



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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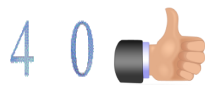
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Volume XXIV Number 2



April 2014



5 Star Chapter President's Message By Rufus Hoefer

On Sunday, 27 April 2014, we will celebrate our chapter's 40th anniversary! MOAA President and CEO, Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, will be the guest speaker and we will have a 50/50 raffle! Please see the article on page 3 and the reservation on page 5.

Do you ever ask yourself, "What's MOAA done for me lately?" Well, on 15 FEB 2014, S.25 was signed into law and it is now Public Law 113-82. It repealed certain provisions of the Bipartisan Budget Act, namely the annual one percent reduction in COLA raises for all military retirees under age 62 and everyone who entered active duty prior to 1 JAN 2014. However, it did not repeal the reduction for those who entered active duty after that date.

This is a vivid example of what MOAA has done for us lately. Here are some remarks on this subject provided by our upcoming speaker, **Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, USN (Ret.):**

"As you are aware MOAA, with huge support from their Council and Chapter networks, led the charge in Congress' recent relief of the latest harmful cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) cuts. The MOAA legislative team along with your Council & Chapter Network worked tirelessly and our members sent over 295,000 messages urging Congress to do the right thing. We spoke. They listened, but the battle is far from over.

"It was an important victory, saving working-age retirees tens of thousands in earned lifetime benefits. But, critical military benefits remain in jeopardy. The FY2015 defense budget is full of proposals to cut pay and benefits and shift costs to service members, retirees and military families. The proposals impact every segment of the military and retiree population, and include a military pay cap below the private sector for the second consecutive year, a change to the basic allowance for housing where service members will pay out-of-pocket for their housing costs. A significant reduction to domestic commissary savings for uniformed personnel to the tune of 66% and the elimination of the managed health care option (TRICARE PRIME) for retirees and active duty family members."



Bring Something to the 27 April Social for SUPPORT THE TROOPS

2014 Chapter Social Dates

16 Mar	Northern Quest Casino
27 Apr	Mukogawa Ft. Wright
8 Jun	Longhorn BBQ
21 Sep	TBD
26 Oct	Coeur d'Alene Resort
7 Dec	Mukogawa Ft. Wright

2014 Wives & Widows Club Meeting Dates



7 Jan	Toro Sushi Bar & Grill
4 Feb	Davenport Hotel Tower Safari Rm
4 Mar	Twigs North
1 Apr	Grill from Ipanema
6 May	May Tea at the Silver Spoon
3 Jun	Dockside—Coeur d'Alene Resort
1 Jul	Twigs Bistro & Martini Bar
5 Aug	Beachouse Bar & Grill—CdA
2 Sep	Christ's Kitchen
7 Oct	Luna's Restaurant
4 Nov	P.F. Chang's China Bistro
2 Dec	Anthony's Restaurant

Now Hear This!

JROTC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

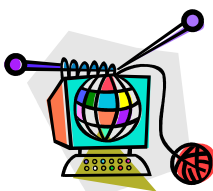


Thanks to our members' generous response to the article in the February newsletter, we now have a total of \$2,036 for the Colonel Spady Koyama Scholarship Fund. We needed \$2,000 in order to award four \$500 scholarships to the JROTC Units we support at Cheney, Rogers, Wellpinit and Kellogg high schools.

This is the third consecutive year the Spokane Chapter will have made these scholarships available to JROTC students in these four schools. Your prompt and openhanded response is truly appreciated.

Help Wanted: Chapter Website Project

Our chapter is looking for someone with website maintenance experience for a long-term project. Interested applicants must demonstrate excellent skill in programming and using HTML, PHP and JavaScript, and be able to showcase online examples of their work.



Anyone who's interested is asked to contact Alan Davis at Rota_AI@Yahoo.Com.



Our Hat Is Off To:



Member Recruiters	Chapter 2014	MOAA 2014
Clif Collier	1	
Bob Imle		1
Dave Melges		1
TOTALS	1	2

CHAPTER SCOREBOARD 2014



JROTC Scholarship Funds on hand as of 3/28/14: \$2,036.
Legislative Letters, Postcards & Emails: 397 as of 28 Mar 2014.
2014 Raffle Donations: MAR \$180 COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships; APR Widows & Wives (for Wreaths Across America); JUN Fisher House; SEP MOAA Scholarship Fund; OCT Spokane Veterans Home, DEC ROTC/JROTC Unit Support..
Total 2014 raffle donations: \$ 180
Widows & Wives: Spokane Food Bank \$56 & 38 lbs. food. Spokane Veterans Home: stationery, puzzles, magazines, calendars, gloves, cards, socks, hang-ers, squeeze balls.



Spokane Chapter, MOAA

**2012 First Prize Winner
Best Legislative Coverage for
Website
Fifth Consecutive Year!**

WIDOWS & WIVES CLUB

By Beth Ann Daigre



As all of you long-time members know, the Widows and Wives Club has been active since 2007. We started out as a social group to be of support to wives transitioning to widowhood. Along the way we kept ourselves busy by doing good works for our military. We support the **Spokane Veterans Home, Spokane Homeless Veterans program and Second Harvest food bank**, plus a few more. Last year we took in \$746 and spent \$754. Our expenses included office supplies, postage stamps, donations to Women Warriors, wheel chair gloves for the veterans at the Home, Wreaths across America and Christ Clinic. Then there were cash and food donations to the food bank, and cash for personal hygiene items for the homeless vets which adds another \$56 and 38 lbs of food to our programs. We do these things in the name of the Widows and Wives of the Military Officers Association of America Spokane Chapter.

Starting this year we will bring a box to the socials so that you can help us in the following endeavors:

- Veterans Home:** large number/letter Pinochle cards and birthday cards
- Homeless Veterans:** white tube socks and crew socks
- Food bank:** \$\$ and food (prefer money)



If you are a non-working widow or wife and need something to do, come join us. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM at various restaurants. You can find our 2014 monthly calendar on our chapter website (www.spokanemoaa.org) and on the front page of this newsletter. Many of us carpool to the luncheons. Let me know if you would like to share a ride with someone. Beth Ann Daigre 509-921-9581 or 509-220-6508.

Now Hear This!



40th Anniversary Social!



40th Anniversary
Spokane Chapter, MOAA



27 April 2014

Mukogawa/Ft Wright Institute



Founded 22 April 1974

Military Officers Association of America

A Five Star Chapter serving

Northeastern Washington and North Idaho

Spokane Chapter, MOAA was founded in April 1974, and we will have the pleasure of celebrating our 40th Anniversary on Sunday, 27 April at a **seated dinner** at **Mukogawa Ft. Wright Institute**. We will provide a corsage to all Auxiliary members who attend. Beer and wine will be available, and we will have a 50/50 raffle plus two other prizes. Who knows? If you come, you might win half the raffle proceeds, so please fill out the reservation coupon on page 5 and ensure that we receive it by Friday, 18 April.

As noted in the President's Piece on page 1, our **guest speaker will be Vice Admiral Norbert Ryan, USN (Ret.)**. He is the **President and CEO of MOAA**, and we are very privileged to have him. We most strongly encourage you to join us for this milestone event which will also include the **Rogers High School JROTC Unit, who will present the colors and perform their "Fallen Comrades" remembrance**.

Vice Admiral Ryan is a 1967 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. One of the little known facts about him is that his identical twin brother, John, is also a 1967 USNA graduate and a retired Vice Admiral. Imagine being their proud parents! VADM Norb Ryan has served in his current position since September 2002. Prior to taking the helm at MOAA,

he spent 35 years on active duty serving as a naval aviator and P-3 pilot, Commanding Officer of Patrol Squadron 5 (VP-5), Commander of Patrol Wing Two, Commander of Patrol Wings U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Commander of Task Force Twenty. He was also the Navy's Chief of Legislative Affairs and Chief of Naval Personnel, so now we know why he's done so well at MOAA!

He was named 2010 Association Executive of the Year by *Association TRENDS*, a national trade publication. He is the first military officer to win this award in its 32-year history. Under Admiral Ryan's leadership, MOAA has been named a "Top Lobbyist" by *The Hill* newspaper for the past six years, and the only military service organization so listed for the last three years. Please do come and meet VADM Ryan, and see for yourself what an outstanding and gracious leader we are privileged to have. He will be accompanied by his lovely wife, Judy.

We have also invited other military officers from the local area and nearby chapters, as well as those who comprise the Washington State Council of Chapters (WSCOC) which is having their Spring meeting at the Mirabeau Park Hotel the preceding day.

Remember: you only turn 40 once, so this is a once-in-a-lifetime event! Please note that this will be a seated dinner, not a buffet. Mail the reservation coupon on page 5 right away to ensure we receive it by Friday, 18 April.

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Now Hear This!

LCDR David Melges, USN (Ret.) Chapter Secretary



After growing up in southern Minnesota, Dave joined the Navy in 1969 and then attended Fire Control A & C schools in Mare Island, California. He served on USS COCHRANE DDG21 from 1971-1982, attaining the rank of Senior Chief prior to receiving his commission as an Electronics Limited Duty Officer. He then joined the pre-commissioning crew of USS

UNDERWOOD FFG36 in Bath, Maine, serving as Electronics Readiness and Ordnance Officer while attaining his Surface Warfare Qualification and serving as a fleet Officer of the Deck.

In 1987 his first shore duty was as an initial member of the AEGIS Combat Systems Center, Wallops Island, Virginia. He performed many duties there including Scheduling Officer, Maintenance Officer and Combat Systems Officer. In 1989 LT Melges joined the crew of USS LEYTE GULF CG55 as Electronics Material Officer, and during the first Iraq war he served as the Anti-Air Warfare Coordinator in the USS ROOSEVELT CVN70 battle group. His last shore assignment was Enlisted Training Officer at the AEGIS Training Center, Dahlgren, Virginia, from 1994-1996. His final assignment was Combat Systems Officer onboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN CVN72, retiring in 1998.

He worked for the next five years teaching and supporting various Microsoft operating systems and office products. He graduated from Spokane Community College with AA degrees in Biomedical Equipment and Wireless networking. He is currently self-employed as an information technology consultant.

Dave and his wife, Shirley, were married in 1978. She is the Widows and Wives Club Treasurer. They've been in Spokane since the ice storm in 1996. They have two daughters, Gayle and Jessica. Gayle is a graduate of Johnson and Wales in Charlotte, NC, and a USO Volunteer in Columbia, SC. Jessica is a graduate of Spokane Falls Community College and a self-taught seamstress. Shirley, Gayle & Jessica are all Girl Scouts.

5 Star Chapter Application



To be designated as a 5 Star Chapter, we must submit an annual application by 1 June in which we list our achievements in several broad categories. They are Legislative, Recruiting and Retention, Personal Affairs, Programs and Projects that enhance the image of the chapter, and Chapter Vitality.

The most important one is Legislative Affairs, since that is MOAA's "stock in trade." We keep track of every single letter or postcard that is sent from our members and their spouses/family members at board meetings and socials.

We also count any emails that you send to MOAA, but you have to tell us you did it. It's usually the board members who let us know, but if you are doing it **please send an email to Marilyn Hunt at cinc@frontier.com and tell her how many emails you sent to MOAA and what the subject was. It can be short and succinct, like this:**

Marilyn, I sent (no.) emails to MOAA re: (subject). John Doe

EVERY SINGLE LETTER, POSTCARD and EMAIL COUNTS!

Legislative Contacts

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington DC 20500

Washington
Senator Patty Murray
United States Senate
10 North Post St, Suite 600
Spokane WA 99201
509-624-9515
Fax 509-624-9561

Senator Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
920 W. Riverside,
Suite 697
Spokane WA 99201
509-353-2507
Fax 509-353-2547

Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers
United States House of Representatives
10 N. Post St, 6th floor
Spokane WA 99201
509-353-2374
Fax 509-352-2412

Idaho
Senator Mike Crapo
United States Senate
610 W. Hubbard
Suite 209
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
208-664-5490
Fax 208-664-0889

Senator Jim Risch
United States Senate
610 W. Hubbard, Suite 213
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
208-667-6130
Fax 208-765-1743

Representative Raul Labrador, United States House of Representatives
1250 Ironwood Dr.
Suite 243
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
208-667-0127
Fax 208-667-0310

Now Hear This!

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Spokane Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 466
Veradale WA 99037



Sunday, 27 April 2014 Chapter 40th Anniversary Social
Mukogawa Ft. Wright Institute
12:30 Social time, 1:15 p.m. Served Meal begins

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Speaker: Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, USN (Ret.) President & CEO of MOAA!

Rogers High School JROTC will present Colors and do Fallen Comrade ceremony

Mail early so we receive it by Friday, 18 April. Please, no late reservations or walk-ins, as meal preferences must be ordered.

MENU CHOICES: *Served Meal* of Beef Burgundy or Chicken Dijon with Arcadian green salad, egg noodles, broccoli, rolls & butter, and vanilla ice cream with fresh berries and mint sprig. Beer and wine will be available. Auxiliary members who attend will receive a corsage. Cost is \$28.00 per person. Please reserve ____ places for the Sunday, 27 April 2014 luncheon at Mukogawa Ft. Wright Institute. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$28 X ____ no. of reservations). Make check payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" and mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ member/guest BEEF or CHICKEN (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest BEEF or CHICKEN (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest BEEF or CHICKEN (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest BEEF or CHICKEN (circle one)

Directions: SUNDAY 27 April 2014 – 12:30 p.m. Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute, 4000 West Randolph Rd, Spokane. From I-90, Maple St. exit North, turn left on 4th Ave, then left on Sunset Blvd. Stay in the right-hand lane. After the bridge, turn right onto Government Way, and right onto Fort George Wright Drive, go only .1 mile, turn left onto Randolph Road and continue to the roundabout at the end.

Questions? Call Ralph Shrigley (360) 951-2660 or Betty Krafft (509) 768-3138.

We will sign **legislative letters** and have a **50/50 raffle plus three other prizes**. Please bring:

- 3 stamps and 6 address labels per person
- Something for Support the Troops or Homeless Veterans
- **DO NOT bring anything for the raffle!**

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Membership Chair/Committee
Spokane Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 466
Veradale WA 99037

**EMAIL REQUEST, CHANGE OF ADDRESS or PHONE, or
TEMPORARILY AWAY:**

Clip and complete this form and send it to the
address on the left so we can update our database. Thank you.

NOTE: We do not send junk email or spam. Also, we do not give away, sell or trade your email address.

Member name: _____
(Please print clearly)

☐ I would like to be added to the chapter email list. I specifically request to (check all that apply):

☐ Receive the chapter newsletter by email

☐ Receive important information in a timely manner.

☐ My email address is _____
(Please print clearly)

☐ My mailing address, email address, and/or phone number has changed to:

☐ I will be temporarily away starting _____ and returning _____. I do / do not (circle one)
wish to receive the newsletter while I'm away. If "do" please send it to:

Signed: _____

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.SPOKANEMOAA.ORG



Spokane Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. BOX 466
Veradale WA 99037

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Need a Ride to a Chapter Social? Call Anyone Listed Below

WASHINGTON

Clif Collier 509-443-6490
Floyd Geiger 509-328-4483



IDAHO

Richard Oates 208-777-2671
Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671



40th Anniversary
Spokane Chapter, MOAA



27 April 2014

Mukogawa/Ft Wright Institute



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**MOAA National Life Dues vis a vis
Chapter Auxiliary Membership**



Spokane Chapter bylaws require our members to belong to MOAA national. If you have a MOAA national Life membership and predecease your spouse, your membership will become your spouse's. This means that they can continue to belong to the Spokane Chapter as an Auxiliary member and not pay any more dues to MOAA national. So if you think about it that way, you're providing for your spouse in the event of your death. Of course it also means they get all the benefits of MOAA national membership To convert your MOAA Premium (annual) membership to Life, call MOAA national at (800) 234-6622. If you don't want to pay for it in one lump-sum, you can make ten interest-free payments. They will also credit the remaining pro-rata share of your Premium (annual) dues to your Life membership.

Casualty Assistance Officer: Bernie Fritz is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and surrounding area. He is in Bldg. 240 at 7 W. Arnold St., 509-247-4488. If you leave a message, he will call you back.

FAFB Retiree Activities Office

Bldg. 240, 7 W. Arnold St., 509-247-4029

The Retired Affairs Office needs volunteers. Serving at the RAO is a perfect excuse to travel out to the base and visit the exchange/commissary at the same time. Call them!