



## President's Message, August 2012

Hi to all MOAA members,

We hope you all are having a good summer so far. We have several events to add to your calendars, so here they are...

Saturday, August 11: Regional CALMOAA workshop for all interested MOAA members, from 0930-1530, MCAS Miramar Officer's Club. Conducting the workshop will be CDR John Sammons, CALMOAA President, and National MOAA Director of Council and Chapter Affairs COL Lee Lange, USMC (Ret). Cost of the workshop will be \$30.00 (payable at the door), to include continental breakfast, lunch and snacks. This is a great opportunity to meet other area MOAA members and participate in the discussion of the future of CALMOAA and ways to invigorate chapters. Come join us! Send me your RSVP by August 5th to kmbruyere@gmail.com. Come join us!

Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>: Joint dinner meeting with the Navy League- featuring RADM Dixon Smith, Commander, Navy Region Southwest. Details on Chapter website.

Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>: Annual CALMOAA Region VIII Luncheon at MCAS Miramar Officer's Club, with speaker Brigadier General Vincent A. Coglianesse, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West. Details on Chapter website.

If you have not responded to the recent emailed update letter from Captain Tom Bauer concerning the recent survey on our Chapter's future, please do so. We want to get more input- and some more volunteers for Board positions. Please take this seriously and let Tom hear from you now. We really need your input!!

In August MOAA members will be voting on new National Board members and bylaws changes. A very important proposed bylaw would give our Auxiliary members voting rights. Auxiliary members make up 17% of MOAA membership, they number 9000, with 750 currently holding Chapter leadership positions including Officers and Board members. When your Immediate Past President Major General Bob Butcher and I served on the National MOAA Board (1998-2004), we were talking about the importance of our Auxiliary members, and proposed the addition of Auxiliary representation on the National MOAA Board. Since then, the Auxiliary Advisory Committee has distinguished itself (our member Kathy Prout is on the Committee), as have all our Auxiliary members. As Bob Butcher recently said about the proposed bylaws change, "It's a long coming!". I certainly agree. Please be sure to vote either on paper or electronically in August.

Finally, thanks to all who participated in the discussions concerning the conditional use permit for the proposed VA residential treatment facility - Aspire Center - in Old Town/Mission Hills. Many MOAA members emailed or called San Diego City Council representatives, and attended the two City Council meetings in which this subject was debated. MOAA members were in attendance at the City Council meeting yesterday, joining many other veterans and supporters who spoke in favor of the Aspire Center, resulting in a unanimous City Council vote in favor of the facility. It is a much needed facility, and will serve as a model throughout the country.

Hope to see you all at our scheduled events!

All the best, Kathy Bruyere, Captain, U. S. Navy (Ret)

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**Information on the August 20, Joint Dinner Meeting is posted on our web site for members to review and make a dinner reservation**

To review this information go to your Chapter web site:

<http://www.cal-moaa-silverstrand.org/> (select "Events" and click on "Joint Dinner Meeting")

The **Monday, August 20** dinner reservation form will need to be printed from your computer and sent to the chapter post office box to make a dinner reservation. The August 20 dinner will be at the **Coronado Golf Club Clubhouse**. **RADM Dixon Smith, Commander, Navy Region Southwest**, will be our guest speaker. Reservations must reach our PO Box by noon, Friday, August 17 (firm).

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You can review the latest MOAA Legislative Updates by clicking on the MOAA link below:

[http://www.moaa.org/Main\\_Menu/Take\\_Action/Legislative\\_Update/2012\\_Legislative\\_Updates/MOAA\\_Legislative\\_Update\\_-\\_July\\_2012.html](http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Legislative_Update/2012_Legislative_Updates/MOAA_Legislative_Update_-_July_2012.html)