



# NOW HEAR THIS!

## SPOKANE CHAPTER

### MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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### 5 Star Chapter President's Message

By Dave Melges

Where has the summer gone? I hope everyone has enjoyed the warm weather, but I could live without the smoke. Our next social will be at **Darcy's in Spokane Valley on 16 SEP. Remember their prime rib? Please attend as we need to nominate officers and board members for the election in October.** Also, our speaker will be Cat Nichols, Strategic Operations Officer for Washington Department of Veterans Affairs here in Spokane.

**We are officially a 5 Star Chapter for the 13th consecutive year!** This was possible only because of the many things our members did in the area of legislative action, community involvement, recruiting, retention, leadership succession and personal affairs. In 2017, Spokane Chapter members, spouses and other contacts outside the chapter sent a known total of **2,579** letters, postcards and emails to the President and Congressional senators and representatives. Many thanks to Marilyn Hunt who's written every application, and who says it's only possible because you give her such worthy accomplishments to write about.

Here is a no-brainer in my opinion: Rep. Walter Jones (NC) introduced the **"Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act"** (H.R. 3011) that would allow a surviving spouse (or other designated survivor) to retain the final full month of retired pay for the month in which the member was alive for at least 24 hours.

Many surviving spouses are surprised to learn that the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) should be notified immediately upon the death of a military retiree. Those who had joint bank accounts, in which retirement payments were made electronically, often give little if any thought to the fact that DFAS could swoop down and recoup any overpayments of retirement pay from such accounts. This action could easily clear the account of any funds remaining whether they were retirement payments or money from other sources. Please contact your representative (contact information is provided on page 4) and urge them to support this legislation.



### Bring Something to the 16 SEP Social for the Raffle

### 2018 Chapter Social Dates Mark Your Calendar!

18 Mar Darcy's, Spokane Valley  
15 Apr Vine & Olive, Coeur d'Alene  
10 Jun Highlands Golf Course  
Grill & Tap House, Post Falls  
16 Sep Darcy's, Spokane Valley  
21 Oct Ramada Inn, Spokane Airport  
2 Dec Mukogawa Ft. Wright

### 2018 Widows & Wives Club Meeting Dates



2 Jan Ripples on the River  
6 Feb Black Angus Steakhouse  
6 Mar Dockside CdA Resort  
3 Apr Thai Bamboo  
1 May Bistro on Spruce  
5 Jun Christ Kitchen  
3 Jul Anthony's Homeport, CdA  
7 Aug Luna Restaurant  
4 Sep The Kroc Center, CdA  
2 Oct Radicci Italian Bistro, Hayden  
6 Nov Twig's Bistro  
4 Dec Bramble Berry Cottage Tea Shop

## Now Hear This!



### Welcome New Members

Lt Earl Hyde Jr. ,U.S. Army, Coeur d'Alene



### Taps

LT Einar Mogenson, USN ( 8/7/18)

### In 2018 Our Hat Is Off To:

Recruiter	Chapter	MOAA
Andy Eernisse	1 (self)	1 (self)
John Hall	1 (self)	0
Marilyn Hunt	6	9
Bob Imle	0	5
Dave Melges	3	6
Shirley Melges	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>

### CHAPTER SCOREBOARD 2018

**JROTC Scholarship Funds 8/22/18 \$1717**

**Legislative Letters, Postcards, Emails as of**

**8/22/18: 715**

**2018 Raffle Donations:** MAR: \$230 Meals on Wheels; APR: \$150 MOAA Scholarship; JUN: \$170 Union Gospel Mission; SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America; OCT: Spokane Veterans Home; DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships. **Total to date: \$550.**

**Widows & Wives:**

**Homeless Vets** \$305.00 used to purchase 887 items. Most recent items purchased: 12 peanut butter, 15 jam, 28 soups, 12 pasta, 50 cans of meat, 8 cans peanuts, 42 cans fruit, 10 rolls paper towels, 64 feminine hygiene products.

**Spokane Veterans Home** 469 items, including 46 unfinished wood items, 22 AA batteries, 38 bottles acrylic paint, 4 back packs, 4 camo ball caps, 9 USA ball caps, 7 disposable razors, 1 glue gun, 60 glue sticks, 50 hardbound novels, 53 magazines, 1 peg game, 22 pounds bird seed, 10 sheets peel & stick felt, & 12 wall clocks, 1 toiletry bag, 2 fanny packs, 20 postage stamps, 2 adult coloring books.

**Meals on Wheels** \$165.50. **Christ Kitchen** \$100.00



### MOAA Website and Membership:



**MOAA website:** [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

**MOAA "Take Action":** [www.moaa.org/takeaction/](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/)

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

**Spokane Chapter website:** [www.spokanemoaa.org](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.

### SPOKANE CHAPTER IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!

LIKE US AT

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SPOKANEMOAA](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SPOKANEMOAA)

SIGN UP TODAY!

### Widows & Wives Club Upcoming Events



DATE	LOCATION	CALL
4 SEP	The Kroc Center, CdA 1765 W. Golf Course Rd. Coeur d'Alene ID (208) 667-1865	Jan McMonigle (208) 772-3735
2 OCT	Radicci Italian Bistro (formerly Daanen's) 8049 N. Wayne Dr. Hayden ID (208) 635-5821	Jan McMonigle (208) 772-3735
6 NOV	Twigs Bistro 14728 E. Indiana Ave. Spokane Valley (509) 290-5636	Deanie Binsfield (509) 466-8006
4 DEC	Bramble Berry Cottage Tea Shop 206 E. Pacific Ave., Spokane (509) 926-3293	Pat Tolley (509) 953-6768

## Now Hear This!



### Cat Nichols, WDVA Strategic Operations Manager

#### Guest Speaker 16 September – Darcy's, Spokane Valley

Cathrene "Cat" Nichols is an Army veteran and Strategic Operations Manager at Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. She is located here in Spokane at the Regional Veterans Service Office.

To say that Cat is heavily involved with veterans is putting it mildly.

She serves as the Operations Officer for Eastern Washington Veteran Services and provides program development and management for a wide range of services focused on transition and reintegration from military life to civilian. This includes employment training and apprenticeship programs, financial assistance, military transition assistance, incarcerated transition assistance, and homeless assistance programs.

She also serves as the WDVA liaison to the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans and as Administrator of the Spokane County Regional Veterans Service Center and the Grant Administrator for the Bureau of Justice 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Grant with West Care.

Please join us at Darcy's on Sunday, 16 September to hear what Cat has to tell us about her services available to veterans in our area. The reservation coupon on page 5 must be received in the chapter mailbox by Wednesday, 12 SEP.

### SPOKANE MOAA MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS AVAILABLE



Every even-numbered year we print a chapter roster (not rooster) for distribution to chapter members. It lists all who are chapter members as of the closing date, which was 30 June this year. This list contains the name of each member, spouse name, phone number, address, rank, branch of service and status (Active, Former, or Retired officer or surviving spouse).



Printed copies of this roster, with an attractive blue cover this year, will be available at socials or by contacting Clif Collier by phone or email, as indicated on the front of this newsletter. If you don't care about the blue cover and would like to save the chapter the mailing costs, you may obtain an electronic copy. If you contact Clif, please state which version you prefer, mail or email. Also, if you contact him by email, it's a good idea to mention MOAA or Spokane Chapter in your subject line.

**NOTE:** This roster is for the personal use of Spokane Chapter MOAA members and their spouses. It must not be used for any type of solicitation or for any other purpose not in the best interest of our chapter or individual members.

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## Now Hear This!

### Thank You Note from Scholarship Recipient Zachary Bergom



To the MOAA  
Spokane Chapter

"I wanted to write this letter today to demonstrate my gratitude for receiving the Colonel Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarship.

"Enclosed is an Advanced Registration for pre-enrollment to U of I.

"Thank you again for such a rare opportunity to advance my career in the military field."

Zachary Bergom

### 26 April 2018 Central Washington University 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Army & Air Force ROTC Presidential Day Retreat and Awards Presentation



MOAA Leadership Awards were presented to Air Force Cadet J. Conrad Schauer and Army Cadet Nicolette C. Bender (MS III) by Spokane Chapter MOAA Board member & Chapter Chaplain LCDR Betty Kraft, USN (Ret.).

### 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 Raul

##### Labrador, United States

House of Representatives  
1250 Ironwood Dr.  
Suite 241  
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814  
208-667-0127  
Fax 208-667-0310

## Now Hear This!

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



Sunday, 16 September  
Darcy's, Spokane Valley  
10502 E. Sprague just east of University Mall  
12:30 Social, 1:15 Buffet

**Speaker: Cat Nichols, WDVA Strategic Operations Manager, Spokane**

**Mail early as reservations must be received in the chapter mailbox NLT Wednesday, 12 September 2018**

***If you need to cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 12 September for refund.***

**MENU:** Buffet of Prime Rib, Salmon and Chicken Cordon Bleu, rice, garlic red potatoes, veggies, salad and bread sticks. Little bites for dessert. Cost is \$22.00 per person. Please reserve \_\_\_\_ places for the Sunday, 16 September 2018 social at Darcy's. My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (\$22.00 x \_\_\_\_ number of reservations). Make check 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)

**Directions: SUNDAY 16 September Darcy's Restaurant 10502 E. Sprague just east of University Mall.** Social starts at 12:30, buffet meal begins at 1:15 pm. Darcy's has plenty of parking.

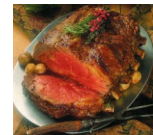
West on I-90: Exit 289 (Pines), left on Indiana, then left on Pines to Sprague. Right to University Mall on left.

East on I-90: Exit 287 (Argonne), right to Appleway Blvd, then turn left & go to University Rd. Left on University to Sprague. Left to University Mall. **Questions?** Call Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822.

We will sign **legislative letters** and have a **raffle** in support of Wives & Widows Wreaths Across America.

Please bring:

- 3 stamps and 6 address labels per person
- Something for the raffle which will benefit Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America
- Something for homeless veterans: white tube socks, hand warmers for winter, or cash donations to purchase items.



**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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Spokane WA

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

**WASHINGTON**

**IDAHO**

Clif Collier 509-443-6490



Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671

**TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end on 31 DEC 2018**



TRDP is a voluntary dental insurance plan for retired service members and their families including National Guard and Reserve members and their families, Medal of Honor recipients and their families and survivors).

**TRDP is currently provided by Delta Dental and it will end on 31 DEC 2018.**

If you are enrolled in TRDP or were eligible for it, you will be able to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program, also known as FEDVIP. This program offers eligible participants a choice between 10 dental and four vision carriers. **You will not be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019. You must enroll during OPEN SEASON – from 12 NOV through 10 DEC 2018.** Coverage is effective 1 January 2019, if you enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season. To learn more, go to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), then click on Benefits & Discounts, Health, TRICARE Dental. **Also, for the first time ever, active duty family members and retirees will have access to vision plans through FEDVIP.**



**Casualty Assistance Officer: Bldg. 240 at 7 W. Arnold St., 509-247-4488. If you leave a message, they will call you back.**

**FAFB Retiree Activities Office (RAO)  
SGM Jim R. Smith, USA (Ret.), Director  
Bldg. 240, 7 W. Arnold St., Ste. 109, 509-247-5359  
Hours: 1000—1400.  
They need volunteers to work four hours per month.**