



FBINAA | CA NEWSLETTER

Message from our new 2023 Chapter President— Josh Ehlers



Fellow Alums,

On behalf of the FBI National Academy Associates, California Chapter, Executive Board, I wanted to extend warm greetings to you as we enter 2023. It is both humbling and a privilege to serve as your president this year. As a member of the Executive Board, I have seen our association grow, add area representatives for Divisions to increase reach, improve our financial stability, and continue to provide valuable training to graduates and command staff across the state.

As a profession we have already faced tragedy in California with the murders of Deputies Isaiah Cordero and Darnell Calhoun of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, and Officer Gonzalo Carrasco of the Selma Police Department. The loss of these fine men is heart wrenching to their families, friends, departments, and community, beyond what words can adequately express. The California Chapter in partnership with the Verizon Fallen Officers Fund will continue to support the families of the fallen whenever and wherever that need is.

On a national level, the recent death of Tyre Nichols in Memphis, TN and its direct and indirect effect on American law enforcement is tragic and unacceptable. As an organization we condemn the actions of the officers involved in the death of Mr. Nichols in Memphis and we support the criminal justice process as it moves forward, while continuing to pray for peace and healing in the time that follows.

As leaders we must continue to strive to support the missions of our organizations, to serve and protect the public, and lead our profession during challenging times that affect us all. We must identify future leaders, uphold the ideals of the National Academy and our chosen vocation in order to preserve the health and safety of the communities we are sworn to protect.

I ask for your continued support and participation in the most powerful law enforcement network and association in the world. I am proud each and every day that I put on the uniform and serve. We have a unique charge and what you do matters, well beyond the criticism or the kudos, which you or your organizations may receive.

Thank you for your service and I wish you much health, safety, and happiness in 2023! I look forward to seeing you at LEEDS in San Diego or at our annual conference in Long Beach.

Sincerely, *Josh Ehlers*

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other"

-John F. Kennedy

IN THIS ISSUE:

- New President's Message
- Historian's Msg.
- Secretary's Msg.
- Treasurer's Rpt.
- New Area Reps
- Sacramento Div
- San Francisco Div
- San Diego Div
- Los Angeles Div
- Glad / Sad News
- Urgent Msg. from our Treasurer



CHAPTER SECRETARY - MAX SANTIAGO'S NEW ROLE



Recently, our Chapter Secretary and 2015 Past President **Max Santiago, NA 214** was appointed by the Executive Board of the FBINAA Charitable Foundation to serve as an Ambassador for the Foundation. The Foundation's mission, now and into the future, is the care and support of members of the FBI National Academy Associates, and their families who are in distress, or in harm's way, and the continued educational development of our members and their families, as well as the members of other nonprofit law enforcement affiliated associations. The Foundation is a separate legal entity from the FBI National Academy Associates and is governed by a separate Board of Directors. However, the Foundation works in partnership the FBI National Academy Associates. To date the Foundation has assisted 105 members with \$199,500 and provided 106 college scholarships totaling \$106,000 for a total of \$305,500! Please visit <https://fbinaafoundation.org> to donate or learn more about the Foundation.

Max's primary responsibility as a Charitable Foundation Ambassador is to produce testimonial videos featuring NA graduates who received assistance from the Foundation. You may view the testimonials at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@fbinaacharitablefoundation7090/videos>. If you would like to share your story about how the Charitable Foundation assisted you or your family, please contact Max at secretary@fbinaacalifornia.com.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPTER HISTORIAN

Hello members,

I trust you have all had a good start to the New Year, although sadly I know some of you will be dealing with the aftermath of floods, mass shootings and deaths. On a lighter note, we welcome a new Chapter President, Josh Ehlers, who will take the helm for 2023, make sure to read his message.

In support of our profession, I recently attended a Law Enforcement Appreciation Night, hosted by the Elks Club of Salinas. It was a wonderful event and a very nice dinner. The guest speaker was the **Salinas Police Chief, Roberto Filice**, who I found was a FBINA graduate from **NA 255**. Chief Filice emigrated from Italy and his dream was to be a police officer. Chief Filice realized that dream and spent five years at Marina PD and 5 years at Seaside PD, before moving to Salinas PD in 2017 as the Assistant Chief.

Chief Filice, in his speech, talked about our police officers and the difficult and often thankless job that they have today. He talked about officer wellness and lifting the officer's spirits, in the hope of encouraging them to continue in a career to be proud of. Chief Filice ended his speech with a call to action, asking all in attendance to return to their departments and thank the officers for what they do each and every day and tell them they are appreciated! It was uplifting to hear the support and affection the Chief had, for not just his own officers, but for all officers.

Also in attendance at the event was Chief Deputy **Garrett Sanders, NA 268**, with the Monterey County Sheriff's Dept. I met Garrett when I happened upon his NA graduation certificate and photo proudly displayed in a frame on his office wall. Garrett is the **ONLY** NA graduate in his department!

If you have a story, a hobby or an event you want to share with members, contact me at: Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com



Chief **Roberto Filice, NA 261** with Historian **Gina Di Napoli, NA 225** and to the right with Monterey County Chief Deputy **Garrett Sanders, NA 268**



TREASURER'S REPORT: FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

FOR MEMBERS INTERESTED IN WHAT OCCURS DURING THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Article 2, Section 3 of our Bylaws reads, "The Second Vice-President shall be Chairperson of the Financial Review Committee. This committee shall have the responsibility of reviewing the books of the Treasurer on an annual basis and submitting a written report concerning said books at the next regular meeting of the membership."

According to the Chapter Protocols, the 2nd VP shall chair the Financial Review Committee established during the first business meeting at the annual conference. Due to schedule conflicts in 2022, the committee met two weeks early.

The written report and conclusions from the CPA's annual review are to be made available to the Financial Review Committee during their review of California Chapter finances at the annual conference.

For 2022, the committee was made up of 2nd VP LAPD Commander Randy Goddard (NA 267), LAPD Lt. Letisia Ruiz (NA 281) and LAPD Lt. Tim Branley (NA 282) The Committee met on October 17, 2022 at LAPD Headquarters. In all honesty, the committee was selected primarily for ease of scheduling, but once the review began, it was discovered that the Committee was exceptionally well qualified to perform the review, with backgrounds in Bookkeeping and Economics.

The review took about 45 minutes, with Chapter Treasurer Mike Barletta (NA 222) answering questions and presenting documentation, both physical and electronic.

With the recent hiring of Dark Horse Accounting LLC, we are finally transitioning to an automated, electronic bookkeeping system, which ultimately will result in not having to cart the bulk of our documents around the State, but instead can find receipts and accounting all on-line.

Thanks to Randy, Lety and Tim for performing this very important task. If you are looking for an opportunity to help out with Chapter functions, please feel free to volunteer with VP Scott Savage to serve on this very important Committee at the 2023 California Chapter Conference in Long Beach.





SACRAMENTO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION:



Hello members,

The Sacramento Division welcomes not one, but two new Area Representatives. We have Jason Russo who is in the Citrus Heights area and Chris Hewitt, who is in Calaveras County. With the new Area Representatives you will have more Chapter contacts and events that will be in areas of the Division we haven't always been able to get to on a regular basis. You can read a little more about the Area Reps in this newsletter.

One of the highlights of our Division is the Christmas luncheon and last year it certainly didn't disappoint. The event was held on December 8th at the Randy Peters Catering and Event Center. The decorations were beautiful and festive, the meal was delicious and the raffle and take home items were outstanding. Approximately 60 members got to enjoy the event and a big THANK YOU goes out to our sponsor, Data Pilot, and Paul Aleman who attended representing the company. Our sponsors are important, not only do they support us at events, but they offer items and services that our departments and agencies can use and very often need.

As this is a time for renewing our Chapter dues, I would encourage you (if you haven't done so already) to renew and urge other members that you know, to renew also. I have had a few members thank me for the nudge, so I am passing the nudge along. Please remember to contact either myself or the new Area Reps with any news, promotions, transfers or events that you want to share.

4th Vice President, Jim Macedo, NA 262

Email: sacramentovp@fbinaacalifornia.com





SACRAMENTO DIVISION AREA REPRESENTATIVES

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AREA REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION:

JASON RUSSO



Commander **Jason Russo, NA 272**, began his law enforcement career as an intern with the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office while attending Sacramento State University. After earning a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1996, he worked in the bay area as a police officer, and promoted to Sergeant in 2003.

In May of 2006, Russo helped launch the Citrus Heights Police Department. Russo has served Citrus Heights PD in a variety of leadership capacities such as SWAT, Tactical and Sniper Team Leader and Training Manager. He also led teams in Patrol, Traffic, and Investigations.

Commander Russo promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2013 and served as the Watch Commander in Patrol. Additionally he managed both the Special Operations and the Professional Standards Units. Commander Russo has distinguished himself in the community through his work with numerous community service clubs, including the Citrus Heights Police Activities League, Relay for Life, Tip a Cop, the Holiday Referral Program, and countless events.

He promoted to Commander in 2018 and has led both the Operations Division and the Special Services Division over the past several years. He holds a master's degree in Organizational Leadership and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He is also a graduate of the POST Executive Development Course and the Executive Leadership Institute at Drucker School of Management.

Commander Russo is a member of International Association of the Chiefs of Police and serves on the training committee for California Police Chiefs Association. Commander Russo now serves as the Northern California Area Representative for the California Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates.

Contact: Sacnorthar@fbinaacalifornia.com



SACRAMENTO DIVISION AREA REPRESENTATIVES *continued..*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AREA REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SACRAMENTO DIVISION: (Representing the Southern Area of the Sacramento Division)

CHRIS HEWITT



Prior to entering law enforcement, **Chris Hewitt** served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1989 to 1993 as an infantry rifleman. Upon his honorable discharge he moved to Colorado where he applied and was hired as a correctional officer for Mesa County (Grand Junction). A year later Hewitt lateralled to the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy.

In 1999, Hewitt relocated to California, namely Calaveras County, where he joined the Calaveras Sheriff's Office as a deputy. Now, after 28 years in law enforcement and having promoted through the ranks after serving as a training officer, detective, SWAT team member and commander, and having worked in various other specialty assignments, he is putting in his time serving the California Chapter of the FBINAA.

Commander Hewitt was finally able to attend the FBI National Academy in 2021, after a 1-½ year delay due to COVID and the lockdowns. Commander Hewitt graduated from **NA 280** in December 2021.

Commander Hewitt has a Master of Arts degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security from Arizona State University, which I am sure his department will find useful. Chris tells us he looks forward to being the FBINAA Sacramento Division southern area representative for the California Chapter and we look forward to having him on board. All you members in the southern area of the Sacramento Division now have someone to reach out to.

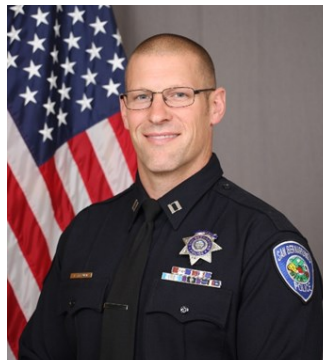
Contact: Sacsouthar@fbinaacalifornia.com



WELCOME TO THE LOS ANGELES DIVISION AREA REPRESENTATIVE

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AREA REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE LOS ANGELES DIVISION:

ADAM AFFRUNTI



Captain **Adam Affrunti, NA 281**, from the San Bernardino Police Department was born and raised in Riverside, California. He graduated from Jurupa Valley High School and obtained a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from California State University San Bernardino prior to joining the force. He has subsequently obtained an MBA from the University of Redlands.

Adam has been with the San Bernardino Police Department for 20 years. As an officer he worked gangs, motors, BMET, SWAT and as an academy tactical officer. As a detective he was assigned to robbery/homicide, and as a sergeant after a stint in patrol, he worked as the Executive Adjutant. Adam spent several years managing IA and as a captain has managed all three divisions of the department. Currently he is the Administrations Services Division Commander.

Captain Affrunti has graduated from the POST Command College, the California Chief's Executive Leadership Institute, the LAPD Leadership Academy and the 281st session of the FBINA.



Adam has been married to his wife Caitlyn for five years and they spend their free time traveling with their pets, along with training for and competing in Spartan events. Adam tells us he is looking forward to working with the California Chapter of the FBINA to build on the camaraderie we all started back in Quantico.

Here is Adam and his wife at the finish line of a Spartan event.

Contact: Losangelesar@fbinaacalifornia.com



SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION: 2nd Vice President, Scott Savage.



In December, the San Francisco Division hosted the annual Holiday Lunch at the Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose. Over 50 members were in attendance, with FBI's recently assigned Special Agent in Charge for the San Francisco Division Robert Tripp serving as the Keynote Presenter. SAC Tripp discussed leadership issues as well as challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. He highlighted his desire to continue and to strengthen partnerships with all agencies in the SF area of responsibility



The next SF Division event is scheduled for **Friday, March 10, 2023** in Santa Clara. Member Mike Kihmm is hosting and details will be forthcoming shortly, so mark your calendars as you won't want to miss it.

CHAPTER RETRAINER 2024

While it's a way out, planning continues for the 2024 California Chapter retrainer. We are currently soliciting requests for proposals from venues in the San Francisco Division's area of responsibility (and beyond if necessary) and hope to have an update on dates and location shortly.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The 2023 applications for the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) are currently being solicited from the San Francisco and Sacramento Divisions, (each Division authorized to select one attendee). The filing deadline for the application is **February 3, 2023**. The program, June 22-30, 2023, has been limited to rising high school sophomores and juniors, ages 14-16, although this opportunity has been extended to rising seniors who will be 16 years of age at the start of the program in June. Applications are supplied upon request by email to sanfranciscovcp@fbinaacalifornia.com

PERSONNEL UPDATES

Congratulations are extended to Michelle Jean, NA Session 271 on her appointment as Chief of Police in Tiburon.

As always, we are seeking to keep our membership up to date with respect to promotions, retirements, and changes in agencies. If you are aware of any such news, please send an email to sanfranciscovcp@fbinaacalifornia.com so that the information can be published in future newsletters and in the NA Associates magazine. Thank you.

Scott Savage, 2nd Vice President

FBINAA California Chapter, Session 237



SAN DIEGO DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SAN DIEGO DIVISION 3rd VICE PRESIDENT:

Hello San Diego Division members,

Happy New Year to all of our California members. I'm very pleased to announce that our 2023 LEEDS conference will take place in beautiful San Diego on May 22nd through May 25th. Please visit the following link <https://fbinaasd.square.site> for information to register for the class and hotel. We have received a reduced government rate for the hotel, so please use the link in order to receive the reduced rate.

On December 8th, the San Diego Chapter held its Holiday luncheon in National City. Our attendees were treated to a great meal and some nice door prizes (a special thanks to First Tactical, Marc Reno for his donations). We were honored to have the San Diego FBI Division Special Agent in Charge, Stacy Moy, as our guest speaker. FBI Director Christopher Wray named SAC Moy, a San Diego native, as the special agent in charge of the San Diego Field Office back in February of 2022. SAC Moy most recently served as the Special Agent in Charge of the Intelligence and Incident Response Division in the FBI's Washington Field Office, so a very knowledgeable and informed speaker.



SAC Stacy Moy talks to attendees.



WELCOME NEW GRADUATES:

Congratulations to our most recent graduates from session 284:

- Alonso DeVelasco, Lieutenant, Carlsbad PD
- John McKean, Lieutenant, Oceanside PD
- Shawn Takeuchi, Captain, San Diego PD
- Shawn Wray, Lieutenant, San Diego SO

Congratulations to attendees for the 285th Session:

- Dustin Lopez, Captain, San Diego County Sheriff's Department
- Kevin Wadhams, Lieutenant, San Diego Police Department
- Billy Weese, Lieutenant, Oceanside Police Department
- Sean Acuna, Sergeant, Calexico Police Department

Let's share with the other Divisions what we are doing. Contact me, your 4th VP, Alex Hernandez, AHernandez@nationalcityca.gov and let me know.



2023 CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR (CALEEDS)

Join us in America's Finest City!



CA LEEDS 2023 LEEDS Conference



REGISTRATION
NOW
OPEN



May 22 - 25, 2023
Monday-Thursday



8am-5pm



Wyndham San Diego
Bayside Hotel

Please visit:

www.fbinaasd.square.site

Questions?

SANDIEGOVP@FBINAACALIFORNIA.COM



LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM LOS ANGELES DIVISION:

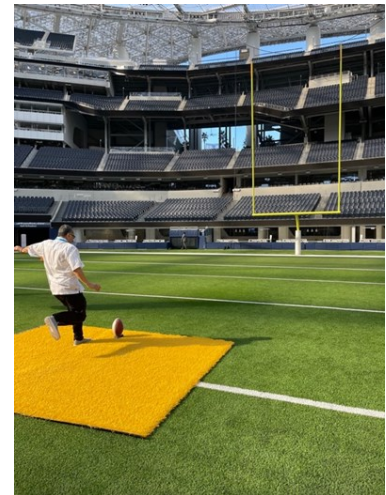
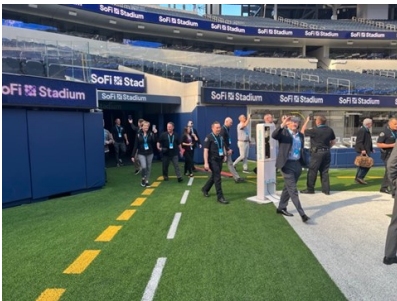
2023 California State Re-trainer Conference:

The Los Angeles Division is hosting the 2023 California State Re-trainer Conference in Long Beach, so please mark your calendars and save the date August 29-31, 2023. The Westin Hotel Long Beach is the venue and is located in downtown Long Beach, across from the Shoreline Village <https://shorelinevillage.com>, the Pike <https://thepikeoutlets.com>, and the harbor. The area has dozens of fun activities for the whole family and the weather should be great! Here is a link to a video of the hotel: [Westin Hotel Long Beach California Video Tour- YouTube](#)

Registration will be posted for the conference and a link to hotel reservations will be provided the second week of February. <http://www.fbinaacc.com>.

Los Angeles Division Holiday Luncheon after the Holidays:

Thank you to everyone that came out for our luncheon at Sofi Stadium. We had the commoner tour and a special tour for VIPs from the security of their command post and secret areas. A big thank you to ADIC **Don Alway, NA 204**, for attending and introducing himself to the membership. ADIC Always is not a stranger to the Los Angeles Area, so it was nice to have him in attendance. Here are some photos of the day's events and thankfully, no on-duty injuries from kicking field goals, throwing passes, or running the 40-yard dash.



Going for it!



ADIC Don Alway addressing the membership



LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS CONTINUED...

A MESSAGE FROM LOS ANGELES DIVISION CONTINUED:

Session 286:

Session 286 candidates from the LA Division will begin their journey toward the Yellow Brick Road on April 3, 2023. Congratulations to the Los Angeles Division Candidates for Session 286!

- Chief Michael Claborn, Los Alamitos Police Division
- Lieutenant Sean Dawkins, Pasadena Police Department
- Commander Alan Hartkop, Ventura County Sheriff's Office
- Lieutenant Nicholas Marotta, Chino Police Department
- Lieutenant Jeff Simonton, San Bernardino Sheriff's Department
- Lieutenant Shannon White, Los Angeles Police Department

In addition, please welcome LA Division's new Area Representative, Captain Adam Affrunti, with the San Bernardino Police Department, Session 281. You can read about Captain Affrunti in the newsletter along with the new Sacramento Division Area Representatives.

Personnel Updates: (Please look in Glad and Sad News at the end of the Newsletter for all updates)

There's a new Sheriff in Town for Ventura County. Sheriff **James Fryhoff, NA 261**, was sworn in as Ventura's County Sheriff.



Sheriff Fryhoff is pictured here with California Chapter's Past President, **Eric Sonstegard, NA 246**, (Left-side) and newly appointed Assistant Sheriff **Andrew Salinas, NA 253** (Right-side)



This picture sent in by LAPD Commander **Bryan Lium** (on the right), who was a Session 261 classmate with Sheriff Fryhoff and to the left Chief **Paul LeBron**, Hermosa Beach Police Department, also from Session 261.

WOW! WELL DONE SESSION 261.

As always, we are seeking to keep our membership up to date for promotions, retirements, and changes in agencies. If you are aware of any of these changes, please email losangelesvp@fbinaocalifornia.com so the information can be published in future newsletters and the NA Associates magazine.

Randy Goddard, 2022 – 1st Vice President (LA Division)
FBI National Academy Associates, Inc.,
California Chapter
LAPD Commander
FBINA Session 267

GLAD NEWS:

Congratulations on their promotion goes out to:



- Congratulations to **Andrew Salinas, NA 253**, who is the new Assistant Sheriff of Ventura County.

Seen here with our Chapter Past President **Eric Sonstegard, NA 246**. (Photo 5)

- Congratulations go out to the new Ventura County Sheriff, **James Fryhoff, NA 261**. Sheriff Fryhoff was formerly the Chief of Thousand Oaks PD and Ojai PD before that. He started his career as a Cadet with the Pasadena Police before moving and joining the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.



L-R: Daughter Savanna, wife Traci and daughter Vanessa, surround and support Sheriff Fryhoff on the day he is sworn in.



- Congratulations to former Long Beach Police Chief, **Robert Luna, NA 198**, who was recently sworn in as the Los Angeles County Sheriff. (Photo 4)



- Congratulations to SFPD Captain **Michelle Jean, NA 271**, who was recently named the first female Chief of the Tiburon Police Department.

MORE GLAD NEWS:

Retirements:



- Congratulations to Chief **William Imboden, NA 258** who retired in September 2022 from the Hercules Police Department, San Francisco Division.

MORE GLAD NEWS CONTINUED:

Retirements



- Congratulations to Captain **Joseph B. Nuñez, NA 224**, who recently retired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department after 41 years of dedicated service. Captain Nunez was last assigned to the Scientific Services Bureau.

Thank you for your 41 years of service!

SAD NEWS:

We are sad to report the passing of:



- It is with much sadness we report the passing of 20-year veteran of the California Highway Patrol, Captain **Julie Harding (nee Horstman), NA 258**, who passed away in October 2022.

- We are sorry to announce the passing of retired Placer County Sheriff's Office Captain, Kent Hawthorne, NA 203. The services for retired Captain Hawthorne will be taking place February 4th, in Reno, NV.

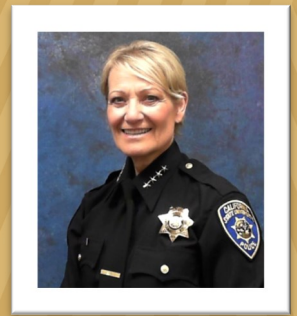
NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

BIG REMINDER FOR THOSE BEING PROMOTED, TRANSFERING TO ANOTHER AGENCY OR RETIRING...PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL INFORMATION, SO THE CHAPTER CAN STAY IN TOUCH AND KEEP YOU UPDATED. THANK YOU!

Contact Us

Please call our Historian, Gina Di Napoli, if you have information you would like to have put in the Newsletter or if you have information you feel our members would enjoy reading.

We are also interested in any events which would include our members.



Gina Haynes Di Napoli

(916) 849-4462

Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com

Visit us on the web at
www.fbinaacalifornia.com



URGENT MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



AmazonSmiles Program & 5.11 program to end on February 20th, 2023.

Dear California Chapter member or friend,

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that at **no cost to you**, 0.5% of all of your Amazon purchases can be donated to the California Chapter of the FBINAA! This program is due to end soon, so please, get your purchases in now before the Smile program goes away. Many thanks to those who have used Amazon Smile and assisted the Chapter.

It's easy! Instead of logging on to the regular Amazon web site, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2763282> and log in using your regular Amazon log in name and password. Please note that by using AmazonSmile there is **no increase in the amount you pay for your item.** AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Please support our Chapter at no cost to you by starting your shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2763282>