



# NOW HEAR THIS!

## SPOKANE CHAPTER

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February 2012



## 5 Star Chapter President's Message By Ralph Shrigley

### President's Notes

I'm writing this during Super Bowl half-time. Both teams have just emphasized the importance of **DEFENSE** and I think there's a message for us there. In 2012 we find ourselves in a situation where we and those to follow are facing sharp hits to our earned retirement and medical benefits that will be put into effect by this time next year. We are clearly on the defense, but it does not mean our efforts will have no impact.

It seems to me that our greatest challenge is to translate the overwhelming support of our fellow citizens for our service members into an appreciation for the nature of their sacrifices and an understanding of the impact the proposed cuts will have on past and future soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. How do we do that? Well, here's a few suggestions: 1) Follow issues on the MOAA website, [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), and sign up for a weekly email report. 2) Send their suggested emails and letters. By the way, did you send the tear-out letters in the January issue of *Military Officer*? *More is always better* when it comes to legislative letters. 3) Send letters to your newspaper. The more people who raise the issues, the more our neighbors will see that they don't just affect a few. They have a real effect on their family, friends and neighbors, as well on the future national defense.

A special "thank you" goes to 1st VP Merl Gorton who authored a membership survey that all should have received either via email or mail. Thanks to those who responded. Please check out Merl's article in this newsletter where he discusses what we learned from your responses.

Please sign up for the **18 March social at Northern Quest Casino**. Chaplain Jeff Neuberger will tell about his time in Iraq. Pay close attention to the parking instructions and the location of our meeting room. We will not be in the hotel. A new addition to the raffle will be two free tickets to the next social. Also, the date of the April social has changed. It will be 29 April.

## BRING SOMETHING TO THE 18 MARCH SOCIAL FOR SUPPORT THE TROOPS



### 2012 Chapter Socials

18 Mar Northern Quest Casino  
29 Apr Fairchild AFB  
10 Jun TBD  
16 Sep Hopefully, Farragut  
21 Oct Tentatively, CdA Resort  
9 Dec Mukogawa Ft. Wright  
(note change of date)

## 2012 Chapter Widows & Wives Club Meeting Dates

3 Jan	Black Angus Steakhouse
7 Feb	Thai Bamboo
6 Mar	Ambrosia Bistro & Wine Bar
3 Apr	Beverly's, CdA Resort
1 May	Chaps Coffee Company
5 Jun	Christ Kitchen
3 Jul	C. I. Shenanigans
7 Aug	Clinkerdagger Restaurant
4 Sep	Grille from Impanema, CdA
2 Oct	Twigs Bistro & Martini Bar
6 Nov	A Taste of Dome at Asian
4 Dec	Ripples, Red Lion River Inn

### Co-Chaplains:

Ann Hurst, Capt, NC, USAF 509-326-2978 ann\_hurst@comcast.net

Rev. Betty Krafft, LCDR, USN (Ret.) 509-768-3183 bkrafft@spocom.com

## Now Hear This!

## Welcome New Members

Capt. Jeff Baker, USAF & wife Mary Lou, Post Falls  
 Capt. Jason Kolashinski, USAF & wife Christine, Spokane  
 LtCol Jeff Neuberger, CHC, USAF (Ret.) & wife Kathryn, Spokane  
 CWO3 Bill Nesbitt, USN (Ret.) & wife Julie, Spokane  
 LtCol John Stierwalt, USAF (Ret.) & wife Debbie, Spokane



## TAPS

Angeline Anderson, AUX (11/25/11)  
Mary Dowers, AUX (1/15/12)  
CAPT Thomas Garrett, USN (Ret.) (9/17/11)  
LtCol Dale Savidge, USAF (Ret.) (2/2/12)  
LtCol Lawrence Thompson, Jr., USAF (Ret.) (12/6/11)  
Virginia Williams, wife of CAPT Wilho Williams, USN (Ret.) (12/11/11)



**Spokane Chapter, MOAA  
2010 First Prize Winner**

***Best Legislative Coverage for  
Website  
Third Consecutive Year!***

## Our Hat Is Off To:

<b>Member Recruiters</b>	<b>Chapter 2012</b>	<b>GMT 2012</b>
Merl Gorton	1	1
Marilyn Hunt	2	4
Dick Oates		2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

## Response to Membership Survey

By Merl Gorton, 1st VP



The Board of the Spokane Chapter of MOAA sent a survey to all Chapter members by email and/or by US mail on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January. The Board asked for your opinions or suggestions in several areas. This report will summarize the information that was collected from your answers.

Question number 1 asked for your opinion on the best time for our socials. Almost all who answered this question did not recommend any change in time or day. Two reflected individual needs that would have required a meeting on Saturday. Question number 2 asked if any persons might wish to serve on the Board. Three responded favorably. Five asked for more information on the Wives and Widows group. During Board meetings and socials those present are asked to sign appropriate letters to members of Congress that are important to the military community. Not everyone can attend socials and so 12 asked that they be included in emails. Several asked for recruiting packets and some volunteered to speak at schools. Six who replied are willing to serve as mentors. Eighteen pledged to support the high school ROTC scholarship program.

The oldest to reply was 93 years of age. Several of those who are unable to attend meetings because of age and infirmities expressed pride in our Chapter. They indicated how important the newsletter is to them. Many complemented the work of the Board.

The Board wishes to express its appreciation to those who completed the survey. It is important that we know how our members feel about the Chapter. If you still have not completed the survey, please mail it or complete the email form.



## Military Documents from National Personnel Records Center (NPRC)

Address: National Personnel Records Center, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis MO 63138-1002

Ensure that your family knows the location of your military Separation Document—DD Form 214 from 1950 to present, and WD Form 53-55 and other variations prior to 1950. Registering a copy at the county court house may make it a public document. DD 214's issued after 1969 may contain a Social Security Number which could be used for identity theft. Storing the Separation Document in a safe deposit box may make it difficult to retrieve immediately upon the death of the veteran. The better storage locations are:

1. Fire safe in a secure location of the house (not the bedroom, as this is where most thieves look first).
2. In a watertight food container (Glad, Tupperware, etc.) in the refrigerator, which is fire resistant and can also be easily located.

NPRC provides copies of documents from military personnel records to authorized requestors. Fastest way: submit a request via Internet Explorer at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>. Or print SF 180 at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>. For more info contact Dan Sickman Sr., Non-Attorney Veteran Advocate at [pointmanlawgroup@gmail.com](mailto:pointmanlawgroup@gmail.com) or (267) 603-2567.

## Now Hear This!

### Chaplain Jeff Neuberger, LtCol, CHC, USAF (Ret.) Speaker for 18 March Social at Northern Quest Casino



You won't want to miss this one! One of our newest chapter members, Jeff Neuberger, is going to tell us about his time in Iraq as an Air Force chaplain. He concluded his 34-year military career while serving as the Wing Chaplain of the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild AFB, and prior to that his deployments included Marseilles, France; Doha, Qatar; and Balad Air Base, Iraq. His other assignments included California, Spain, North Dakota, Delaware, Germany, Georgia and Washington. He initially began his military service with the Navy in VF-33 at Oceana, Virginia, during which time he participated in three Mediterranean cruises about the carrier USS Independence. He later served in the National Guard and then was commissioned as an Air Force chaplain. Since retiring, he has served in a number of capacities for the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane and is also a volunteer photographer for the Inland Northwest Honor Flight. Chaplain Neuberger and his wife Kathryn have two daughters and a son.

### WIDOWS & WIVES CLUB

By Beth Ann Daigre, President



Let me open by saying Happy New Year, in as much as this is the first chapter newsletter for 2012. Please note that we have had one small change in our 2012 Calendar. June 5<sup>th</sup> we are going to Christ Kitchen for luncheon. We had such a fun time there in 2010, and we were getting no response from Europa, so we felt it would be best to change.

In December we filled Christmas bags for Veterans at the Spokane Veterans Home with a mug, puzzle books, Kleenex pack, gum, candy and nuts, and Chap Stick. We also delivered 33 cards, 5 wreaths, other decorations and one small lighted tree. For the homeless veterans in Colville we gave 32 packs of Kleenex, 24 pair of socks, candy, nuts, cookies, and 70 pairs of toe warmers. We also sent five \$15 Walmart gift cards.

During 2011 we donated \$120 cash, 379 pounds of food and 56 pounds of clothing to Spokane Valley Partners. We sent 83 cards to our deployed troops. We also paid for fourteen wreaths for the Washington State Veterans Cemetery.



Our luncheon on February 7<sup>th</sup> was one of our best business meetings. We have set our volunteer programs for the year:

Donate \$50 to Christ Clinic

Donate food, cash and clothing to Spokane Valley Partners; Diane Gorton will chair

Wreaths Across America; Beth Ann Daigre will chair

Household items for the Spokane Veterans Homeless Program; Pat Tolley will chair

Various personal items for the Spokane Veterans Home; Vicki Kelly will chair



The Cell Phones for Soldiers program has concluded and we did pretty well. Of the 86 chapters that participated we came in Fifth Place. We shipped 1,277 for a total 76,620 minutes in calling cards. Beth Ann collected the most phones 938, Marilyn Hunt followed with 139. About 700 phones were collected from the Cricket Store on Sprague at Evergreen. He will continue to collect and ship the phones himself.

The club dues are \$10 a year, which is in addition to the chapter dues. If you would like to join our club, we are the surviving spouses and spouses of Military Officers. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at a different location; we order off the menu and each pay our own bill. Join us if you would like to add to your circle of friends. Questions - Call me at 509-921-9581

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## Now Hear This!

### The Museums

By Ralph Shrigley, Chapter President



Richard LeFrancis of Hayden, Idaho, is in the process of merging the Pappy Boyington Field Museum with a new museum, now known as the Hayden Museum. Pappy Boyington was the WWII USMC pilot, ace of aces and Medal of Honor recipient from Idaho. Using his own funds, LeFrancis has leased the old Hayden Eagles building near Pappy Boyington Field and is in the process of collecting, preserving and displaying memorabilia concerning local military history.

I visited The Museums in mid-December and found the 6,000 square foot building in a state of preparation, with some displays completed, other under construction and more being planned. While there, three donors came by to drop off items for the collection. His goal encompasses all services and is focused on collecting, organizing, personalizing and preserving our military history so that these items will not be lost to us and can be used to educate. Richard welcomes donations of time, talent and treasure. If you are interested or curious, give him a call and drop by. Contact info: (208) 664-0437 or [www.TheMuseums.us](http://www.TheMuseums.us).

### This and That

By Beth Ann Daigre, Auxiliary Liaison



Seems I have my fingers in several pies and they all have to do with our military veterans.

Through January 2012 the Washington State Veterans Cemetery had 912 veterans, spouses and dependent children interred. This past December, through the **Wreaths Across America** program, people paid for 316 wreaths to be placed at the headstones of our fallen heroes. As you can imagine, not all the headstones were lucky enough to get a wreath. If you would like to help out for only \$15 for each wreath, you can go to our web site, [www.spokanemoaa.org](http://www.spokanemoaa.org), and find the order form. Print it out and mail a check to Wreaths Across America.

There is a program for veterans who have gotten in a little trouble with the law and a Spokane **Veterans Court** has been set up to help these folks get back on track. Court is held on the third Thursday of each month with staffing held right after lunch and hearings starting at 2:30. The same day in the evening Spokane Veterans Forum is held. At 5 PM time is set aside for Community Resources, at 5:30 dinner is served and at 6 PM classes are held. There are mentors who are assigned to a veteran. Would you be interested in:

- **Being a mentor?**
- **Helping me be a Community Resource?**

I have been trying to attend each forum with items that might be of interest. The forums are held at the Washington National Guard Readiness Center, 1626 N. Rebecca. Please call me at 509-921-9581 if you think you might be interested in helping.

### 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!

Spokane Chapter of MOAA  
PO Box 466  
Veradale WA 99037



18 March 2012 at the Northern Quest Casino  
100 North Hayford Road, Airway Heights  
1230 Social time, 1315 served meal begins

Mail your reservation early, we must receive it by **Saturday, 10 March**. No late reservations or walk-ins as meal preferences must be ordered—**MENU CHOICES: Chicken Breast with Savory Roasted Pears and Toasted Walnuts OR Seared Pork Medallions with Port Wine Fig Sauce:** both with Roasted Yukon Potato Wedges and seasonal vegetables, Pea Salad (Tillamook Cheddar and sweet onion), rolls and Caramel Apple Nut pie. Cost is \$26 (includes 20% gratuity and room charge).

Please reserve \_\_\_\_ places for the Sunday 18 March 2012 social at Northern Quest Casino. My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (26 x \_\_\_\_). The check is payable to “**Spokane Chapter MOAA**” - mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest **CHICKEN or PORK** (please circle)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest **CHICKEN or PORK** (please circle)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest **CHICKEN or PORK** (please circle)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest **CHICKEN or PORK** (please circle)

Future Program suggestions (food, location, speakers, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

**Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here**

**Sunday 18 March Northern Quest Casino social starts at 12:30, served meal at 1:15 p.m. DIRECTIONS:** Take I-90 west, exit 277 (Fairchild AFB/Airport exit), 4 miles, right at first traffic light onto Hayford Road, 2 miles to Northern Quest on the left. Recommend parking in the high rise garage (left turn AFTER the Casino), take the elevator at the EAST end of the garage to the bottom floor of the parking garage, then walk through the covered walkway (NOT the enclosed catwalk on the second floor of the garage) towards and into the Casino. The MOAA room is on the immediate right. OR you can 1) Park in the parking lot and shuttle to the north end of the Casino or 2) Valet your car at the FRONT casino entrance or the hotel entrance and then walk to the north entrance, but it's a long walk from the hotel entrance. WE ARE NOT IN THE CONFERENCE ROOMS IN THE HOTEL! Questions? Call Bob Imle (509) 701-3342.

**Please bring: 3 stamps and 6 return address labels per person for legislative letters, AND something for the raffle and something for our troops serving in harm's way.**

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 instead of U.S. Mail.  
☐ 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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### SAVE 5% on YOUR GAS BILL & THE "GIVE ME TEN" RULES FOR 2012 By Marilyn Hunt



Because you belong to MOAA, you can join the Pentagon Federal Credit Union and get their Visa Platinum Rewards card that gives a 5% reduction in what you charge for gas at the pump. That's about 15 cents per gallon. The savings will be reflected in the monthly statement. You and all new Give Me Ten members can get one of these cards. Just go to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), click on Member Services, Finance, Pen Fed, Visa Platinum Cash Rewards, and go from there.

The 2012 Give Me Ten rules are listed below. You can get the GMT membership application forms at our socials or by contacting me at (208) 773-1074 or [cinc@frontier.com](mailto:cinc@frontier.com). Or, if you're energetic, go to [www.moaa.org/givemetten](http://www.moaa.org/givemetten) and click on Recruiting Materials.

**Free:** Active duty, Guard & Reserve - 1 year of free membership in MOAA national.

**Paid:** Former/retired officers and lapsed members of MOAA - 2 years of membership in MOAA national for \$30 instead of \$65.

**Chapter Discount:** \$10 discount on our chapter dues to anyone who joins MOAA under Give Me Ten. (Free or Paid).

**Bottom line:** Regular members \$5 or \$30, and Auxiliary one year free or three for \$15. (Normally, dues for Regular members are \$15/1 yr. or \$40/3 years, and Auxiliary are \$9/1 yr. or \$25/3 years). Note: An officer can join MOAA without joining the chapter.

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

#### IDAHO

Richard Oates 208-777-2671

Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671



#### WASHINGTON

Clif Collier 509-443-6490

Floyd Geiger 509-328-4483

Chuck Latimer 509-326-2978

Clinton Piper 509-747-9305

**Casualty Assistance Officer:** Bernie Fritz is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and surrounding area. His 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!