



NOW HEAR THIS!
SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

**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 & Mbrship. Chair

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

Auxiliary Liaison, Widows & Wives

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

Chief Recruiter, Newsltr. Ed. & IPP

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

Director, Legislative Chair & Web Page Coordinator

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

Director & Historian

Barbara Wunderlich, LTC, U.S. Army (Ret.)
 509-928-1593 pephawk848bar@gmail.com

Director

Jim Connell, MAJ, USAF (Ret.)
 208-772-2559 connell360@gmail.com

Director & Program Chair

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

Director

Chuck Lund, CAPT (Sel.), USN
 509-951-8626 cplund3@comcast.net

Director

Gary Whitman, CAPT, USN
 509-891-9969 gary_whitman@msn.com

Travel Point of Contact

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

Personal Affairs Chairman

Elaine Anderson (Aux.) 509-328-5556
 d122123@msn.com

Email Newsletter Coordinator

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

Volume XXI, Number 5



September 2011



5 Star Chapter President's Message
By Ralph Shrigley

The 16 October social is rapidly approaching. We'll be at the Coeur d'Alene Resort which always does a great job for us. Your choice of Certified Angus Roast Beef or Roasted Chicken Supreme will be served *at your table* AND the price will be the same as it's been for the last three years—a miracle in this economy, especially at a place as nice as the Resort. Our guest speaker will be U.S. Representative Cathy McMorris Rogers. Congresswoman Rogers is a staunch supporter of veterans issues and will doubtless be able to bring us up to date on Congressional discussions. The fact that her husband Brian is a retired Naval aviator and a member of our chapter is an added bonus. Be sure to save a place on your calendar. We need to receive your reservation by 7 October. At this social we will also present the proposed 2012 slate of Board Members and Officers for membership approval.

On Monday, 12 September, Board Member Beth Ann Daigre and I attended the interment ceremony for the unclaimed remains of 62 veterans and three spouses at the Washington State Veterans Ceremony in Medical Lake. The weather was clear and there was just enough wind to make the flags wave proudly. The solemn ceremony included an Air Force color guard and uniformed representatives of all the military services who gently placed each set of remains in a vault and rendered a hand salute. The Marine Corps provided a firing squad which did the Corps proud in the eyes of this old soldier.

On a personal note, I wish to thank 1st Vice President Merl Gorton and the rest of the Board for stepping up this summer while I went off to realize a childhood dream of sailing to the South Pacific. We are fortunate to have so many talented folks on our Board of Directors.



Bring something to the 16 October Social for SUPPORT THE TROOPS and something for the FOR THE RAFFLE

2011 Chapter Socials

- 20 MAR- Northern Quest Casino
- 17 APR - Mukogawa Ft. Wright
- 12 JUN - FAFB Survival School
- 10 SEP - Saturday Picnic; Opportunity Presbyterian Church
- 16 OCT - Coeur d'Alene Resort
- 4 DEC - Mukogawa Ft Wright

Chapter Wives & Widows Club 2011 Meeting Dates:

- 4 JAN: Prospectors Bar & Grill
- 1 FEB: Dockside, CDA Resort
- 1 MAR: Twigs Bistro, Spokane Valley
- 5 APR: Olive Garden
- 3 MAY: Luna Restaurant
- 7 JUN: Ripples on the River - Red Lion
- 5 JUL: Ci Shenanigans
- 2 AUG: Floating Green Golf Course, CDA
- 6 SEP: Taste & See
- 4 OCT: Harvest House
- 1 NOV: Max at Mirabeau Hotel
- 6 DEC: Christmas High Tea

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!



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

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

Welcome New Members

MAJ Thomas Gentry, U.S. Army (Ret.) and wife Jackie, Rathdrum ID
COL Michael Hill, USAF & wife Tina, Fairchild AFB
Bettilu Hogue, Auxiliary, Coeur d'Alene ID
2Lt Robert Templin, U.S. Army, and wife Mary, Post Falls ID

Promotions

CAPT Chuck Lund, USN

TAPS

Gloria Cothern, wife of LTC Bill Cothern, USAF (Ret.) (8/22/11)
LT Thomas Cromwell, USN (8/14/2011)
LTC James Hogue, USAF (Ret.) 9/19/11)

Our Hat Is Off to:

Member Recruiters	Chapter 2011	Give Me 10 2011
Merl Gorton	3	
Marilyn Hunt	7	8
Bob Imle	1	15
Chuck Latimer		5
Karen Mastantuono	Convert to Life	1
Dick Oates		1
Ralph Shrigley	1	1
Esther Starkey	Convert to Life	1
Chuck Stratton		1
TOTALS	12	33

Support the Troops: 2011 Cash donations YTD: \$146.

JAN: 2 boxes (17#) to 13M & 2W in Afghanistan (Army), 2 boxes (20#) to 8M & 3W in Afghanistan (USAF).

MAR: 2 boxes (17#) to 12M Arabian Sea (USN), 2 boxes (15#) to 7M & 1W in Afghanistan (USAF), 2 boxes (16#) to 40M & 20W in Afghanistan (Army), 2 boxes (18#) to 10M & 5W in Afghanistan (USMC).

JUL: 2 boxes (16#) to 12M & 4W in Afghanistan (USMC). 2 boxes (18#) to 150M & 30W in Iraq (USN). 2 boxes (16#) to 19M & 4W in Afghanistan (Army). 2 boxes (16#) to 525M & 25W in Afghanistan (USAF).

2011 Summary: 20 boxes (169#) to 796M & 94W in Iraq, Afghanistan and Arabian Sea.

Legislative Letters, Postcards & Emails: 1566 as of 9/27/11

Raffle Donations: MAR: \$320 AF&A Museum; APR: \$190 Ladies & Gentlemen of WA State Veterans Cemetery; JUN: \$155 Fisher House ; SEP: \$141 MOAA Scholarships; OCT: Spokane Veterans Home; DEC: ROTC/JROTC.

Widows & Wives: 187# food & \$80 to Spokane Valley Food Bank. \$50 to Christ Clinic. 10 wreaths to WA State Veterans Cemetery for Wreaths Across America. 706 Cell Phones for Soldiers as of 9/26/11. Cards, clothing, goodies and visits to 3 residents at Spokane Veterans Home.

WIDOWS & WIVES

By Beth Ann Daigre, Auxiliary Liaison

The Widows and Wives enjoyed tea at the new Taste and See Tea Room on East Holland. Everything was yummy, as usual.



Our next luncheon will be October 4th at Harvest House, 9919 East Greenbluff Road, Colbert at 1 PM. Please call Elaine to save your place at the table 328-5556. On November 1st we will lunch at The MAX in the Mirabeau

Park Hotel, 1100 North Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley and you should call Diane at 467-6138 with your reservation. Our Christmas luncheon will be December 6th in the Palm Court private dining room, Hotel Lusso 808 West Sprague Avenue, Spokane. Call Pat at 953-6768 with your reservation.

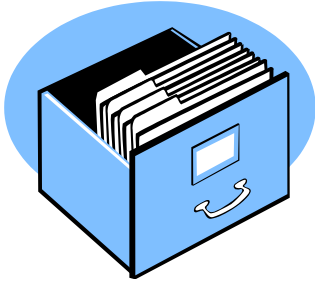
As for our projects, we have donated 60 pounds of clothing and 45 pounds of food for the month of September. Our total number of Cell Phones for Soldiers to date is 706. Elaine Anderson has joined Esther Starkey as our liaisons to the three veterans in the Veterans Home. Thank you Esther for your continued service, and Elaine for stepping up and helping.



Our club has also voted to purchase another ten wreaths from Wreaths Across America for the new Washington State Veterans Cemetery out near Medical Lake. The wreaths only cost \$15 each and they are beautiful. Some of our Widows are members of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Washington State Veterans Cemetery and we, along with other members of the community, helped place the wreaths last December at the headstones of our fallen heroes. If you would like to donate a wreath, go to our web site www.spokanemoaa.org and on the home page on the right side you will find a column of Links. Wreaths Across America is the second item in that list. Let's help and not have one headstone without a wreath this year. (Continued on page 3)

Now Hear This!

AUXILIARY CORNER



We all have important documents. Are yours organized? Can they be retrieved when needed? Do yourself and your loved ones a favor and get these papers in order. Here are some suggestions.

To enable you or a family member to gain quick access when necessary, store one set of your important papers at home in a fireproof lockbox or safe. You might want to store a second set in a safe-deposit box at your financial institution and give a copy to your attorney. The executor of your will should have a copy of your will, the trustee and successor trustee of your trust should have copies of the trust, and the person named in your durable power of attorney should have a copy of that document. Update your documents from time to time as needed:

Upon the death of a family member, particularly the loss of a spouse, revisit your documents and make sure they're up-to-date.

If you move, wills tend to be pretty portable from state to state, but probate procedures might vary. A living trust might make sense in some states but not in others. To find out, contact an attorney.

As time goes by, perhaps the person who accepted your power of attorney is no longer able to carry out the duty, or has moved or passed away. Make sure your family members know not only that your documents are in a home safe or a financial institution safe-deposit box, but also know who has the combination to the safe or the key and authorization to the safe-deposit box. Keep in mind tax and estate laws change, so review your documents at least annually. They might require an update. Discard old documents that no longer are needed or are invalid.

You'll gain a sense of relief from knowing everything is in order and in the right place if your family members need to access your documents.

What I Learned at Summer School

By Marilyn Hunt



Our annual trek to the Veterans Service Officer School yielded a gold mine of information, so here's a few nuggets:

SUICIDE: If someone is thinking of taking their own life and does not want to talk to anyone, don't be bashful. Talk to them anyway. This is a life or death situation. If they're a veteran, call the VA Suicide Hotline at (800) 273-8355 and give them the person's name and phone number. The VA will contact them immediately and talk to them confidentially, telling them of a host of services available to the individual. Trust me, this really does work. I know two people who did it.

VETERANS CEMETERY: When you pre-register at a veterans cemetery, you're not obligated to be buried there. You are merely getting authorization to be buried there. That way, when you die, your family only needs to contact the cemetery and make arrangements for your burial. This is just one more way that you can make life easier for your loved ones. To pre-register at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery, go to http://www.dva.wa.gov/eastern_wa_vet_cemetery.html and click on Pre-Registration Application.

Widows and Wives (continued from page 2)



The Widows and Wives have just completed setting up the 2012 calendar of luncheon locations. I will email it out as soon as possible, and put the dates in the November issue of *Now Hear This*. Between now and then, mark your calendar for the first Tuesday of every month 1-3 PM for lunch with your friends. If you would like to join our club and be on our email or snail mail list, get your information to me. My correct email address is:

bethanndaigre@comcast.net and my phone number is 509-921-9581.

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Now Hear This!

Thank You from Cell Phones for Soldiers



As of 9/26/11, Spokane Chapter of MOAA had donated 706 cell phones to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Included below is an excerpt from a Thank You from them that we wanted to pass on to our members.

NOTE: If you donated a phone to Cell Phones for Soldiers, you may fill out the receipt at the bottom of this article and keep it for your tax records.

"On behalf of Cell Phones for Soldiers and the troops that benefit from your generous donation, thank you! Each donated used mobile phone allows Cell Phones for Soldiers to fulfill the mission of providing service men and women with the opportunity to communicate with loved ones for free. Thanks to kind people such as you, we can provide enriching experiences to soldiers overseas who cannot talk to their families often. One phone call can truly make a difference.

To date, Cell Phones for Soldiers has raised more than \$7 million and provided more than 90 million minutes of free talk time... more than 7.5 million cell phones have been recycled since 2004, thus reducing the impact on landfills. To keep in touch with our activities, please visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com,

Cell Phones for Soldiers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with tax ID #20-1343425. Contributions may be deductible for income tax purposes to the extent allowed by law. Valuations of Gifts in Kind are the privilege and responsibility of the donor. Cell Phones for Soldiers certifies that no goods or services were received in exchange for this gift. Please keep this as a record of your donation for tax purposes.

Date of Donation _____

Amount _____

Lighthouse for the Blind Hiring Veterans



We've received word from Lighthouse for the Blind in Spokane that they are hiring veterans who are blind, legally blind, or wounded warriors. They manufacture products for the U.S. Government's Ability One program, including such things as wall boards (calendar boards, cork boards, dry erase

boards and easels), file folders and paper trimmers. They also do limited aerospace work making various parts for Boeing and Triumph (a subsidiary of Boeing). Spokane Chapter, MOAA cannot endorse Lighthouse for the Blind for lack of personal experience. Caveat emptor! However, if you are interested or know someone who would be, please contact:

**Kevin D. Daniel, Senior Director of Strategic Recruiter
Inland Northwest Lighthouse
The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.**

Phone: 509-487-0405 | Fax: 509-487-0435E-mail:
kdaniel@seattlelh.org | Web: www.inlandlh.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 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



16 October 2011 at the Coeur d'Alene Resort
1230—Social time, 1330—meal service begins
Dinner will be served at your table
Price: \$27 (same as the last three years)

We **MUST** receive reservations **in the chapter mailbox NLT Friday, 7 October 2011**; no late reservations or walk-ins as each meal must be ordered in advance. Please reserve _____ places for Sunday, 16 October 2011. My check to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$27 times the number of reservations)

MENU: Salad, rolls, butter, dessert and choice of 1) Certified Angus **BEEF** Pot Roast, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables or 2) Pan Roasted **CHICKEN** Supreme, Roasted Garlic-Mushroom Sauce, Tagliatelle Pasta, fresh vegetables.

Name: _____ member/guest (circle one) **BEEF or CHICKEN** (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest (circle one) **BEEF or CHICKEN** (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest (circle one) **BEEF or CHICKEN** (circle one)

Name: _____ member/guest (circle one) **BEEF or CHICKEN** (circle one)

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

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

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

Directions to Coeur d'Alene Resort social 16 October 2011 : From I-90 – Exit 11, turn right on Northwest Blvd. toward City Center. This will take you to the lake and the Coeur d'Alene Resort. You may park in the parking garage unless you have a tall vehicle. When you leave, tell the attendant that you were at the MOAA social.

Questions? Call Bob Imle (509) 701-3342

Please bring the following:

1. 3 stamps and 6 return address labels per person for legislative letters
2. Something for the raffle
3. Something for our troops serving in harm's way (postage fees appreciated)

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:

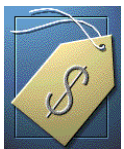
Signed: _____



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

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Spokane WA

We Need 3 More Paid "Give Me Ten" Memberships to Earn a \$100 Bonus by 31 December



One way to do this is to convert your MOAA national Annual membership to Life. Life memberships are based on age. Let's suppose you're 86-90 years old. A Life membership would normally cost \$163. But if you follow the directions below, your net cost will be \$126.70. That's because:

- 1. You'll get a 10% discount from MOAA national & not pay annual dues anymore**
- 2. You'll get a \$20 rebate from the chapter**

NOTE: If you predecease your spouse, your Life membership will become theirs, and they won't have to pay any additional dues to MOAA national for the rest of their life.

TO CONVERT TO LIFE AND GET THESE SAVINGS, YOU MUST (I repeat, MUST) DO EXACTLY THIS:

1. **CALL** the MOAA Membership Service Center at (800) 234-6622 (DO NOT use an MOAA mailer)
2. Say you are a member of the Spokane Chapter and you want to convert your annual membership to Life under Give Me Ten
3. Contact Marilyn Hunt at (208) 773-1074 or cinc@frontier.com and tell her you did it. (Leave a message if she's gone).

You MUST do all three of these things to get your 10% discount and the \$20 refund. Call Marilyn if you have questions.

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!