



**NOW HEAR THIS!**  
**SPOKANE CHAPTER**  
**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**



Volume XX, Number 6



November 2010

**President**

Ralph Shrigley, LTC, U.S. Army  
 (Ret.) 208-623-2671  
 rshrigley@earthlink.net

**1st Vice President**

Merl Gorton, COL, U.S. Army (Ret.)  
 509-467-6138 mdgorton@aol.com

**2nd Vice President & Membership Chair**

Clif Collier, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)  
 509-443-6490 clifcoll@msn.com

**Secretary & Historian**

Barbara Wunderlich, LTC,  
 U.S. Army (Ret.) 509-928-1593  
 peppprogress@yahoo.com

**Treasurer & Personal Affairs Ch.**

Rufus Hoefer, LTC, U.S. Army (Ret.)  
 509-443-6822 1rands@comcast.net

**Auxiliary Liaison, Web Page Coordinator, Widows & Wives**

Beth Ann Daigre (Aux.)  
 509-921-9581  
 bethanndaigre@comcast.net

**Immediate Past President, Chief Recruiter & Newsletter Editor**

Marilyn Hunt, CDR, USN (Ret.)  
 208-773-1074 cinc@frontier.com

**Director**

EddyLou "Fred" Donovan, Lt Col,  
 USAF (Ret.) 509-922-4982  
 fredonovan@sisna.com

**Director & Program Chair**

Robert Imle, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)  
 509-924-3846  
 rmimle@netscape.com

**Director & Legislative Chair**

Chuck Latimer, Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)  
 509-326-2978  
 CELatimer@aol.com

**Director & Travel Point of Contact**

Richard H. Oates, LTC, USMC  
 (Ret.) 208-777-2671  
 rhoates@roadrunner.com

**Email Newsletter Coordinator**

Dean Thie, LTJg, USN  
 deanthie@gmail.com, 208-777-9076

**Co-Chaplains**

**Jack Dowers**, LCDR, CHC, USN  
 (Ret.) 208-667-6646  
 majajack@msn.com  
**Ann Hurst**, Capt, NC, USAF  
 509-326-2978  
 ann\_hurst@comcast.net

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



We have a special treat coming up for the December Social. The Washington Air National Guard's Band of the Northwest will help us get into the holiday mood, and we hope they will stay to join us for lunch. **PLEASE NOTE: The social will begin at 12:00 and the band will begin playing at 12:30.** The buffet will follow the entertainment and we'll dine at our usual time (1:15), then we'll have the installation of officers after that.

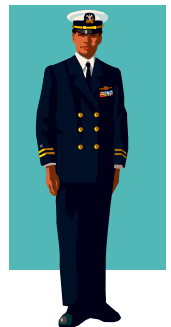
There should be quite a few new faces around. The Board of Directors has mailed a large number of letters to area members of MOAA national who are not yet members of the Spokane Chapter of MOAA, inviting them to the Christmas Social and to join the Chapter. So don't be bashful! Welcome them and encourage each one to join our chapter.

At the December social, we will have award presentations to those who have led the way in making our chapter so successful. We will also install the slate of Chapter Officers and Directors for 2011. Please be generous with your purchase of Raffle Tickets. The proceeds will be donated to area ROTC and Junior ROTC programs.

Inside, you will see the details of a proposed change to our by-laws. The Board is recommending we change the by-laws to give our Auxiliary members full voting privileges

Please note the new podium banner for display of our 5-Star Chapter Awards. Our old one was getting full, so Marilyn Hunt kindly made us a newer, bigger one to hold all five of our awards. Having earned so many awards is indeed an honor, since only about 25% of MOAA Chapters have 5 Star Chapter status.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO WEAR YOUR UNIFORM** to the Christmas Social. If your uniform has shrunk or you can't find it, please wear your ribbons and/or medals on your civilian attire. It is a great tradition which adds to the festive nature of this event.



**Chapter Wives & Widows Club**  
**2011 Meeting Dates:**

- 4 JAN: Prospectors Bar & Grill
- 1 FEB: Docksider, CDA Resort
- 1 MAR: Twigs Bistro, Spokane Valley
- 5 APR: Taste & See (High Tea)
- 3 MAY: Olive Garden
- 7 JUN: Ripples on the River
- 5 JUL: CI Shenanigans
- 2 AUG: Cedars Floating Restaurant
- 6 SEP: Luna Restaurant
- 4 OCT: Harvest House
- 1 NOV: Max at Mirabeau Hotel
- 6 DEC: Peacock Room, Davenport Hotel

**BRING SOMETHING TO THE**  
**5 DECEMBER SOCIAL FOR**  
**SUPPORT THE TROOPS**

**2011 Chapter Socials**

- 20 MAR- TBD
- 25 APR - Mukogawa Ft. Wright
- 12 JUN - TBD
- 11 SEP - TBD
- 16 OCT - TBD
- 4 DEC - Mukogawa Ft Wright

**Welcome New Members**

**Now Hear This!**

Yvonne Edmunds, Auxiliary  
 Victoria Ferro, Auxiliary  
 Ruby Honcharuk, Auxiliary  
 CDR Charles Lund, USNR, Spokane  
 LCDR Michael Waters, USNR and wife Julie, Spokane

**TAPS**

Lily Congdon, Auxiliary 10/8/10  
 BGen Alan "Ace" Edmunds, USAF (Ret.) 10/9/10  
 LTC Ken Ferro, NC, US Army, (Ret.) 9/27/10  
 LCDR John Honcharuk, USN (Ret.) 10/24/10  
 Helen Lois Liberg, wife of COL Ray Liberg, US Army (Ret.) 10/14/10  
 CAPT Thomas C. Wallace, USNR (Ret.) 10/14/10



**Spokane Chapter, MOAA  
 2009 First Prize Winner**  
  
*Best Legislative Coverage for  
 Website*

**Our Hat Is Off to:**

Member Recruiters	Chapter YTD 2010	Give Me 10 YTD 2010
<b>Convert to Life:</b> Vince Shrigley George Bombel		2
Beth Ann Daigre		5
Marilyn Hunt	3	22
Bob Imle	1	10
Margaret Imle	1	10
Ralph Shrigley		4
Pat Tolley	1	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>53</b>

**Support The Troops:** \$392 donations. 8 boxes (64.3#) sent to 44 men & 32 women in Iraq & Afghanistan (USAF, USMC, Army). 4 boxes (36#) sent to 7 men & 2 women in Army postal unit in Afghanistan and 4 men in embedded USMC unit from WA, FL, UT & IL.

**Legislative Letters:** 1217 sent as of 2 November 2010.

**Raffle Donations:** March: AF&A Museum \$200, APR: Ladies & Gents of the WA State Cemetery \$160, JUN: MOAA Scholarship Fund \$190, SEP: Support the Troops \$175, OCT: Wounded Warrior \$175.

**Chapter Donations:** \$100 to Washington State Veterans Cemetery

**Widows & Wives Food Bank Donations:** 69 pounds of food, \$7 cash. They also sent 15 get-well cards to a soldier at Walter Reed who was recovering from a roadside IED explosion in Afghanistan.

**Widows and Wives Club**

By Beth Ann Daigre

On 2 November, we gleefully ate box lunches at Christ Kitchen, a non-profit which helps homeless and unemployed women learn a skill and earn wages. Christ Clinic next door is a primary care service manned by volunteer physicians and nurses. Donations are needed.



Our 7 December luncheon will be in the Peacock Room at the Davenport Hotel, 10 North Post Street, Spokane at 1 PM. Hope to see you there. Call your reservation to Pat Tolley 509-953-6768. We'll finish collecting our \$10 dues for 2011 then. Please put a few food items for the food bank in your car ahead of time so you'll have them with when we meet. We're making a small dent among the hungry and every little bit helps.

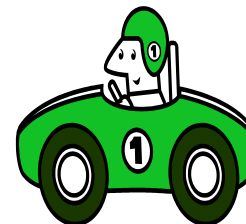
Three new widows have been recently added to the Chapter Auxiliary list. Ladies, please know that some of our club members have walked in those shoes and we are here to help and/or comfort. Please join us when you feel up to it! Call me at (509) 921-9581 if you have needs or questions. Also, see p. 4.

Our 2011 Calendar is on the front page, but if you'd like to receive a copy by email, send your request to bethanddaigre@comcast.net. No email? Then give me a call and I'll send one via U.S. mail.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving shared with others; a Merry Christmas to remember the good things found in love and grace; and a very Happy New Year .

**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  
 Clinton Piper 509-747-9305



## Now Hear This!

### December Social—Washington ANG Air Force Band, Band of the Northwest!

By Bob Imle



The entertainment for our 5 December social at Mukogawa will START at 1230, so please arrive around 1200. At 1230 the Washington ANG 560th Air Force Band, Band of the Northwest, will perform a holiday program. We will dine at the usual time (1:15 p.m.), then the installation of officers and raffle will take place after the buffet. Wine and beer will be available at no charge.

Send your reservation form early (to arrive no later than Friday, 26 November) and plan to attend the Band of the Northwest's first-ever performance for Spokane Chapter, MOAA.

### Bylaws Change

At the December social, we will vote on the following change to the chapter bylaws which has been approved by the Board of Directors:

Change Article 3, Para 2(b) to read as follows: "Auxiliary Members. Widows and widowers of deceased officers, who would, if living, be eligible for membership, will be entitled to all the rights and privileges of regular members."

NOTE: The underlined part is the change.

### Auxiliary Corner

By Beth Ann Daigre, Auxiliary Liaison

As many of you know, I have been serving a three-year term on MOAA national's Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC). On November 13<sup>th</sup> I head to Washington DC for my last meeting. I was very fortunate when I went to my first meeting because two other Spokane MOAA chapter members who would also be there: Chuck Latimer was serving on the Board of Directors and Merl Gorton was President of MOAA Washington State Council of Chapters (WScCoC); he was also the person who had nominated me for the position. But that is not all; Diane Gorton traveled with Merl and she and I became very good friends. This AMAC member could not have been more blessed.



Chuck, Merl and I stormed the hill together in 2008 which was great because Chuck knew the short-cuts and many of the people. The next year Merl and I went alone and on our way to lunch he claims I pushed him down the stairs (just kidding). As he lay on the landing waiting for the medical team, one of the things he said was, "Beth Ann keep our appointments." This April I stormed with the new president of WScCoC, which made me the "old pro."

During my first year on the AMAC I was a member of the Member Services Committee. Wow, there is a lot of stuff that goes on getting all the best insurance rates, credit union affiliations, etc. I'm a retired accountant and business manager, but my head was swimming. These last two years I've served on the Publications Committee and truly have learned so much from the editor and staff of *Military Officer Magazine*. They also develop, design and maintain the MOAA web site. What a great crew!

My work will now be devoted to our state: Spokane MOAA, MOAA Widows and Wives Club, Operation Spokane Heroes, Ladies and Gentlemen of Washington State Veterans Cemetery and - for one more year - WScCoC. Each of these programs is near and dear to my heart. I would like to say **Thank You** to each person who has helped me along the way, especially Marilyn Hunt who would not take "no" for an answer when I initially turned down her request to serve as our first Auxiliary Liaison. The last four years have been rich with personal growth and development, and for that I am truly grateful.



**NOW HEAR THIS!** Is published 6 times per year by the Spokane Chapter, Military Officers Association of America, P O Box 466, Veradale WA 99037. Editor: Marilyn Hunt cinc@frontier.com 208-773-1074. Advertising limited to members/spouses only. No subject matter that would preclude non-profit mailing.

## Now Hear This!

### Veterans History Project

By Marilyn Hunt

"If you don't write your story down or put it on a CD or DVD, it's going to be gone when you're gone. And that's really not right."



Has anyone ever said this to you? I've said it to my husband many times. He's told me his stories about his time on SWIFT boats and River Patrol Boats (PBRs) in Vietnam over and over, but I'll never be able to retell them the way he does.

If you're a veteran who served during a specific period listed below and have a story you'd like to record, it can be done. The Veterans History Project in partnership with the American Red Cross can help document your story for the Library of Congress National Archives and provide you with a copy of the audio CD or audio/visual DVD (whichever you choose).

The Project collects first-hand accounts of U.S. Veterans who served during the following time periods:

- World War I (1914-1920)
- World War II (1939-1946)
- Korean War (1950-1955)
- Vietnam War (1961-1975)
- Persian Gulf War (1990-1995)
- Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (2001-present)



If you did not serve during one of these periods, the Spokane Red Cross will still collect your story and make a DVD for you, but it will not be sent to the Library of Congress. To preserve your story for posterity, contact Keirsten Hess at the American Red Cross at (509) 326-3330 ext. 221. Or send an email to her at [hessk@spokaneredcross.org](mailto:hessk@spokaneredcross.org).

### 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  
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 Walt

Minnick, United States House of Representatives  
1900 Northwest Blvd.  
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814  
208-667-0127  
Fax (208) 667-0310

### Auxiliary Members—If You're Thinking of Remarrying: Beware!

Info from Paula Muth, MOAA Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee

#### **Remarriage Before Age 57:**

**DIC:** You lose this. Can be reinstated upon death or divorce.

**SBP:** Suspended if the survivor is under 55; over 55 it can continue. Annuity can be reinstated if the remarriage ends.

#### **Remarriage After Age 57:**

**DIC:** retained. **SBP:** Retained, but offset by DIC dollar for dollar.

#### **For Both Age Groups:**

**Medical:** you lose TRICARE if you remarry at any age, unless you marry another service member or retiree. If that remarriage to a non-service member ends, survivors become eligible for CHAMPVA only if awarded DIC. For remarried survivors who are not eligible for DIC, all medical benefits are lost and cannot be restored.

**ID Card—Commissary/Exchange:** you lose these privileges unless you marry another service member or retiree. They can be restored if the remarriage ends.

**Social Security:** Benefits are generally not collected by a surviving spouse before age 60 unless he/she is disabled. A disabled surviving spouse can collect SS benefits as early as age 50. If remarried and you turn age 60, you can collect benefits on your own earnings record or from the record of your late spouse; at age 62, you can collect benefits based on earnings by your current spouse if the amount would be higher.

**Children's VA & DOD Benefits:** Generally, these are retained if the mother remarries at any age.



**Now Hear This!**

Spokane Chapter, MOAA  
P O Box 466  
Veradale WA 99037

Sunday 5 December 2010 at Mukogawa Ft. Wright

**NOTE: 12:00 Social time, 12:30 Entertainment begins, Buffet at usual time 1:15  
Buffet will follow the entertainment, which is a musical presentation  
by the Washington ANG 560th Air Force Band, Band of the Northwest**

We **MUST** receive reservations **in the chapter mailbox NLT 26 November; no late reservations or walk-ins.** Please re-serve \_\_\_\_\_ places for Sunday, 5 December 2010 . My check to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$17 times the number of reservations) is enclosed. **Menu:** Roast beef, roast turkey, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans almandine, cranberry nut salad, fruit salad and cheesecake. Wine and beer will be available at no charge.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest (circle one)

Future program suggestions (food, location, speakers, etc. ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ Cut here

**Sunday, 5 December 2010 MOAA Social at Mukogawa Fort Wright, 4000 West Randolph Road.**

**NOTE: Social Time: 12:00, Entertainment begins at 12:30. Buffet at 1:15.** 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: \_\_\_\_\_



**Spokane Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
P.O. BOX 466  
Veradale WA 99037**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 1221  
Spokane WA

**Convert Annual MOAA National Membership to Life NOW, Save 10% & Get a \$20 Refund**

**Contact Marilyn Hunt—[cinc@frontier.com](mailto:cinc@frontier.com) or (208) 773-1074**

I occasionally hear from women whose husbands have died, and they don't know whether they still have membership in MOAA national. It makes my day when I call MOAA and find out that their husband had a LIFE membership. As a result, that membership now belongs to the wife and she does not have to pay one more cent to national for dues. More than that, she can continue to use all the benefits of MOAA membership which, you might remember, includes travel. This means she could take a relaxing MOAA cruise with people she trusts and do it at a reduced price. Truly, Life Membership is one of the nicest things you can do for your spouse and in the meantime you can both enjoy the benefits. Also, you can make 10 monthly interest-free payments instead of paying in a lump sum. Now, here's the deal: If you do exactly what it says below, you will save 10% on a Life membership AND the chapter will send you a \$20 refund when your name shows up on our Give Me Ten report.

**By 12/31: Call (800) 234-6622 and tell them you are a member of the Spokane Chapter and you want to convert your annual membership to Life under the Give Me Ten program. (You MUST say both of these things to get the 10% discount).**

Let's suppose you're 73 years old. A Life membership would cost \$342. With a 10% discount and \$20 refund, your net cost would be \$287.80—a savings of \$54.20 or 15.8%. Are you saving 15.8% on anything else right now?

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