



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXIX Number 3



May 2019

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5 Star Chapter President's Message

Our next social will be Sunday, 23 June at Highlands Golf Course, Post Falls. The plan is to be outside on the patio weather permitting. We are honored to have MOAA National Senior Director, Council and Chapters Affairs Terri

Coles, Colonel, US Army, (retired) join us. She will have a presentation on MOAA's current legislative initiatives and the MOAA organization.

Colonel Coles served over 20 years in the U.S. Army as a Signal Corps officer, serving in a wide range of command and staff assignments including postings in Korea and Germany and command at both the battalion and brigade level. She also served on the Department of the Army staff as an Inspector General and culminated her military career serving as a division chief in the Command, Control, Communications and Computer-J6 Directorate, on the Joint Staff, Pentagon.

Upon leaving active duty, Terri became active in the local Frederick, Md., community and was selected as a member of the board of associates for Hood College, where she worked to nurture strong relationships between the student vets on campus and the greater Frederick community .

(Continued on page 3)



MOAA Websites & Membership:

MOAA Website: <http://www.moaa.org>

MOAA "Take Action": <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>

MOAA Legislative: <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/#Legislative-Action-Center>

Spokane Chapter website: <http://www.spokanemoaa.org>



Membership in Spokane Chapter and MOAA national is open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States seven uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. MOAA and Spokane Chapter MOAA are nonpartisan.



@SpokaneMOAA
@MOAA

Welcome

Please join me in welcoming new chapter members: **Hubert G. Smith, LGEN USA (ret)** and **Nancy; Joshua Brown, Maj, USAF, (ret)** and **Danila; Robert Mead, Col, USAF (ret)** and **Donna.**

Taps

Henry Eller, Capt, USMC, Ret
25 February 2019

Hats Off To:

Recruiter	Chapter	MOAA
Jon Hall	0	2
Marilyn Hunt	0	5
Dave Melges	0	5
Hugh Smith	1 (self)	1 (self)
2019 Total	1	13

Chapter Scoreboard 2019

JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 5/02/19) \$1457

Legislative Letters, Postcards, & Emails (as of 4/28/19): 401

2018 Total: **1131**

2019 Raffles:

MAR: Meals on Wheels—**\$150**

APR: MOAA Scholarship—**\$180**

JUN: Union Gospel Mission

SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America

OCT: Spokane Veterans Home

DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships.

Widows & Wives:

Homeless Vets **\$189.00, & 4563 items** delivered, including canned meat & fruit, 24 dozen cookies, personal hygiene products and 55 white T-shirts.

Spokane Veterans Home: **\$100.00 & 1151 items** delivered, including new golf balls, puzzles, postage stamps, new greeting cards, sticker sheets, calendars, magazines, adult coloring books, twist up crayons, colored pencils, unfinished wood bird houses, acrylic paint, and disposable razors.

Meals on Wheels **\$108.00**

Wreaths Across America **\$100.00**



Chapter's 45th Anniversary Social

If you were unable to attend the April social at Darcy's here is a picture of the cake all of the attendees enjoyed. We were able to greet Lieutenant General Hugh Smith, USA (retired) and his wife Nancy. Several guests also attended including Barbara Thornbrough's daughter Karen; Maxine Mahoney the McMonigle's guest; Susan Fernau and Bruce Kaufman hosted by Audrey Oates; Patty & Dennis Doyle invited by Betty Krafft. We held a brief ceremony acknowledging chapter members who have passed away during the past 12 months capped by Phil Kowzan playing Taps.

NOW HEAR THIS! Is published at least 6 times per year by the Spokane Chapter, Military Officers Association of America, P O Box 466, Veradale WA 99037. Editor: David Melges, spomoaa@melges.net, 509-218-0735. Advertising limited to members/spouses only. No subject matter that would preclude non-profit mailing.

Terri joined MOAA in 2012 and served as Deputy Director in the Career Transition Center before assuming her role as Senior Director in Council and Chapter Affairs.

She is a native of Philadelphia and holds a Bachelor of Arts in communications from Villanova University and a Master of Arts in strategic studies from the Army War College Pennsylvania.

May is National Military Appreciation Month

In 1999 the first legislation for National Military Appreciation Month began with the support of Congress and over 50 veterans service organizations to honor the men and women who have served and are currently serving in the military.

8 May 2019 – V-E Day

In 1945 Germany surrendered unconditionally. Over 16 million served, over 400,000 killed and an estimated 671,000 wounded.

10 May 2019 – Military Spouses Appreciation Day

Since 1984 the Friday before Mother's Day has been thus designated to salute the selfless contributions and daily sacrifices of Military Spouses as they too shoulder the burdens and challenges of the national defense.

26 May 2019 – Memorial Day

Originally known as Decoration Day until after WWII. Originally to honor Union soldiers who died during the Civil War. Post WWII the holiday was extended to include all who died in any war or military action.



Dave and Rufus meet with Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers

On 24 April Representative Cathy McMoris-Rodgers held a meeting with local Veterans groups at the Spokane Club. She spoke for a few minutes on various subjects like the VA hospital and Fairchild Air Force Base being the test bed for the new electronic medical records that will be compatible with the military and VA systems. She also discussed the need for more staff at the hospital in order to reactivate the emergency room and improve on the mental health services for Veterans. She was able to visit the new Veterans Service Center facility in Spokane Valley and commented on the easy access and one stop approach for Veterans.

Attendees included members of the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee for Washington State, MOAA, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association, Disabled American Veterans (he drove here from Seattle to attend) and representatives from the Veterans Service Center.

Each of the attendees presented concerns of their constituents, items discussed were concerns over the SBP-DIC (widows tax). Possible cost increases for Tricare and Tricare for Life; long wait times for appointment at the hospital. The inability to get diagnosis of presumptive ailments for members who were exposed to Agent Orange and burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan because there was no mention of medical issues upon their separation. Another topic that all spoke about was the inability to get specialized medical appointments without multiple visits with the Primary Care Manager (PCM) since all additional referrals must be made by the PCM. The specialist cannot refer the patient to another specialist to address the needs of the Veteran. This is because of changes in the VA procedures that now require the PCM to make all referrals. These were just some of the most widely discussed items at the meeting.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORT

Key Bills being considered by Congress

Federal – Senate 21

A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event of an appropriations act expired prior to the enactment of new appropriations (official title to be confirmed).

Federal - House 333

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

Federal - House 413

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes.

Federal - House 553

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan for military surviving spouses to offset the receipt of veteran's dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

Big Changes in the DFAS web site!

MyPay is the most convenient way to manage your DFAS military retired or annuitant pay account and get the tax documents you need. The most striking difference is the appearance of the myPay home page, it looks more like other online financial sites you are used to seeing, with the login area on the right side instead of the left, a banner area with important information, and quick links at the top. The home page will also appear more modern.

When you log in to myPay, you will also see a streamlined navigation menu. The same menu choices will be available, but they will be organized into categories and the menu will appear on the left side on every page.

MyPay should be easier to use on your favorite mobile device. When you use myPay on your mobile browser, the menus and screens will adjust to your mobile device.

Your login ID and password did not change. The same login ID and password you used before the transformation will continue to work (as long as your password has not expired). And the "Forgot your Login ID?" and "Forgot or Need a Password?" options are the same.

The page you see is a myPay that looks different. You can always ensure you are connecting to the official myPay system by checking your browser's address bar for the correct myPay URL: **<https://mypay.dfas.mil>**

There is also an updated video walk-throughs and FAQs to help you accomplish a variety of common online tasks, such as accessing a myPay account for the first time, password updates, and bank account and address changes.

Legislative Contacts

President Donald Trump

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 Russ Fulcher

United States House of
Representatives
1250 Ironwood Dr. Ste. 241
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
(208) 667-0127
Fax: (208) 667-0310

Widows & Wives Club Upcoming 2019 Events

Date	Where	Hostess
8 January	Black Angus Steakhouse 14724 E Indiana Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 509-927-1177	Pat Tolley 509-953-6768
5 February	Darcy's Restaurant & Sprints 10502 East Sprague, Spokane Valley, WA 99206 509-891-0773	Shirley Melges 509-465-8867
5 March	Beverly's Coeur d'Alene Resort 112 S Second Ave, Coeur d'Alene, ID 800-688-5253	Pat Connell 208-772-2559
2 April	Anthony's Homeport 1926 Riverstone Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID 208-664-4665	Maxine Mahoney 208-762-3380
7 May	Radicci Italian Bistro 8049 N Wayne Drive, Hayden, ID 208-635-5821	Shirley Melges 509-465-8867
4 June	Tea at Audrey Oates home Post Falls, ID	Shirley Melges 509-465-8867
2 July	Thai Bamboo 5204 N Division St, Spokane, WA 509-777-8424	Deanie Binsfield 509-466-8006
6 August	Tito Macaroni 210 E Sherman Ave, Coeur D Alene, ID 83814 208-667-2782	Pat Connell 208-772-2559
3 September	Christ Kitchen 2410 N Monroe St, Spokane, WA 509-325-4343	Kay White 509-315-9684
1 October	Bistro on Spruce 1710 N Fourth, Coeur d'Alene, ID 208-664-1774	Pat Connell 208-772-2559
5 November	Twigs Bistro 14728 East Indiana Ave, Spokane Valley, WA 509-290-5636	Barbara Thornbrugh 509-466-2108
3 December	Clinkerdagger 621 W. Mallon Street, Spokane, WA 99201 509-328-5965	Pat Tolley 509-953-6768



Upcoming Events 2019 Mark Your Calendars!



Spokane Chapter Social Dates

- 23 Jun Highlands Golf Course, Post Falls, ID
- 15 Sep Anthony's, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 27 Oct Darcy's, Spokane Valley, WA
- 8 Dec Mukogawa Ft. Wright, Spokane, WA

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



WASHINGTON
Clif Collier 509-443-6490

IDAHO
Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671

Widows & Wives Club Meeting Dates

- 8 Jan Black Angus Steakhouse
- 5 Feb Darcy's, Spokane Valley
- 5 Mar Beverly's Coeur d'Alene Resort
- 2 Apr Anthony's Homeport, CdA
- 7 May Radicci Italian Bistro
- 4 Jun Tea at Audrey's
- 2 Jul Thai Bamboo
- 6 Aug Tito Macaroni, CdA
- 3 Sep Christ Kitchen
- 1 Oct Bistro on Spruce, CdA
- 5 Nov Twig's Bistro
- 3 Dec Clinkerdagger



Local Resources

Washington Attorney General's Military & Veteran Legal Resource Guide

This guide summarizes in one place some of the many legal rights, protections, and resources available to Washington's military service members, veterans, and their families. It is designed to help promote awareness and understanding about the laws and protections among military service members, veterans, and others to help current and former military service members see the full benefit these laws provide.

Topics Included: Legal Assistance • Consumer Protection • Employment • Education • Housing • Family Law • Health Care • Disability and More...

The free guide can be downloaded at the following link or received by mail via written request to the address below:

<http://www.atg.wa.gov/veteran-and-military-resources>

Washington State Office of the Attorney General
Military & Veteran Assistance
800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104

Fairchild AFB

Retiree Activities Office (RAO)

TSgt Michael D. Knapp, USAF (Ret.), Director

Bldg. 2040, 7 W. Arnold St., Ste. C2A,

509-247-5359

Hours: M-F 1000—1400

They need volunteers to work four hours per month.

Casualty Assistance Officer

Erica Kerin is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and surrounding area.

Bldg. 2040 at 7 W. Arnold St., 509-247-4488.

If you leave a message, she will call you back.

U.S. Air Force Legal Assistance

Fairchild AFB Wing Headquarters

(509) 247-2838

Legal Assistance: Tuesday & Thursday 0830-0930

Notary & Power of Attorney: Mon—Fri 0830-1600

Call to find out if they can help with your legal needs.



23 June Social Event Reminders



SUNDAY, 23 June, 12:30 p.m. Social, 1:15 p.m. Buffet

Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House

5600 E. Mullan Ave., Post Falls, Idaho

DIRECTIONS: *From Spokane* go east on I-90 to the East Seltice Way (exit 7) proceed in the left two lanes to the traffic light. *From Coeur d'Alene* go west on I-90 to the East Seltice Way (exit 7) proceed in the exit lane and bear right, move to the left turn lane. Turn North on Idaho 41, move to the right lane when possible. Proceed to Mullan Avenue. Turn Right on to East Mullan Avenue, Mullan turns into Royal Drive. Proceed on Royal Drive 350 yards, turn right onto Havichur Loop for 350 yards; turn right onto East Mullan Avenue. The Highlands Golf Course parking lot will be on the right just after the intersection of Mullan Avenue and Inverness Drive

PLEASE BRING:

- 3 postage stamps & 6 return address labels per person
- Something for the raffle which will benefit Union Gospel Mission
- Veterans Home would appreciate postage stamps, and unused greeting cards for birthdays & anniversaries etc., small gift items for residents to celebrate family occasions, magazines, and craft items.
- Homeless Veterans need canned meat, full size hygiene items, cookies, XL white t-shirts

If you need to cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 No later than Wednesday, 19 June for refund.



Mailing Address

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

Social Registration June 2019

Please mail reservation early so we receive it no later than **Wednesday, 19 June**

To cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 19 June for refund.

What's on the Menu:

Buffet of fried chicken,
fresh whipped potatoes,
veggies, pasta salad and
biscuits & honey. Cookies
for dessert. Coffee, H₂O &
lemonade station.
Cash bar.

Date & Times

Sunday, 23 June 2019
12:30 Social, 1:15 Buffet

Location

Highlands Golf Course
5600 E. Mullan Ave.,
Post Falls, ID

Cost is \$18 per person

Please reserve ____ places for the Sunday, 23 June social at Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$18.00 x ____ number of reservations). Make check payable to "**Spokane Chapter MOAA**" and mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

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

Update My Communication Preferences

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.

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.

NOTE: We do not send junk email or spam. Also, we do not give away, sell or trade anyone's email addresses.

☐ 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: _____ Date: _____

Fill out and Mail to: Spokane Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 466, Veradale WA 99037

Join Today!

FREE Chapter Membership for NEW members thru 31 DEC 2019
Regular Member: \$15/yr. or \$40 for 3 yrs.

Please Print or Type: NAME _____

RANK _____ SERVICE _____ STATUS (Circle one): Active, Retired, Former, Surviving Spouse

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ NAME OF SPOUSE _____ MOAA NAT'L NO. _____

E-MAIL _____ I do / do not (circle one) wish to receive my chapter newsletter by E-Mail.

DATE OF RETIREMENT OR SEPARATION (If Applicable) _____ CIVILIAN OCCUPATION _____

To join Spokane Chapter, MOAA, membership is required in MOAA national. I am / am not (circle one) a current member of MOAA national. Membership in the Spokane Chapter and MOAA national is open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States seven uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ RECRUITER _____



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