painless way to support the scholarship fund. And a tip of the hat to Bernice Robertson for her efforts in bringing this program to us.

Enjoy the Holiday season and don't forget your flu shot. ■



Frank Perry gave a most informative talk at our October dinner meeting, see President Walt's article above..

# Legislative Update

BY ARTIE MEEK, LCDR MSC USN ((Ret)



## **YOUR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

### **President**

**Barack Obama**  
1600 Penna. Ave.  
Washington, D.C

### **U.S. Senator**

**Diane Feinstein**  
331 Hart Building  
Washington,  
D.C. 20510

[http://](http://feinstein.senate.gov)

[feinstein.senate.gov](http://feinstein.senate.gov)

### **U.S. Senator**

**Barbara Boxer**  
112 Hart Building  
Washington, D.C.  
20510

<http://boxer.senate.gov>

### **U.S. Representative**

**Sam Farr**  
1117 Longworth Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.  
20515

[http://](http://www.farr.house.gov)

[www.farr.house.gov](http://www.farr.house.gov)

### **U.S. Representative**

**Anna Eshoo**  
205 Canon Building  
Washington, D.C.  
20515

[www.house.gov/eshoo](http://www.house.gov/eshoo)

### **County Supervisors**

701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
phone 454-2000  
fax 454-3262

One presidential wannabe says if you don't have one, "It is your own fault." Another says he doesn't have one. And most of the presidential wannabees hope that the incumbent is soon without one. One senator has said, "...the single most important thing we want to achieve is for President Obama "...to be part of that group." Most of us in our MOAA group don't need one.

Those Occupying Wall Street might claim the lack of one is the fault of "fat cat" bankers. Some say it is because of illegal's. Others vow that off shoring is the culprit. It could be globalization, even technology. A few potential employers have said Americans won't take them. And, reportedly, a few companies will not even review a resume if the applicant doesn't have one. What we all know is that almost 14 million Americans are in need of one. The 2012 election could possibly revolve around this issue, jobs, jobs, jobs.

Twice, in two weeks, Congress has rejected bills that possible could have aided the unemployed, resulting in President Obama saying, some in the United States Senate have "...chosen to obstruct a bill that would create jobs and get our economy going again." The first bill was a \$447 billion American Jobs Act. The watered down version, at about \$35 billion, would have salvaged the jobs of about 280,000 teachers and "...save[ed] or create[ed] up to 400,000 jobs in education by giving states money." Had the bill passed, California could have benefited in the amount of \$3.62 billion that would have supported 37,300 jobs.

For veterans, however, things are looking up. Unusual for this Congress, "The House overwhelmingly approved the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act." The vote was 418-6, proving that, if so determined, the two parties can work together for the good of the country. Shortly after the vote, Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairwoman, patty Murray, indicated she looked forward to working with the House in order "...to start putting veterans to work." This is particularly important as the Labor Department statistics show that unemployment for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans hit 11.7 percent in September, as opposed to a national rate of 9.1 percent and 8.1 percent overall for veterans.

There are also employers who care about this matter. A coalition of companies has vowed to hire 25,000 veterans and military spouses over the next two years. Included in this group are household names, major companies, all that are well known. A spokesman for the companies said, "...most of the companies already share a connection with the military community, providing goods and services to base commissaries and exchanges." President Obama responded, saying, "The last thing you should have to do is fight for a job when you come home. These companies here today...care about this country and those who serve it."

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE 4.**

## Our November Speaker: BY COL MARV DeCHIARO, USA

Our November speaker will be Paul E. Caldwell, Jr., Supervisory Senior Resident Agent, Monterey Bay Resident Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, speaking about the FBI's Legal Attache program, that is, FBI agents assigned overseas; he will also be willing to answer all those questions you've always wanted to ask.

Paul began his career as an FBI agent in 1989. His first office was in Eugene, OR, where he worked a broad variety of crimes, but focused on white collar investment fraud. In 1999 he was promoted to Asst Legal Attache, Vienna, Austria. He served there until 2003, returning to Eugene and assigned to investigate domestic terrorism. In 2006, he returned to Vienna. In 2010, he was promoted to supervisory senior resident agent, Monterey Bay resident agency, where he presently supervises a squad of agents investigating white collar, violent crime/gangs, and civil rights.

Paul is married and has two sons. ■



### SHADOWBROOK MOAA FUND RAISER

MOAA Santa Cruz Chapter has been selected to participate in the Shadowbrook Community Event on Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Reservations can be made from 5 to 8:30 p.m. by calling (831) 475-7511 after November 1st. When you call be sure to tell them you are with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). Don't forget to tell your waiter or waitress as well. You may start calling by the time you receive this newsletter.

The restaurant will donate one third of MOAA's sales for the Scholarship Fund.

Reservations must be made directly to the Shadowbrook Restaurant. The entire restaurant menu will be available including the Rock Room Lounge menu from the woodoven. Start inviting friends, relatives, business associates and others so the more the merrier and the greater the contribution to our Scholarship Fund.

More information will be forthcoming but save the date! If you want more specifics please contact Bernice Robertson (831) 427-2737. ■

### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Do you have friends, neighbors, or relatives that would be interested in attending one of our MOAA events? INVITE THEM give them my contact numbers or give me their names:

Tex Luedtke, VP Membership



(831) 722-8566

[TexMarianL@aol.com](mailto:TexMarianL@aol.com)



### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

MARY BALZER  
EVELYN BYRNE  
DOROTHA FISHER  
ELAINE HEDGES  
ARTHUR LEE  
PEG ROESNER  
YVONNE SCHLUMBRECHT  
JOAN WESTON

MOAA MEETING  
NOV. 17, 2011  
SOCIAL 5:00 P.M.  
DINNER 6:00 P.M.

WE WILL HAVE A  
WHITE ELEPHANT  
SALE IN NOVEMBER  
BRING SOMETHING  
YOU ARE TIRED OF  
FOR THE HOLIDAYS  
THAT SOMEONE  
ELSE MIGHT ENJOY.  
SUPPORT OUR  
GENERAL FUND!

Military Officer's Association of  
America  
Santa Cruz Chapter  
P. O. Box 1011  
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-1011

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The reason Politicians try so hard to get re-elected  
is that they would 'hate' to have to make a living  
under the laws they've passed.



**IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY, REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR MILITARY UNIFORM, OR WHATEVER YOU CAN STILL GET INTO FOR OUR NOVEMBER 17, 2011 MEETING. ALWAYS FUN TO SEE HOW WE LOOKED AND IF WE CAN STILL FIT INTO OUR GEAR!**

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### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

By Executive Order, President Obama has issued directions "...intended to spur job growth, ....aimed at getting veterans back on the job". Hopefully, Community Health Centers will hire 8,000 over the next three years, including providing opportunities for those who have worn the uniform to become physician assistants. Additionally, another program all of us by now have heard about is restructuring mortgages, including those that are facing foreclosures. By allowing refinancing at a lower rate, conceptually homeowners would have more discretionary income. Since consumer spending represents 70 percent of our economy, more spending would help.

As it is, private companies are not hiring, despite being "...flush with \$2 trillion in cash." They are, though, asking for a tax holiday to repatriate overseas earnings, say at "...5.25 percent, a fraction of the usual rate of 35 percent." Would the tax holiday create jobs? Some say "Yes," including the corporations who maintain this would give them money to hire and expand. Others say, "Been there, done that." A *New York Times* editorial said that when this was done in 2004, "...companies spent most of the repatriated \$300 billion on dividends and stock buybacks."

The editorial continued, indicating that the White House was opposed. Still, politics could dictate otherwise. There could be a one-time revenue gain, something the supercommittee might see as positive, despite "...substantial revenue loss over time." If jobs were created, most of us could welcome this approach. But would that happen? Or would it be as the editorial maintains, "A corporate tax holiday won't create jobs. What it will do is raise the deficit." ■

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**DONATIONS** This month we had no extra donations to our Scholarship or General Fund. Maybe you are all planning to go out to dinner at Shadowbrook on November 29, 2011 to help our Scholarship Fund. Members may donate to the Scholarship Fund and the General Fund by sending their donations to our Treasurer, LCDR Chuck Ernest, 3071 Dover, Santa Cruz, CA 95065. ■