



middle high school students at the annual chapter Veteran's Day visit at the San Francisco VA.

To honor our nation's veterans and their families, a special Veteran's Day Military Tribute was hosted by the General R.F. Travis #490 Chapter of the National Sojourners at the Suisun-Fairfield Masonic Lodge #55 in Fairfield, California.

## *Veteran's Day Celebration 2011*

The San Francisco Bay Area (SFBA) Chapter National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) took part in two separate 2011 Veteran's Day celebrations.

Several chapter members attended a celebration at the San Francisco Veteran's Administration, while others attended a celebration at the Fairfield-Suisun Masonic Lodge #55, hosted by the National Sojourners at Masonic affiliation.

Shown above, chapter president CDR Rob Smith, USCG, membership director LCDR Jim Haskins, USN Ret., and vice president LCDR Mark Harris, USCG are photographed with LT Cliff Harrison, CDR David Chareonsuphiphat, LCDR Glenn Galman – all Coast Guard, Emmanuel Smith (back), and Robi Datta local



Presenting colors: YN3 Efen Reynoso and SK2 Jonathan Hedges



The ceremony started with the presentation of colors, national anthem, and invocation. At the conclusion of the tribute, as luck would

have it the cassette machine had no power. However, the organ player stepped in and gave a beautiful rendition of taps that received a huge round of applause.



The master of ceremony, Mr. Michael Woodruff seen to the right in the red and blue colonial uniform, greeted everyone with a Sojourner's welcome and provided the audience with a brief summary events which included a flag folding ceremony and reading of the Flag Folding Lecture, and an outstanding rendition of a "Toast to the Flag" given by MAJ Richard Williams, chapter president.



Unbeknownst to the audience, Mr. Woodruff called all veterans to the center of the Lodge where he presented military veterans with a Veteran's pin, and awarded all veterans who were also Masons with an honorary

Forget-Me-Not pin, which was worn on the lapel by Masons during WWII to note their survival of the war.

PFC Ken McKendry, seen below, served 39 months during WWII from 1942-45 in the European Theatre. He served at Normandy, Northern France, Belgium, and Germany. PFC McKendry is a golden pin Freemason.



Mr. Ken Ronning, seen below, is a 32 year military veteran, and actually served in all five (5) military branches. Mr. Ronning first served in the Marine Corps, then the Navy, Army, and Coast Guard before retiring while serving in the Air Force. When asked, Mr. Ronning said he enjoyed his duty as a United States Marine best.





TSgt Glenn Secrets was a load master and retired from the Air Force. He served in Vietnam, with more than 500 hours flying combat missions. He also served in Hanoi when the U.S. prisoners of war were released in 1973.



Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class John Burtrum, US Army Ret. is photographed with CDR Adolph Keyes, USCG Ret. John is a Vietnam vet who retired after 24 years of service as a Green Beret. Sgt Burtrum and Chief Petty Officer Gary Perkins, USCG Ret., photo not available, had the distinction of folding the ceremonial flag.



Stepfather of CDR Adolph Keyes, Crosby Bonner, Jr., served as a Corporal (Cpl) in the Air Force during WWII, completing his basic training at Fort Hood, Texas and serving briefly in the Philippines before separating from the service at Hamilton Field, Marin, California in late 1946.



SFBA would like to extend a hearty and must gracious thank you to the aforementioned persons and to all the men and women who are serving and those who have served our nation making it the most powerful nation in the world, and defend the rights of all mankind and the freedoms of democracy.