



In This Edition

President's Message	1
Association address.....	1
Directory of Officers.....	2
Charitable Organization.....	2
Electronic payments.....	2
Chaplain's message.....	3
Chaplain's Fund requests.....	3
Donating to the Fund.....	3
From the Editor.....	4
Notice of Elections.....	4
Dues payment form.....	5
Membership application.....	6

Association Address

Sergeants Major Association of California Inc.

9301 Sierra Spring Way
Elk Grove, CA 95624

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings,

I hope everyone is getting out and enjoying the great weather we've been having. Fall is upon us and so comes the changing of the colors from summer to fall. Kids are back in school and cooler temps bring a chance to catch up on projects around the house.

I want to take a minute to share some info from a conversation with the 40th ID CSM (CSM Refugio Rosas). Good things are happening around the California Military Department. The 115th RSG recently returned from an overseas deployment. They were partnered with several of our NATO allies in keeping things safe in the Middle East, yes there are issues in Israel, Palestine and the Gaza Strip. The 115th did great at holding down the fort in their AO. The 3/140 Aviation Regiment will be returning from their State-side deployment soon. Since they're still on mission, we'll talk more when they're home safe and sound, which should be soon. Speaking of Aviation, a huge Belated congrats to CSM Hernandez-Smith on her selection as the CAB Command Sergeant Major. Thank you to CSM Bateman for all he did while at the CAB. This assignment was outside his wheelhouse, but he took it on and continued the mission for aviation. Another congrats to CSM KC for his assignment to the SOD. I would share his actual name, but was told they'd hunt me down and bury me somewhere in Florida, no one wants that. Thank you to CSM Troung, another one who was assigned outside his wheelhouse and did a great job. And if you're not tracking, the 224th SB has renamed as the 40th SB with direct link to 40ID. CSM Claudia Ramirez has taken the reins from CSM Samuel Yudin. Thank you to CSM Yudin for a job well done as 224 SB senior enlisted leader.

I also would like to share some things going on at the schoolhouse. If you're not tracking, they're teaching Air Assault and Pathfinder. If you haven't talked to anyone at the RTI in a bit, ask about it. The staff there are doing a great job. Find out what's needed to get more of our California troopers into these prestigious courses.

Last item, we're planning the Association annual meeting next September in 2026. Hope you all put it on your calendar and plan to attend. I look forward to seeing everyone there. Until then, don't forget to donate to the Chaplain fund. As always, we've been busy taking care of our California service members.

Thank you for belonging to the Sergeants Major Association of California.

CSM Scott Witt, USA Retired

The Sergeants Major Association of California (SMAofCA) newsletter is published quarterly and distributed via email to the member's email address submitted with their membership application information sheet. Continued receipt of the newsletter is dependent upon you keeping your email address current. If you are not receiving the newsletter please send your correct email (civilian email is best) to CSM Joe Menard (USA Retired) at jrmenard@surewest.net.

SERGEANTS MAJOR ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC 2025 OFFICER DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT

CSM Scott M. Witt
(USA Retired)

94fatboy@sbcglobal.net

805-610-9348

1st VICE- PRESIDENT

CSM Joe Menard
(USA Retired)

jrmenard@surewest.net

916-849-7107

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT

1SG Jason White
USA

jason.d.white21@gmail.com

562-795-2025

TREASURER

CSM Janet L. Graves
USA

janet.l.graves8@gmail.com

916-837-3172

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

CSM Brian O'Neal
(USA Retired)

Boneal91@icloud.com

209-404-5022

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

CSM Andres Roman
(USA Retired)

andyroman186@gmail.com

916-561-9018

**CHAPLAIN**

CSM Ron Cabrera
(USA Retired)

cabreraforcc@yahoo.com

310-503-9284

Sergeants Major Association of California Inc is incorporated within California (corporation number 0623452) as a charitable organization.

The Association is recognized as a tax-exempt veterans organization by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(19) . Tax ID #237104052

The association is registered with the Attorney General of California as a charitable organization registration number CT0292356.

The Association has re-established electronic payment methods!!

Treasurer CSM Janet Graves has re-established method to pay due and make donations via electronic payment method. This is:

Zelle: smaofcalifornia@gmail.com

For those of us still comfortable with a check book and the postal service payment can still be mailed to the Association to:

**Sergeants Major Association of California
9301 Sierra Spring Way
Elk Grove, CA 95624**



Chaplains Message:

CSM Ron Cabrera, USA Retired

CSM William Clark Jr passes away September 9th, 1955 - September 20th, 2025

Command Sergeant Major William Clark Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Seaside, California, on September 20, 2025, after a courageous battle with Frontotemporal Dementia. He was 70 years old.

Born on September 9, 1955, in Beaufort, South Carolina, William was the beloved son of the late William "Buster" Clark and Mae Rose Taylor Clark. He graduated from Beaufort High School and joined the United States Army in April 1974, beginning a distinguished military career that spanned over 43 years. He was first stationed at Fort Ord, California, and rose through the ranks with integrity and dedication, retiring in September 2017 from the position of Senior Enlisted Leader to the Adjutant General.

Command Sergeant Major William Clark Jr. will be remembered not only for his exemplary service to his country, but for the strength, compassion, and dedication he brought to every aspect of his life—as a soldier, a father, a cyclist, and a passionate advocate for veterans. His legacy of love, service, and resilience lives on in all who knew him.

A memorial service with full military honors will be held at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, 2900 Parker Flats Road, Seaside, CA 93955., on 27 October 2025 at 0930 to 1030 Hours.

Chaplains Fund Applications

Senior NCOs who are requesting assistance for their service member (SM) should review the instructions on the application. Requests need to come from the 1SG/NCOIC w/ recommendations of CSM/CMSgt or, the FAS, if others are deployed.

Review the Application to ensure it is complete, request clearly show that SM has a valid financial need & all contact information for parties involved is correct.

The SMA does not normally pay funds to the SM. We do send the funds to the SM but the check is made out to the party owed. The SM is responsible to arrange for debt payment.

These funds are a grant and there is no repayment expected. However, SM who are able to help support the Chaplains Fund are free to help other SM in need.

Thank you for supporting this program!!

CHAPLAINS FUND DONATIONS

For your convenience, donations to the Sergeants Major Association's Chaplains Fund can be made by:

Checks sent to:

SMAofCA Chaplain's Fund
9301 Sierra Spring Way
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Or by Zelle: smaofcalifornia@gmail.com

SMAofCA is a 501(c)(19) Federal tax exempt non profit.
Tax ID # 23-7104052 and California 23701w tax exempt
charitable veterans organization (Corporation # 0623452)

From the editor:

I recently came into possession of some old membership rosters that I have been working to merge into the electronic membership master database that I have been maintaining. The goal is to create a master database that lists everyone who has been or is a member. This would include those who at sometime were a member regardless of how long. There are many members and former members that I do not have complete contact information for. Significantly missing are current civilian email addresses. Since 99% of our communications are through email, I would like any assistance from current members who know of email addresses for former members. If you are familiar with any of the following former members please consider sending their email address to me at jrmenard@surewest.net or forward this newsletter to them. There will be more names posted in future newsletters. Best regards, Joe

Leo Burrey	Walter Claude-Murray
Charles Cain	Thomas Clegg Jr.
Antonio Calderon	James Coltrell
Michele Cammarata	Anthony Conti
Malcolm Campbell	David Considine
Amarilis Capellan	Daniel Contreras
Mark Carey	Azina Cooper
Denise Carlson	Noel Corby
George Carroll	Jonathon Cornett
Shawn Carter	Edgardo Coronado
Charles Casillas	David Coss
Richard Casper	Anthony Cota
John Castle	Robert Crebbs
Henry Cervantes	Sallie Cullen
Paul Chastain	Thomas Cullen
Gary Chavez	Robert Cummins
Frank Chavez	Richard Curtin
Richard Ciaramella	Beverly Curtis
Deborah Clark	Steven Cutler

Election for the position of Treasurer and Recording Secretary

The Association is conducting an election by mail to fill the positions of Treasurer and Recording Secretary. The incumbents were the only nominations received. Ballots were mailed via USPS to every eligible dues paying member. If you have received a ballot, please return it in the association addressed and stamped envelope as soon as you can. If you did not receive a ballot and believe you should have please send me an email (jrmenard@surewest.net) and I'll make a correction.



Sergeants Major Association of California Inc.

Dues Renewal for Calendar year 2025

Calendar year 2025 Membership Dues.	\$40.00
Survivor Benefit Assessment	\$4.00
Chaplain's fund donations	\$
Total amount paid	\$

Support your association by renewing your membership today! Your membership dues ensure the continued existence of the association and are used for operating expenses and support to activities, and organizations that are of mutual benefit to the association and to the enlisted force.

Gold card members are not required to pay dues. However, per the by-laws Article III, Section 3E "The non-dues paying members may attend any and all functions by paying costs and fees for Association functions as determined by the Executive Board, but do not qualify for any of the Association Benefits. Those members who qualified for Gold Card membership prior to 28 May 1977 retain all membership benefits and are not required to pay dues."

The survivor benefit assessment helps to fund the \$500 death benefit paid to identified beneficiary of a recently deceased active member.

Your contribution to the Chaplain's Fund helps to maintain viability of this benevolent fund that supports enlisted service members in need of emergency assistance of the California Army National Guard, of the California Air National Guard and of the California State Guard.

Payment methods: if paying using an app include your name and what the payment is for.

Zelle: smaofcalifornia@gmail.com

Check to:
SMAofCA
Joe Menard
9301 Sierra Spring Way
Elk Grove, CA 95624

JOIN THE SERGEANTS MAJOR ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Sergeants Major Association of California, Inc was chartered in the State of California on 19 October 1968 as a social, patriotic organization advocating the following creed: **"We, the Members of the Sergeants Major Association of California, being desirous of improving the status and image of the National Guard and promoting the wellbeing, welfare and qualifications of the Enlisted members of the National Guard, dedicate ourselves to maintaining the professionalism required of us, and pledge ourselves to this creed."** The Association was founded by a group of Sergeants Major from units throughout California. The goals of the Association since its inception, has been to enhance the image of the National Guard and provide a means of communication for Senior Noncommissioned Officers. **Membership is open to all Active, Retired, or Honorably Discharged Senior NCOs (E-7 through E-9) of the National Guard, California State Guard, and Reserve Components.** An Associate Membership is available for Family Members, Businesses, and Concerned Citizens who share our common goals. In the early years, the Association's focus was on supporting the Soldier and NCO education systems at Camp San Luis Obispo and Camp Roberts. We also contributed to construction of the CSLO Recreational Vehicle Park and improvements to the building that is now Parker Hall. Currently we are actively working with CSLO to modernize Parker Hall so that it will again be a relaxing place for both Soldiers and NCOs to socialize. We also support the Army and Air Service Members of the Year program, CAL GUARD Ready Families programs and we manage the Sergeants Major Association Chaplains Fund, which aids California National Guard Servicemembers throughout the State. We continually look for new ways to respond to the everchanging requirements of the National Guard to better support both Senior NCOs and Junior Enlisted Soldiers. **Dues in the Association are \$40.00 per year, with an additional \$15.00 initiation fee for new members for the first year of membership.**

PART I - SPONSER'S ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

a. Name: (Last, First, MI)	b. Grade / Civ:	c. Cell Phone:
----------------------------	-----------------	----------------

PART II - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

a. Name: (Last, First, MI)	b. Grade / Civ:	c. Date of Birth:	d. Unit / Organization:
e. Home Address: (Street #, City, State, Zip)	f. Spouse Name: (Last, First)	g. Duty Position:	
h. E-Mail Address:	i. Work Phone:	j. Cell Phone:	
k. Military Status:	M-Day	Tech	AGR
l. Branch of Service:	Army	Air Force	Other

PART III - BENEFICIARY INFORMATION

a. Name: (Last, First, MI)	b. Relationship:	c. Cell Phone:
d. Home Address: (Street #, City, State, Zip)	e. Email	

Please enter dates in this format: DD MMM YYYY

Fill out this application and send it with a payment of \$55.00 to cover the initiation fee and first year's dues.

Mail to: -or-

Sergeants Major Association, Inc.
9301 Sierra Spring Way
Elk Grove CA 95624

Electronic:

Venmo: @smaofcalifornia
Zelle: smaofcalifornia@gmail.com
Cashapp: \$SMAofCalifornia

E-Mail Application to:

smaofcalifornia@gmail.com

