

# Alameda Chapter Express



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**February 13<sup>th</sup> General Meeting**  
**Guest Speaker Col Mary Mayer, USAF (Ret)**  
**MOAA National Board Member**  
 Meeting/Dining: 1100 hours  
 Speaker: 1215-1300 hours  
**RSVP or Base Access Contact:** LTC Rodney Grayson,  
[R18Grayson@yahoo.com](mailto:R18Grayson@yahoo.com), 925 337 0241

## Incoming President's Message

*Fred Jaffin*

I hope everyone had a very happy holiday and will have a great New Year. I am also looking forward to a very busy New Year for our Chapter. First of all, I wanted to give my thanks and sincere appreciation to Tulio for all he has done for this Chapter over his 3 year "tour of duty." He has left a legacy of leadership, hard work, and personal commitment, as a volunteer to the success of the Chapter. We have grown membership, added new volunteer BOD members, increased our financial position, while providing interesting and varied speakers for our general membership. It will be hard to follow in his footsteps.

We will open this year with a visit from a MOAA National Board of Director member at our General Membership meeting Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. The featured speaker is Col. Mary Mayer, USAF, Ret. Please mark it on your calendar's. Other speakers that are planned include a presentation by the [Chief of Staff of the 11th Coast Guard District](#); a presentation on the [WWII Bataan Death March](#); and an update on the status and challenges facing the US Army. We have a few openings later in the year, so if anyone has a good speaker suggestion, do not hesitate to contact us. On

Visit chapter website and find scheduled events [here](#).

- [Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>](#): [Cutter Robert Ward commissioning](#) at Yerba Buena Island
- [Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>](#): [USS Tulsa \(LCS 16\)](#) will be Commissioned in San Francisco, Piers 32-33
- May 4<sup>th</sup>: All Military Retiree Annual Seminar, Coast Guard Island

### 2019 Board of Directors Meetings

Building 4, Coast Guard Island, 1030 to 1200

8 Jan	2 Apr	2 Jul	1 Oct
5 Feb	7 May	6 Aug	5 Nov
5 Mar	4 Jun	3 Sep	3 Dec

### Upcoming General Meetings

*Building 4, Coast Guard Island, 1100 to 1300*

13 February	14 August
10 April	13 November
12 June	

behalf of myself and our Board, we look forward to seeing you throughout 2019!

### MOAA National Board Member to Speak at February General Meeting

*Ramona Chávez*



*Col. Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret), MOAA National*

Our upcoming General Membership meeting will host a special guest speaker from MOAA National Board Member, Col. Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret) will provide a chapter update and talk about MOAA Legislative Priorities for 2019.

Col. Mayer's career of more than 30 years spanned across intelligence, personnel policy, administration, contracting, program management, and special duty assignment positions — in the continental United States and overseas in Southeast Asia, Panama, and Spain.

After retiring from the Air Force as a colonel in 2002, she accepted a position as the Deputy Vice President/Senior Director for Global Procurement and Supply Management for KBR Inc. In 2011, she was appointed by the governor to serve as a member, and later, chairwoman, of the Advisory Committee to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. Col. Mayer has held multiple positions at MOAA, including Council & Chapter Affairs; Finance & Audit Committee and Governance Committee.

#### Please Join Us for Our Quarterly Luncheon Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

**Meeting/Dining:** 1100 hours

**Speaker:** 1215-1300 hours

**Place:** Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA, Building 4

**Cost:** \$15 per person, pay at the door

**Dress:** Business Casual

**RSVP or Base Access Contact:** LTC Rodney Grayson, R18Grayson@yahoo.com, (925) 337-0241

We anticipate a large crowd, **please RSVP by Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>**

### Bay Area Ship Commissionings

A unique opportunity for anyone to attend a ship's commissioning ceremony is rapidly approaching next month.

On Feb 2, 2019 the [USCGC Robert Ward](http://www.robertwardcommissioning.org), WPC 1130 will be commissioned on Yerba Buena Island. The Ward is one of the Coast Guard's Fast Response Cutters. Go to [www.robertwardcommissioning.org](http://www.robertwardcommissioning.org) to get the details – you must RSVP to get your name on the approved list for admission to the ceremony.

On Feb. 16, 2019 [the USS Tulsa \(LCS 16\)](http://www.navalorder.org/commissioning-uss-tulsa-lcs-16) will be Commissioned in San Francisco, Piers 32-33. The Tulsa is an Independence-class littoral combat ship. Ceremony starts at 10am –RSVP required – visit [www.navalorder.org/commissioning-uss-tulsa-lcs-16](http://www.navalorder.org/commissioning-uss-tulsa-lcs-16)

### Membership Update

*Rudolf Bredderman*

Please welcome CAPT Gary Spenik, USCG (Retired) of Alameda. He joined the Chapter January 2019. At our board meeting on January 8th, three members renewed their membership bringing our renewals for 2019 to 23 of our 101 members at the close of 2018. We also have 6 Active Duty officers who will be continued as members of the Chapter.

MOAA National had a 2018 retention incentive of \$250 for each chapter that retained 80% or more of its 2017 members, not counting those who have moved away from the local area or die; and not counting those who are not members of MOAA at the National level. I believe we should qualify for that award. It is not clear if that incentive will be continued or be modified for 2019.

We need to continue recruiting to maintain the vitality of the Chapter. Each and every member can contribute to our recruiting effort! If you know someone eligible for MOAA membership, please invite them to our next General Meeting, and/or ask them to submit a Chapter membership

application using the attached [Membership Application form](#). Bring guests to our General Meeting who are eligible to be Chapter members and that guest will be admitted to the meeting and have lunch Free of Charge! The Chapter is, of course, hoping that guest will become a member of the Chapter.

Membership in our Chapter is on a calendar year basis, Jan 1 to Dec 31. Membership in the Chapter is free for military officers on active duty. Annual dues for regular members is \$20. Annual dues for a current spouse and for a surviving spouse is \$5.00.

If you have yet to renew your membership for 2019, please write a check to Alameda County Chapter, MOAA and mail to: Rudolf Bredderman • 35923 Romilly Court, • Fremont, CA 94536

### Membership in National MOAA

*Rudolf Bredderman*

If you are not already a member of MOAA at the national level, Join Now!

Every officer should be, at least, a Basic Member of MOAA at the national level. It is free and it is important to your Chapter as well as to MOAA at the national level. With more than 350,000 members nationwide, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the earned benefits of military officers and their families.

Basic Membership allows you to stay current with electronic access to MOAA news updates and calls for support of critical advocacy efforts to protect military benefits. Members have the opportunity to attend career fairs, networking events, and classes and eligible to receive valuable retail and travel discounts.

Please visit MOAA web site <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Join-Moaa/Why-join-Moaa.aspx> and then click on "Join Now" for the membership level that you believe is right for you.

### Legislative Liaison

*Gary Blank*

A short notice, showing up in the daily news cycle once, was a press release from the Department of Defense in early December 2018. It announced that individuals with green cards could now serve in the military forces. This odd piece of isolated news fits into a much bigger picture and problem. In our Military Officer Magazine in the spring of last year, an article bemoaned the difficulty our uniformed

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*The military services need approximately 250,000 men and women recruits to meet their demands for 2019*

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military services were having finding enough recruits for 2019. The following numbers are rounded but are in the right magnitudes. The military services need approximately 250,000 men and women recruits to meet their demands for 2019. The pool from which they are to draw 18 to 26-year-old recruits is about 500,000. Unfortunately, about ½ of the pool is ineligible due to academic or physical problems. Surveys found that 50 percent of the remaining 250,000 possible recruits are in families that discourage serving in the military. Thus the December 2018 notice enlarging the pool.

### Alameda Chapter Closes 2018 with a Good Time and Holiday Luncheon

*Gary Blank*

Our chapter gathered on December the 8th for a Holiday Luncheon at the

Alameda Elks Lodge #1015. The guests dined on New York steak, rosemary infused roasted chicken breast, rice pilaf, au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables, salad and carrot cake.



*MOAA Alameda Chapter president Capt. Tulio Acquistapace, USN Ret. hands over responsibilities to new chapter president, Capt. Fred Jaffin, USN Ret.*

It was the last meeting for our honorable President Capt. Tulio Acquistapace, USN Ret. Tulio congratulated incoming President Capt. Fred Jaffin, USN Ret. and handed over the responsibilities of Chapter President. The day concluded with a drawing for various gifts for the Holiday Season.

### **Surviving Spouse Liaison**

*Rudolf Bredderman*

Joyce Quartly has been appointed to serve as Surviving Spouse Liaison for our Chapter. She came to our Chapter from the Solano County Chapter last year and has had prior experience with the Silver Strand Chapter in the San Diego area. We welcome her support in this key leadership position. About 15% of our members are surviving spouses. One of MOAA's goals for 2019 is to educate, encourage, and engage MOAA membership about spouse and surviving spouse issues.

### **Past President's Note**

*Geoff Kline*

In 1981, while stationed at Yokota Air Base in Japan, I participated in an Engineering Conference put on by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Seoul, South Korea. Part of the event was to visit many of the Army outposts south of the [Demilitarized Zone \(DMZ\)](#), along the 38th Parallel, the truce line from the Korean War. The DMZ is a 160 mile, 2 ½ mile wide, strip of land which separates the Republic of Korea (ROK) from Communist North Korea (NOKO). It is considered the most heavily guarded place on earth, with millions of land mines and barbed wire fencing enclosing the land.

While there, a visit was made to the Village of Panmunjom, where armistice talks and other matters take place. To be allowed to visit Panmunjom, one must sign a death waiver that if anything untoward happens, you are basically on your own. Also, while there, you must never point to something because that alone could spark an international incident. The village is guarded by the U.S. Army and ROK soldiers on the south side and NOKO soldiers on the north side. You

can enter the building in which a long table seats delegates from both sides. Technically, I have been in North Korea because I walked around the north side of the table which is theoretically bisected in the middle by the truce line. A NOKO guard observed me through a window while I was inside. Even though it has been 38 years, I have never forgotten the level of hate which the guard showed in his face. The DMZ keeps the two sides apart. It is not a place for the faint of heart. It began as a de facto international border since 1948 and is one of the most tense fronts in the Cold War.

## **Stay in the Know**

### **Board Members for 2019**

See List of Board Members with contact information at:

<http://www.alamedamoaa.org/Chapter-Officers>

### **MOAA Alameda Membership/Renewal Application**

See last page of newsletter or online here:

<http://www.alamedamoaa.org/Join>

### **MOAA National application**

<http://www.moaa.org/Content/Join-MOAA/Why-join-MOAA.aspx>

### **Alameda Chapter Website**

<http://www.alamedamoaa.org>

### **California Council Website**

<http://www.calmoaa.org>

### **Alameda Chapter Editorial and Privacy Policy**

<http://alamedamoaa.org/Editorial-and-Privacy-Policies>

### **MOAA Legislative Update/Action Center**

<http://alamedamoaa.org/Legislative-Update>

**Useful Websites for California Veterans**

- To find information on California Legislation: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>
- California State Senate: <http://senate.ca.gov/>
- California State Assembly: <http://assembly.ca.gov/>
- To find California Law, including the Military and Veterans Code: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes.xhtml>
- Find your State and Local Legislator: <http://votesmart.org/>

**2019 MOAA Membership Application and/or Renewal for Alameda Chapter**

I hereby [ ] apply for / [ ] renew my membership in the Alameda County Chapter, MOAA.

I am (check one):

- [ ] ACTIVE DUTY: Currently a commissioned or warrant officer on active duty in a military service (check one Service below)
- [ ] REGULAR: (circle one) a retired, former, reserve, or inactive commissioned or warrant officer of any of the military services (check one Service below)
- [ ] SPOUSE or SURVIVING SPOUSE: The (circle one) spouse or surviving spouse of a deceased commissioned or warrant officer of any of the military services (check one Service below)

Name and Rank of qualifying officer's spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

I qualify for the indicated membership because I, or my spouse, is or was an officer in (check one)

**U.S. Service**

Army _____	Air Force _____	NOAA _____
Navy _____	Coast Guard _____	PHS _____
Marine Corps _____	National Guard _____	

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ National MOAA # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in participating in a Chapter office or committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No (check one)

Membership is for the calendar year commencing 1 January of each year.

**Annual Dues: 1) Active Duty:** None 2) **Regular:** \$20 / year; \$10 if joining after July 1 3) **Spouse / Surviving Spouse:** \$5 / year

Please attach a copy of your military ID, DD-214 or other proof of military service as an officer if you have not already provided this proof to the Alameda County Chapter.

Make checks payable to: ALAMEDA COUNTY CHAPTER, MOAA

**Mail to:** Alameda County Chapter, MOAA c/o CDR Rudolf Bredderman  
35923 Romilly Court  
Fremont, CA 94536

**MOAA – ONE ASSOCIATION, ONE VOICE – YOURS**

