



NOW HEAR THIS!
SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XIX, Number 6

November 2009

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President's Message
By Marilyn Hunt



5 STAR CHAPTER! Incoming chapter president **Ralph Shrigley** proudly accepted our fourth consecutive 5 Star Chapter Award at the MOAA Annual Meeting in San Diego. There's some photos of him with Admiral Ryan and General Neal on the homepage of our chapter website (www.spokanemoaa.org).

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL: The Christmas social promises to be a smashing success again this year. It is our honor and privilege to have the Eastern Washington University Choral Group led by their highly respected Director, Dr. Randy Wagner. As before, they will entertain us with a sophisticated and charming rendition of a wide range of Christmas noels. Reservations are due by Fri. 27 NOV (see p. 5).

UNIFORMS! We're offering our members the option of wearing their **Class A, Service Dress or Mess Dress uniforms to the December social.** (The "uniform option" was offered in Christmas 2007, and 12 of 48 members came in their military finest. We took a group photo and sent a copy to everyone who participated. Now's your chance to do it again or for the first time. We'll take photos and send copies this time also.

Those not in uniform are invited to wear your ribbons and medals on your civilian clothes. Either way, it will add to the festivities and give everyone a clue as to how you looked in your "first life." I just took my Service Dress Blue Bravo uniform (with bell bottom slacks, no less) to the cleaners and was utterly amazed to receive a 20% discount for being military! Maybe you too can have such luck.

PHOTOS! Bring photos of yourself in uniform and we'll put them on a board at the social on 6 December. You can take them home when you leave.

Recruit 3 new chapter members by 31 DEC & get a free 1 yr. extension on your dues.
Recruit 2 more and get a free ticket to a social.

Chapter Wives & Widows Club
2009

1 DEC— Lunch at Davenport &
 Christmas Trees Festival

2010 Meeting Dates

All events to be determined at a later date, but mark your calendars now!

5 JAN	6 JUL
2 MAR	7 SEP
4 MAY	2 NOV

BRING SOMETHING TO SUPPORT THE TROOPS WHEN YOU COME TO THE CHRISTMAS SOCIAL ON 6 DEC 2009

2010 Chapter Socials

21 MAR- To be determined
 25 APR - Mukogawa Ft. Wright
 6 JUN - To be determined
 12 SEP -To be determined
 17 OCT - To be determined
 5 DEC - Mukogawa Ft Wright

Now Hear This!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Theresa Bednarek, LtCol, USAF (Ret.), Sunnyvale, CA
 William Fitzgerald, LTjg, USN & wife Julie, Coeur d'Alene
 Vincent Frazier, MAJ, USAF (Ret.) & wife Diana, Spokane
 Dennis McMonigle, LTC, USA (Ret.) & wife Jan, Hayden ID
 David Moore, LTC, USMC (Ret.) & wife Amelia, Spokane
 Ken Sanger, LCDR, USN & wife Doris, Sandpoint, ID
 Norman Scott, CAPT, USN (Ret.) & wife Cheryl, Spokane
 Tom Tedor, MAJ, USAF (Ret.) & wife Lyn, Spirit Lake, ID
 Guy Trotter, LCDR, USN (Ret.) and wife Helen, Coeur d'Alene
 Tom Trotter, CAPT, MC, USNR (Ret.) and wife Kathleen,
 Coeur d'Alene

TAPS

Betty Albrecht, wife of LtCol Karl Albrecht, USAF (10/09)
 Lois Stookey, wife of 2LT Bill Stookey, USA (11/04/09)



**Spokane Chapter, MOAA
 2008 First Prize Winner**

**Chapter Website &
 Best Legislative Coverage for
 Website**

The Widows and Wives Club

By Beth Ann Daigre

Our most recent luncheon, held on 3 November at Twigs North, was a huge success! Thirteen (13) ladies attended and it was a first time for seven (7) of them. So it seems that our telephone calling of the ladies of the chapter is paying off. **Louise O'Leary** and I got reacquainted after about ten years when we previously belonged to the same networking group. **Shirley Melges** won the door prize and also signed on to the planning committee. The miniature golf at Wonderland Family Center was another bout of laughing and fun. And wouldn't you know it, the most senior of the ladies, **Elaine Anderson**, won with the best score! A few photos of the golfing can be found on the chapter website.

We need two more ladies to join our planning committee and two for our telephone tree. If you're interested, please call me and find out more about what we do. Our membership fee is \$5.00 a year.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Tuesday, December 1, 2009, 1:00 PM, Davenport Hotel, Peacock Room for lunch and then we will view the Christmas Trees and perhaps take our chance on winning some lovely item among all the decorations. **Pat Tolley** is the person in charge of this luncheon, so please call and let her know you will be attending: **509-953-6768**.

Our Hat Is Off to:

Member Recruiters	Chapter YTD	Give Me 10 YTD
Convert to Life:		4
Walter Bender		
Harry Binsfield		
William King		
Ted Ponticelli		
Beth Ann Daigre	1	2
Clyde Denniston	1	1
Frank Diemer	1	
David Gillespie	1	1
Marilyn Hunt	11	38
Bob Imle	1	1
Chuck Latimer	2	5
Dick Oates	1	1
Frank Potter	1	
Norman Scott	1	
Barbara Wunderlich	1	8
TOTALS	22	61

Support Our Troops: Total of 8 boxes (64.6 pounds) sent to 546 personnel in Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Iraq & the Philippines.

Legislative Letters: 1,624 sent in 2009!

NEED a RIDE to a SOCIAL?

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
 Ed Parker 509-891-6380
 Clinton Piper 509-747-9305

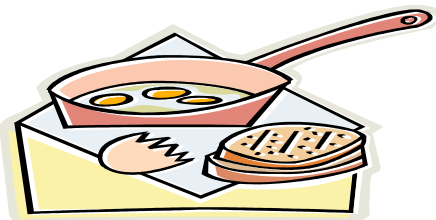
AUXILIARY CORNER By Beth Ann Daigre

The **Widows and Wives Club** has been calling the ladies in our chapter to extend personal invitations to join us at our bi-monthly luncheons and activities. In the process, we've learned of a few disconnected phone numbers. If your number has changed, please do this:

- Call our chapter Membership Chairman, Clif Collier, at (509) 443-6490 and tell him, *OR*
- Send an email to him *and* me. That way Clif won't have to pass the word. Email addresses are:
clifcoll@aol.com and bethanndaigre@msn.com.

LICENSE PLATES: When I renewed my Washington license plate this year, I checked to see if I qualified for the Armed Forces plate and thought from the wording that I did not. That was a mistake on my part. Surviving spouses *can* get the Washington Armed Forces license plates. Get this: \$28 of the cost is tax deductible because those funds go toward supporting programs/services for homeless veterans; memorials honoring veterans; and/or maintenance of our state veterans cemetery. I have since gone to a local licensing agency and ordered military plates, and they arrived in less than a week.

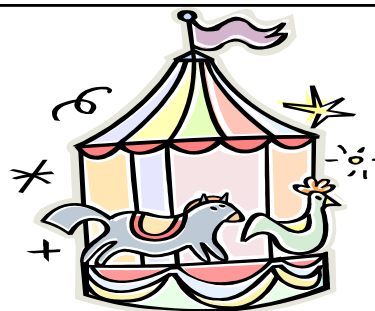
TOYS FOR TOTS



The Marines will serve breakfast on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at the VFW Post 51, 300 West Mission Avenue, Spokane from

9 to 11 AM. The meal includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, hash browns, bacon, coffee, milk and orange juice for only \$6 or bring a new toy for ages 0-12. Proceeds go to the **Spokane Toys for Tots Program.**

Chapter Website Links: Chapter members who have a website can purchase a link to it on the chapter website. Cost is \$240 per year. Call Beth Ann Daigre at (509) 921-9581.



Operation Military Kids and Operation Spokane Heroes is sponsoring **Santa's Carousel** in Riverfront Park on Friday, 4 December 2009 from 6 to 8 PM. Admission is free to anyone with a military ID card (not just active

duty). Parents must accompany children. Questions: Stacey Markley 509-532-2775. This is a special event for the children of the deployed. If you want to come down and contribute to the cost of the pizzas and hot chocolate, please do so. Talking to the kids might be fun. Tell them about your kids when their dad was deployed, or TAD/TDY. Help them know they are not alone.

STATE VETERANS HOMES

I learned something very important at the WSCOC meeting in September: If a veteran with honorable service is admitted to a WA State Veterans home, the spouse can also be admitted if 1) she requires the type of nursing care that is provided by that home and 2) a bed is available. Surviving spouses of deceased veterans with honorable service can also be admitted under the same rules. Assisted living is only available in Retsil and Orting. Cost is based on the individual's financial status.

There are three Washington State Veterans homes. Nursing care is available in all three, but assisted living is only in Retsil and Orting. You can call the Admissions Directors listed below to schedule a free lunch and tour, or to get an interview regarding your situation.

- Washington Soldiers Home, 1301 Orting/Kapowsin Hwy, Orting WA. Susie Houston (877) 838-7787
- Washington Veterans Home, 1141 Beach Drive, Retsil Susie Houston (877) 838-7787
- Spokane Veterans Home, 222 E. 5th Avenue, Spokane WA Becky Kuzel (509) 344-5772

P.S. "WSCOC" stands for Washington State Council of Chapters and it is comprised of MOAA chapters in Washington. There are ten chapters in Washington and the Spokane Chapter is the largest one with 496 members.

Now Hear This!

Congress Approves MOAA Federal Charter

On Oct. 27, the U.S. House of Representatives approved legislation granting a federal charter to MOAA. The Senate passed on identical bill on September 24th. Perhaps by the time you get this newsletter, the bill will have gone to the President for signature. The Charter provides federal recognition of MOAA's service mission and ensures that MOAA leaders in all states can serve on state-level veterans' advisory panels.

The Spokane Chapter sent 547 letters on this subject to our legislators in 2009, which no doubt greatly influenced our legislators to vote in favor of this important piece of legislation.

Bravo Zulu (Well Done!) to Chapter Member Bill Aller!

Chapter member **Bill Aller**, LCDR, USNR (Ret.), recently received the 2009 Book of Golden Deeds Award from the Downtown Exchange Club. Bill was honored for his efforts in founding the Spokane Sea Services Museum and for his many volunteer years in keeping the museum open to the public. When Spokane's Naval Air Station was closing in 1956, Bill saved hundreds of photos relating to the station's ten-year history. In 1988, the Spokane Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center (which is now the Navy Operational Support Center) gave him a space in the main building to display them, and then in 1998 they moved him to a small house in back of the Center where he ran the museum with the help of the Navy League Spokane Council. His collection grew over time, and today it includes uniforms, insignia, ship and airplane models, photographs, newspaper clippings and magazines, and a 72-inch section of a 16 inch gun barrel from the battleship USS Wisconsin. There is also a torpedo, two USCG landing crafts, a 12-man personnel boat and a Japanese sword surrendered to a U.S. commander in the Pacific after the end of WWII.

To top it off, the museum has the most extensive collection of memorabilia from the USS Spokane, the city's namesake light cruiser commissioned in 1946 and decommissioned in 1950. (Information from Valley Voice 10/8/09)

MOAA's New Travel Provider: ICE

MOAA has selected International Cruise and Excursions, Inc. (ICE) as the new MOAA-endorsed travel provider for members and chapters. Beginning 15 Oct., ICE began providing products and services through MOAA's new travel website (www.moaatravel.org) with best-price guarantees on all cruises, resorts, vacation homes, experiential vacations and tours. Discounted rates on air travel, hotels and rental cars are also available. Immediate Past President **Dick Oates** has volunteered to be our travel POC with MOAA.

ELECTIONS: were held at the October social and the following officers will be installed at Mukogawa on 6 December:

President: Ralph Shrigley

1st VP: Merl Gorton

2nd VP: Clif Collier

Secretary: Barbara Wunderlich

Treasurer: Rufus Hoefer

Auxiliary Liaison: Beth Ann Daigre

Board of Directors:

Bob Imle (2009-2010)

Dick Oates (2009-2010)

Eddylou "Fred" Donovan (2010-11)

Chuck Latimer (2010-2011)

Dean Thie (2010-2011)

Legislative Contacts

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
1000 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 121
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
208-667-6130
Fax (208) 765-1743

Representative Walt Minnick

United States House of Representatives
1900 Northwest Blvd.
Suite 106
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, 6 DEC 2009 at Mukogawa Ft. Wright
Institute Commons Building

Social time 12:30 p.m. , Meeting 1:15 p.m., Buffet begins 1:30 p.m.

Please mail your reservation so we receive it by Friday, 27 November ; no late reservations or walk-ins.

Menu: Roast beef, turkey, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans almandine, green salad, cranberry nut salad, fruit medley, rolls & butter, cheese cake. Wine and beer will be self-serve.

Dr. Randy Wagner will bring his choral group from EWU—Spectacular Entertainment!

Please reserve _____ places for the Sunday, 6 December 2009 Mukogawa social @ \$16.00 per person.

My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed. Make check payable to “**Spokane Chapter MOAA**” and mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ member/assoc/guest Name: _____ member/assoc/guest
(circle one) (circle one)

Name: _____ member/assoc/guest Name: _____ member/assoc/guest
(circle one) (circle one)

[] Please write in your phone number if you can provide a ride to the luncheon _____

[] Future Program suggestions (food, location, speakers, etc) _____

Directions to MOAA Social at Mukogawa Fort Wright, 4000 West Randolph Road, Spokane

12:30, Sunday 6 DEC 2009. From I-90, Maple Street exit, turn left on 4th Avenue, and 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 .1 mile, turn left onto Randolph Road and continue to the roundabout at the end. Questions? Call Bob Imle (509) 701-3342. **Please bring the following:**

1. **6 return address labels and 3 postage stamps PER PERSON for legislative letters**
2. **Something for our troops serving in harm’s way (postage fees also appreciated)**
3. **Something for the raffle**

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: _____ Page 5

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

Rules for Give Me Ten MOAA Membership Program that Expires 31 December 2009

- ◆ Lapsed or new MOAA members can join MOAA national for \$28 for two years (normal price \$62).
These paying members can then get a \$10 discount on chapter membership. Their discounted chapter membership price is \$5 for one year or \$30 for three. (Normal price is \$15/one year or \$40/three years).
- ◆ Active duty, Guard and Reserve can have a *free* year of MOAA national membership.
These free members can also join the chapter at the discounted price: \$5/one year or \$30 for three.

Contact Marilyn Hunt at (208) 773-1074 or cinc@verizon.net, 2536 W. Falling Star Loop, Post Falls ID 83854. She needs the following info for each recruit: Name, Rank, Service & Status (active, retired, former), Mailing Address, Phone, Email (optional), Date of Birth, Spouse Name and Date of Birth. She will fill out the forms. For paying members, she also needs a \$28 check made out to MOAA. For chapter memberships, send her a check in the appropriate amount made out to Spokane Chapter MOAA. Spokane chapter members **MUST** belong to MOAA.

Casualty Assistance Officer: Bernie Fritz is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and the surrounding area. His office is now in Bldg. 240 at 7 W. Arnold St.. He can be reached at 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!

Chapter Speakers Bureau: If you're willing to speak about your military experience, call Chuck Latimer (509) 326-2978.