

CHAPTER ANNUAL PLAN 2009 - 2010

1. General

The Chapter Overall Program is effective for the period 01 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. It is a living document and may be revised during that period at any time.

2. Chapter Objectives:

Throughout the 2009 - 2010 year - the SIXTH year of the War on Terror - the emphasis of the chapter's operation will change even more dramatically than they did in the year just passed. While we shall continue to focus on the very real needs, both physically and financially, demanded by our Soldiers of the Active Army, Reserves and National Guard units and their families, it will be access to solutions that connects us all and what underlies our ability to exchange and innovate, to realize new opportunities and shape our lives as well as those whose lives are at risk every day.

We will continue to vigorously support the civilian work force who back up our military personnel and we are, more than ever, especially mindful and supportive of our military families, our JROTC and ROTC Corps of Cadets and our extremely challenged Recruiting Commands.

While it is and has been a great honor and distinct privilege to serve the Retirees and Veterans communities in their ever decreasing numbers which are augmented only by the veterans returning from Iraq, Afghanistan, Korea and the many other trouble spots, we are extremely busy facilitating, caring for and visiting the many area VA facilities who house our Wounded Warriors. The latter's special needs and those of their families' are anticipated by providing the services of a much needed 1st United States Volunteer Command which is capable, trained and ready at a moment's notice to perform final burial and memorial services to our honored dead.

As a valued sub-chapter, we have the California Historical Artillery Society who, with appropriate advance notice, render full honors Military burial services by a team formed of Captain and Stable Sergeant, spurs and sabers shining, a horse drawn caisson, memorial details astride their magnificently outfitted stallions and mares, a caparisoned (so named for its ornamental coverings which have a detailed protocol all to themselves) rider less horse carrying the deceased's boots inverted in their stirrups, bugler, casket and flag bearers. All participants are in period-correct uniforms and carry Army correct accoutrements.

This service, however, is not free. For detailed information, please view CHAS' website at <http://www.warhorse.org>.

Great emphasis will again be placed on working toward lessening the burden of all homeless and indigent veterans and on recruiting retirees into AUSA so that they may utilize the many membership privileges in their daily lives.

All of the functions and activities of this chapter will be directed toward:

- * Further developing, maintaining and nurturing activities designed to promote issues that support our Soldiers, their families and their quality of life;

- * developing and, where already established, cultivating close contacts with regional and national politicians (i.e. State Senator Tom Torlakson,

(D-7th District); former Representative Ellen O. Tauscher (D-10th District), a member and now a member of the President's Cabinet; Representative Jerry McNerney D-11 th District,) a member; all efforts that not only benefit the chapter membership but also the Tri-Valley and especially the Reserve, Guard, Veteran and Wounded Warrior communities;

- * disseminating information about AUSA's professional and educational missions to the membership and the general public about the United States Active, Reserve and National Guard Soldier;

- * protecting and advancing the very real interests of our retirees who were promised certain, deemed reliable, military retirement benefits that are threatened by current lawmakers, many of whom have never worn a uniform.

One such promised benefit, largely forgotten, is the congressionally mandated right of a veteran to last funeral and memorial honors to deceased veterans and their families. To counteract the absence of such reliable and consistently available services, the chapter formed, as a sub-chapter,

the 1st United States Volunteers, a national Command whose uniformed members, as their primary mission, "Put Boots on the Grave."

- * leading by example and, in keeping with General Sullivan's long-time mantra that "change is not a dirty word" and that "professional disagreement with one's superiors is not disrespect," standing up for what we believe in;

- * recognizing and spreading the word about military excellence in the Active Army, Reserve and National Guard components and improving the chapter's support activities of the families of our deployed Soldiers

- * supporting Senior and Junior ROTCs, military personnel and their families and DA civilians within our Area of Operations;

* physically and monetarily supporting “Stand-Downs” in the chapter's area of operation benefiting any homeless or down-on-his/her-luck veteran through interpersonal relations and the extensive use of the web and, through donations from the chapter’s Corporate members, ensure the availability of food, clothing, legal services, housing and the like.

* assisting with the registration of infirm, elderly or transportation less veterans during the 2010 and all subsequent election years;

* hosting the Army’s 234th birthday celebration in the year 2009;

* sustaining a continued positive media campaign to assure the surrounding communities of the very sizable military presence in this area: the United States Army Combat Support Training Center & Camp Parks that is of huge importance to the surrounding Counties and, indeed, to California;

* continuing programs designed to attract young men and women to presentations of the Army’s benefit schedules and into the experienced hands of our excellent Recruiters;

- interacting with the U.S. Army Recruiting Command in highly successful programs by holding hugely successful rallies in the various area high schools, sponsoring memberships in AUSA;
- emphasizing the PaYs (Partnership for Youth Success) and the “Athletes helping Kids” program;
- working very closely with the 191st Division (TS) Band THE BAND OF THE WILD WEST (the former 91 st Division Band, Pipes & Drums) whose members are a Chapter sponsored 100% AUSA member unit;

c. Continue to foster public understanding, awareness and support of The Army of the United States.

d. Publicize the very real existence, capability and professionalism of the 1USV, present mainly to fill the gap left by deployed Soldiers

and support personnel for burial and memorial honor services, in solemn, dignified and professional uniformed rites.

2. Organization

a. Reference Chapter By-Laws, 01 January 1986; also Organizational Chart;

b. Executive Committee : The Executive Committee consists of the President, the Chapter Treasurer and the Chapter Secretary

as well as one Vice President , sixteen Chairpersons of Advisory Boards and a highly skilled PAO who is also the PAO for

the Camp Parks Garrison;

SIX EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE SERVED A COMBINED TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED TEN YEARS AS CORE MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER, SERVING THE SOLDIERS AND SERVING AUSA

c. Advisory Boards :

The individual Board is advisory in nature to the Executive Committee and assists in recommending programs

policy, long-range plans and operations and the formulation of proposed Resolutions. Meetings of the Advisory Boards, with or without the presence of the chapter president, are at the call of the Advisory Board's Chairperson.

d. Committees : This chapter does not encourage subcommittees. Singly and jointly we feel that, together, we function at a greater

rate of success and we have more interaction: all Executive Board members are fully advised of all matters important to the chapter at all times, thereby eliminating the need for time-consuming additional meetings and separate reports. This may not work for everybody, but this chapter has functioned successfully in this fashion for the past NINETEEN (19) years!.

3. Meetings:

a. The Executive Committee and the Advisory Board members continue to meet on the second Tuesday of every month or at the call of the President. All meetings are held in the Conference Room at USA CSTC & Camp Parks in Dublin, California

b. We have a minimum of three General membership meetings each year:

on 17 March for St. Patrick's Day (or at the annual 6th Region Meeting in April);

on 14 June for the Army's Birthday and

the last week in September.

Our Christmas/Children's Gift Giving Affair in mid-December of each year is open to all members and non-members members.

There is an additional "Tree Lighting Ceremony" at the RCI Family Housing complex. mid-

December, most capably orchestrated

by the Commander's Lady.

c. The chapter meets or exceeds National's established goal and intends to continue to do so. We have met or exceeded

AUSA HQ mandated Chapter Goals for the past 104 months!

4. Programs and Activities *

General Membership meetings:

In April of this year, we hosted our Soldiers with a YEAR OF THE NCO luncheon that was attended by the Command Group, several area General Officers and their staffs and some ninety (90) uniformed personnel.

In September of 2009 we plan another general membership luncheon, in another attempt to honor the YEAR OF THE NCO.

The week before Christmas, the chapter hosts the children of deployed Soldiers and the community's needy in a Tree Lighting / Christmas Concert Affair,

in March of 2010 we will hold our time-tested Saint Patrick's Day luncheon and on 14 June 2010 we celebrate the Army's 235th birthday.

Various Dean chapter members are affiliated with other organizations and attend their meetings and events as a matter of course. Many members of those organizations are members of this chapter. Because of this interaction between different military organizations and their members, meaningful dialogue between general membership, Executive and Advisory Board members and entities needing the chapter's assistance is lively and hardly ever restricted to designated meetings.

Executive Board members are consistently asked to serve in different capacities for other organizations.

Many of the EXCOM's Board members, most prominently the Commander and Command Sergeant Major of the USA CSTC and Camp Parks

Garrison, are sought-after speakers at National or Holiday events, various service clubs and special events that honor veterans, Soldiers, Guardsmen and women and during a variety of military functions.

5. Special Projects

We continue to plan and execute a number of Army Reserve Employer Partnership events, ably conducted by our very own COL Phil Stage. Firm dates cannot be set at this time as they depend on the availability of the signers of the document.

04 July 2009

The 4th of July Parade.

Again, this chapter will lead the Parade with personnel from the 191 st Division BAND OF THE WILD WEST. Soldiers from USA CSTC & Camp Parks, the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley and marching uniformed members of the 1st United States Volunteers Command. More people attend the parade - in excess of 42,000 people in previous years - and the picnic following, than any other type of Community affair.

10 July 2009

ILW Donation

A chapter donation of \$250 was be forwarded to ILW. The chapter has donated the same amount for the past fourteen years.

22 September 2006

“Athletes Helping Kids”

Another enormously successful High School Rally is planned for the September week (the last one had an attendance of 1641 youngsters) and we will continue to schedule these Rallies as soon as we can get the athletes to commit to the various dates;

04 - 06 October 2009

AUSA Annual Meeting

During 04 - 06 October, attendance of a number of members of the chapter’s Executive Board will be present at the AUSA National Meeting in Washington, D.C. Several of our members will participate in the Army Ten-Miler.

The Commander and Command Sergeant Major of ”United States Army Combat Support Training Center and Camp Parks

Garrison will attend;

Our Congressional representatives are invited;

Our Corporate Members are invited to the Corporate Luncheon;

All will be special guests of the chapter for the Eisenhower Luncheon and the Marshall Memorial Dinner.

This, then, supports all four AUSA objectives: people support, industry support; public education and promoting professionalism.

11 November 2009

Veterans Day Event

It is scheduled for precisely 1111 hrs on 11 November at which time the event kicks off the Veterans Appreciation Week with Proclamations from Congress.

Patriotic music will be played by the outstanding soldier/artists of the 1 91st Division (TS) Band, THE BAND OF THE WILD WEST.

20 November 2009

8th Annual Soldiers Christmas Packages

Members of the Executive Board will prepare packages for 400 to 500 Soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo, and elsewhere in the Balkans, Saudi Arabia or any other place where young Soldiers will appreciate a package from home.

December 2009

USA CSTC & Camp Parks Christmas Party

Christmas Party and Tree Decorating Event for the children of the base The children of mobilized Soldiers, joined by the children of the 191st Division (TS) Band and the Base, will receive Christmas packages. Each child will receive a toy, a decorated Christmas satchel filled with chocolates, candies, cookies and all manner of Christmas "goodies," all of which will again be supplied solely by this chapter's Corporate members.

12 December 2009

Chapter Holiday Luncheon

As in all previous years, the Executive Board members and invited guests will hold a short Executive Board meeting in conjunction with the Christmas Luncheon during which several of our deserving Soldiers and Corporate members will be recognized.

This is always a solemn and festive affair celebrating twenty years of continuous service to the chapter for a great many EXCOM members.

5 February 2010

5 th Annual Army College Invitational

Prospective Army enlistees in their Junior and Senior years are invited, with their parents, to a workshop attended by the US Army Recruiting Command plus business, industry and commerce recruiters. This workshop shows the prospective enlistee just what is available for him/her once he/she has completed his/her service commitment.

17 March 2010

St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon honoring all of our Soldiers and Veterans.

14 May 2010

Armed Forces Day

Celebrating America's National treasure: our Soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Coast Guard men and women and members of the National Guard.

31 May 2010

Memorial Day

Commemoration of the Annual Memorial Day event at Danville's Oak Hill remembering those who gave their lives so that we may live free, followed by a community picnic and grave site visitations.

09 June 2010

10 th Annual "Freedom Luncheon

inviting the parents, families, friends and Recruiters of these new Soldiers, as well as County, City and Congressional officials.

This program, ably led and orchestrated by the East Bay Recruiting Company, gets better every year and has received much national recognition.

14 June 2010

Army Birthday/Flag Day

To celebrate our Army's 234th Birthday, a General membership Sit-Down Luncheon is planned. The attendance of uniformed Soldiers and all corporate and general members and base Soldiers will be solicited.

As in years past, we will rely on the Command Group of the USA CSTC & Camp Parks for either Reveille or Retreat for their planning of Army birthday/Flag Day event.

6. Other activities

1. Senior and Junior ROTC

Medals and certificates for outstanding students at the University of California at Berkeley's Golden Bear Battalion are provided by the chapter as a matter of course.

For the seventeenth year, the Chapter provides the Perpetua MG G. Walter Titus AUSA Membership Award to five

outstanding cadets and gives financial assistance

The perpetual Lucie Marx Titus President's Award will be awarded to THE outstanding graduating cadet as chosen by

The University's Professor of Military Science.

This is the twelfth year in which the award will be presented.

Additionally, the chapter President donates several AUSA Cadet memberships to the Golden Bear Battalion's 2010

graduating class.

JROTC The chapter also continues to provide six medals and two trophies to the Oakland Technical High School Brigade of Cadets and the Encinal High School JROTC Jet Battalion.

The perpetual MSG Theodore Davis Award of Excellence trophy will be presented for the eleventh time.

We continue to support the two schools' programs and specific projects, sponsor SROTC and JROTC cadets at special ceremonies and attendance at luncheons or dinners.

2. Annual Military and Community Support

The chapter continues to provide chapter support to the Tri-Valley communities, enhancing the membership and raising funds to supplement installation projects.

After instituting the 1st United States Volunteers Command and its members, this chapter has completed in excess of over one thousand burial and memorial honors services. All members of 1USV work without pay and underwrite the cost for ammunition (blanks) for the volleys, travel costs and POVs. These services, sometimes twice a week, are performed at the various area National cemeteries, all at least 100 miles removed from home station.

Our members do this for love of country and to express the thanks of a grateful Nation.

a. The 4th of July Parade in Danville.

b. Armed Forces Day 2010

Memorial Day event 2010 at Oak Hill Park in Danville

Commemorating Veterans Day on 11 November 2009

The chapter consistently sponsors AUSA memberships, medals, ribbons and invitations to luncheons and dinners for outstanding Soldiers and junior leaders;

Chapter leadership decides on worthy causes and supports them, physically and financially;

Annually sponsors the Valentine's Day visitations/gift delivery to the Wounded Warriors at the various VA Hospitals, an effort for which we continue to receive much local press coverage. Various members of the Executive Board continue to visit the hospitalized veterans on a regular basis;

i. Designated members of this chapter have regular speaking engagements with industry and civic leaders, some of which result in added memberships.

We continue our Memorial Day grave site visitations.

Support of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command and, as a result.

Support of recent Enlistees and their families

Christmas packages to support deployed soldiers anywhere they serve

Provide a FREE membership to the offices of the Assemblyman/woman, Congressman/woman, State Senator, and their staffers, thereby assuring their ready support to all of our members

7. Annual Meetings

a. AUSA Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

During the 2009 Annual Meeting, we hope to have the singular honor to again host several Congresspersons at the Eisenhower Reception AND Luncheon, and to the Sixth Region Breakfast to present the various streamers to the chapters, AND to the Reception and Marshall Dinner Banquet.

b. Sixth Region Meeting 2009

In 2009, the Sixth Region Meeting was held in Reno, Nevada, and was well attended.