

MOAA Event, San Diego, CA January 26, 2012

On January 26, 2012, BrendaLee Winans, Senior Gateway Applicant and Recruiter Connect Specialist attended a Military Spouse Symposium & Career Fair in San Diego, CA. The event was presented by the Military Officers Association of America and Blue Star Families. MOAA's theme for the event was "Keeping a Career on the Move".



The day started with the welcome address from VADM Norb Ryan, Jr USN-Ret, President of MOAA. He then passed the microphone to Lea Sutton, Military Reporter for NBC 7, San Diego. Ms Sutton spoke about her life while in the Navy. She is a USN Veteran herself, who flew F/A 18's in Iraq and Afghanistan. She understands first-hand the obstacles that transitioning military and military spouses face when trying to break back into the work force. She also is a military spouse; her

husband currently serves in the Navy.

As the day continued, attendees were able to have a Q & A session with a panel of employers from Facebook, the United Way, and a Vice President of Human Resources for SHRM (Society for Human Resource Management). Each gave valuable advice on how to approach a job search, other avenues on getting a resume out there, interview skills, and how to network effectively.



For the rest of the morning, workshops were available for those who wanted to learn how to build their brand and understand their dependable strengths. It was an internal look into discovering their passion and what they love to do.



BrendaLee Winans with SFC Leroy Petry,
Medal of Honor Recipient

During the break for lunch, guests were able to listen to an informal interview with American journalist and media host, David Hartman, first host of *Good Morning America*, and Medal of Honor Recipient SFC Leroy Petry, US Army. David and SFC Petry spoke about what led up to the events that awarded Sgt Petry the Medal of Honor. It was a very personal story and very humbling to hear what he and his men went through. He recounted how, in the battle, he lost his right arm in communication with support. By his heroic act, he was able to save the lives of his soldiers and himself. Sgt Petry now uses a state-of-the-art prosthetic called an iLimb Pulse in place of his right hand and is the only living Medal of Honor recipient still on active duty.



BrendaLee Winans with Glenn Gray,
Director of Congressional Relations and Priority Programs –
TriWest Healthcare Alliance



BrendaLee Winans with SGT Ebony Campbell, USMC,
Camp Pendleton, CA. Ebony is about to transition back
into the civilian work and ready to make her job search a success.