



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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Volume XXVIII Number 3



May 2018



5 Star Chapter President's Message

By Dave Melges

The June social will be held on 10 June instead of 24 June, but at the same location: Highlands Golf Course Grill and Tap House in Post Falls on the patio with delicious fried chicken and the trimmings. It should be a very enjoyable time. If it rains, we'll go inside.

Our speaker will be **new chapter member, COL Philip "Spike" Jones, USAF (Ret.)** who will tell us about his 32 years of adventure which included U.S. Marine Corps, Navy Fleet Reserve Corpsman, then Air Force Medical Service Corps officer. After a tour here at Fairchild – two months before the 1994 base hospital shooting – he was deployed to San Vito dei Normanni Italy to assist the Joint Special Operations Task Force (due to his unique skills in paramedic medicine and Marine amphibious recon training). In his words, he was "fortunate enough to serve with the SOF or joint for 18 of his next 23 years." He served with the U.S. Army or on Army posts for eight assignments. Needless to say, COL Jones had a highly unusual career. Please join us in welcoming him and his wife, Diane, on 10 June.

CONCURRENT RECEIPT. Did you know there are several bills in Congress once again addressing this issue? It's has been kicked around for nearly 20 years , but as it stands right now only disabled retirees with a rating of 50 percent or more can draw their full retired pay AND their full VA disability. Those under 50 percent have their VA disability pay deducted from their retired pay. I've been retired since June 1998 and this has cost my family over \$55,000. Please go to www.moaa.org. Click on Legislative Action. Scroll down to Support Full Concurrent Receipt for Military Retirees. Fill in your info and press Submit.



Bring Something to
the 10 June 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	Daanen's Delicatessen, Hayden
6 Nov	Twig's Bistro
4 Dec	Bramble Berry Cottage Tea Shop

Now Hear This!



Welcome New Members

LT Brenda Baker, NC, USN (Ret.), Coeur d'Alene

LtCol Bryce Dibble, USAF & wife Candie, Spokane

LCDR Andy Eernisse, USN (Ret.) & wife Cobi, Liberty Lake

COL Philip "Spike" Jones, USAF (Ret.) and
wife, Diane, Spokane

Elaine Thie, Surviving Spouse, Post Falls

In 2018 Our Hat Is Off To:

Recruiter	Chapter	MOAA
Andy Eernisse	1 (self)	1 (self)
John Hall	1 (self)	0
Marilyn Hunt	4	5
Bob Imle	0	2
Dave Melges	2	3
Shirley Melges	1	0
Total	9	11

CHAPTER SCOREBOARD 2018

JROTC Scholarship Funds 5/05 /18 \$2217

Legislative Letters, Postcards, Emails as of 5/11/18: 517

2018 Raffle Donations: MAR: \$230 Meals on Wheels; APR: \$150 MOAA Scholarship; JUN: Union Gospel Mission; SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America; OCT: Spokane Veterans Home; DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships. **Total to date: \$380.**

Widows & Wives:

Homeless Vets \$188.00 used to purchase 646 items that were delivered to their new location.

Spokane Veterans Home 378 items, including 41 unfinished wood items, 22 AA batteries, 38 bottles acrylic paint, 4 back packs, 4 camo ball caps, 7 disposable razors, 1 glue gun, 60 glue sticks, 50 hardbound novels, 41 magazines, 1 peg game, 22 pounds bird seed, 10 sheets peel & stick felt, & 11 wall clocks. Meals on Wheels \$70.00.



MOAA Website and Membership:



MOAA website: www.moaa.org

MOAA "Take Action": www.moaa.org/takeaction/

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

Spokane Chapter website: 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

SIGN UP TODAY!

Widows & Wives Club Upcoming Events



DATE	LOCATION	CALL
5 JUN	Christ Kitchen 2410 N. Monroe Spokane (509) 325-4343	Kay White (509) 315-9684
3 JUL	Anthony's Homeport 1926 Riverstone Dr. Coeur d'Alene ID (208) 762-3380	Maxine Mahoney (208) 762-3380
7 AUG	Luna Restaurant 5620 S. Perry St. Spokane (509) 448-2382	Pat Burns (509) 951-5070
4 SEP	The Kroc Center, CdA 1765 W. Golf Course Rd. Coeur d'Alene ID (208) 667-1865	Jan McMonigle (208) 772-3735

Now Hear This!

Chapter Board Meetings Are More Like a Social

By Marilyn Hunt

Attending chapter board meetings feels more like going to a social than a meeting. We have an agenda and we do follow it, but our meetings are different from those in other organizations because we all have a common background: the **United States Armed Forces**.

There's mutual respect and camaraderie at our meetings, and also a lot of fun. Everyone on the board brings something different to the table. Sometimes discussions about things on the agenda will evolve into what we in the Navy call "sea stories." It makes for good times and laughter, and it can also be very enlightening and educational, which are things that everybody can use on a Saturday morning.

Being on the board is a chance to use the skills that became finely developed while you were on active duty: discernment, decision making, budgeting, scheduling, listening and cajoling.

Put another way, you can embellish your social life at MultiCare Valley Hospital at 0900 on the first Saturday of the month and do something useful at the same time. We don't meet in August. Meetings normally last from 0900 – 1030 or 1100. Blue jeans and T-shirts/casual tops are authorized.

ACTION NEEDED:

A board member (Director) who would serve through 31 DEC 2019. The previous incumbent, Cindy Kelley, passed away on 26 Feb 2017 and we haven't replaced her yet.

Come Join Our Lively Team (pictured in same order as listed on page 1)



Dave



Alan



Cliff



Greg



Audrey



Rufus



Marilyn



Bob



Betty



Barbara



Pat

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Now Hear This!



CDT Charles Shields accepts MOAA Leadership Award from Rufus Hoefer who presented it on behalf of the Spokane Chapter at Gonzaga University on 3 May 2018

Tricare Co-pays for Retirees & Families Under 65

By Dave Melges



In the last newsletter I wrote about the increase in medication co-pays. This time I want you to know about other changes in your health care costs. Co-pays for retirees and families **under 65** using Tricare Prime with a civilian primary care doctor will now be \$20 and \$30 for specialist visits. If they use Tricare Select, the co-pays rise to \$28 for primary care, \$41 for a specialist visit and 25% of the charge if they see a Doctor out of the network.

Increases were also made to use of Ambulance \$40/\$98/25% (Prime/Select/out of network). Emergency Room \$60/\$109/25%. Hospital stay \$150/25% max \$250 daily +20% of additional services/25% max \$901 daily +25% of additional services.

This information is available in table format at <https://www.military.com/benefits/tricare/tricare-cost-co-pay-schedule.html>.

So far there is no change for Retirees over 65. The coverage table is available at <https://tricare.mil/Costs/HealthPlanCosts/TFL>

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
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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

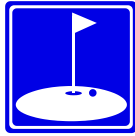
United States Senate
610 W. Hubbard, Suite 213
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Fax 208-765-1743

Representative Raul Labrador

United States House of Representatives
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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, 10 June Highlands Golf Course,
Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House
5600 E. Mullan Ave., Post Falls, Idaho
12:30 Social, 1:15 Picnic buffet

Speaker: New Chapter member COL Philip "Spike" Jones, USAF (Ret.) See p. 1 for more info.

Mail early as reservations must be received in the chapter mailbox NLT Wednesday 6 June 2018

If you need to cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 6 June for refund.

MENU: Fried chicken, cole slaw, assorted fruit, biscuits, dessert. Seating will be on the patio, unless it rains (in which case we'll be inside). Cash bar. Cost \$17 per person. Please reserve _____ places for the Sunday, 10 June 2018 social at Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$17 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 10 June 2018 – 12:30 p.m. Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House, 5600 E. Mullan, Post Falls, Idaho.

WESTBOUND: I-90 Exit 7 (Hwy. 41 N. to Rathdrum) Get in left lane, turn left at light onto Hwy. 41, then get in right lane and go .3 mile to light at Mullan.

EASTBOUND: I-90 Exit 7 (Hwy. 41 N. to Rathdrum) Get in far left lane, left at light at bottom of ramp onto Seltice Way. Go straight ahead to light, turn left onto Hwy. 41. Go .4 mile to second light (Mullan Ave.)

THEN EVERYONE: Turn right on Mullan (gas station on right), go .2 mile and turn right on Sterling at brick "Highlands" sign, go uphill & take first left onto Inverness. Follow Inverness for one mile through housing area to large parking lot on your right. Grill is at end of parking lot. We plan to be outside, but will be inside if there is inclement weather. Paved walkways, plenty of parking, convenient restrooms, wheel chair friendly. Questions? Call Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822.

We will sign **legislative postcards** and have a **raffle** in support of Union Gospel Mission. Please bring:

- **\$1.00 & 3 return address labels per person** for legislative postcards
- Something for the raffle which will benefit Union Gospel Mission
- Homeless Veterans: Canned protein; full size shampoo, deodorant or soap; 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



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

WASHINGTON

IDAHO

Clif Collier 509-443-6490



Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671



Change of Date for June Social
By Marilyn Hunt



The June social will be held on Sunday, 10 June instead of 24 June, but at the same location: Highlands Golf Course Grill and Tap House in Post Falls on the patio. If it rains, we'll go inside.

Very easy to get there and extremely tempting menu: Fried chicken, cole slaw, assorted fruits, biscuits, dessert. Who could resist? See directions on page 5

The speaker will be **new chapter member, COL Philip "Spike" Jones, USAF (Ret.)**. He's had a career like none other I've ever heard of. He'll captivate us with details about his highly unusual 30+ years in the Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force. I couldn't begin to do him justice by trying to summarize it, so you'll have to come and hear for yourself. More details on page 1.

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.