

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

March 31, 1962

The Program For USO Month

Sunday, April 1, will officially usher in plans for April as USO Month. That evening a dinner will be held in the social hall of the USO with the members of the board of management, military personnel, former hostesses and volunteers as guests. It is planned to serve the guests and servicemen by supper groups.

The evening of April 1 is scheduled for a kick-off dinner, with folk dancing, Dale Lefler Showtime Revue plus Vic Kirk, magician and other folk dancers, entertaining.

The Ladies of Moose will serve the dinner April 3 when a salute to the Army Language School will take place and the program will be presented by the honored guests.

The following Sunday, April 15, will be a salute to Fort Ord with the Soldiers Chorus presenting its usual delightful program.

Easter Sunday, St. Timothy's Lutheran Church will present Easter music and be hosts at the supper, it is anticipated. "The Coming of Christ," a movie, Will also be a feature of the evening's program.

The last of the Sunday evening suppers planned to salute the various armed forces on the Peninsula, will be held April 29 as a salute to the Navy. The Seaside Business and Professional Women will be hosts at the supper and Hartnell College of Salinas will do bits and hits from Broadway shows.

Special movies on the evenings of April 12, April 20 and April 26, will feature a Festival of Americas; close up of Kuwait; Good Friday, the "Coming of Christ" and a miracle (John Glenn) orbits the earth.

Each of the five Sunday evenings in April there will be presented in the social hall feature movies: "The Private War of Major Benson," "Genevieve," "The Eagle and the Hawk," "The Purple Plain" and "Drums Across the River."

Musical programs have not been neglected by the committee in charge. Music teachers are arranging music for the evening of April 9. Two organ recitals will be given April 9 and 13 by Dee Fisher, organist at Disneyland, and Fred Stitt of the Baldwin Organ Club. Vincent Russo, tenor and pianist, will entertain Monday evening, April 16. A hymn sing will take place Friday

evening, April 20, and on Thursday evening, April 26, a Salinas group has planned a musical for the USO Month. Junipero Memorial High School will preside over the program on the stage on the last evening in April.

Very special events of April will include a Vagabonds' Ham dinner on Tuesday, April 9; open house and formal dance Monday evening, the 23rd; old timers' reunion and folk dancing, April 27, and Military Appreciation Day.

It is obvious that there are three great influences which combine to create the total attitude of today's new soldier: the social and educational environment from which he comes, the effect of military training and in-barracks, on-post living experiences; and the use of his leisure time, spent off-post in the civilian community.

It is in the civilian community where the seeds of positive or negative attitudes are sown - where the morale of the individual soldier is strengthened or shattered. It is here, at the USO, where the uniform, is accepted, and the civilian population of Monterey has assisted the national organization backed up by the board of management and the residents of the Peninsula, that the men find a "home away from home."

So, let's get behind the USO and make April a real USO Month.