



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



Volume XX, Number 4



August 2010

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

While many of us (including me) have been off making the most of summer, our chapter has continued to march along. MOAA has awarded two important awards to our chapter. Ken Deich, President of WSCOC, presented the First Place 2009 Communications Award for Legislative Web Coverage to Beth Ann Daigre. This is the second consecutive year she has enabled us to receive this award. Credit for First Runner-up for a Print Newsletter goes to our editor, Marilyn Hunt, and all those who submit articles for "Now Hear This!"

**5 for 5!**

We have also been notified that we will be awarded another 5 Star Banner for Chapter Excellence by VADM Ryan, MOAA President, on 2 October. This means we have been a 5 Star Chapter for 5 consecutive years!

MOAA Spokane has been well represented at several parades throughout the Inland Northwest. Marilyn Hunt is our Parade Master, and she and Barbara Wunderlich took second place in the Rathdrum parade. The final parade of the summer season will be in St. Maries, ID on 6 September. Contact Marilyn for information if you would like to participate. (She's always looking for people with cool cars that will draw attention to the chapter).



Inside is a rousing description of the **September social at Ferraro's Italian Restaurant** in Spokane Valley. This will be our first time there and Bob Imle, social chairman, promises we'll be delighted with the cuisine. To top it off, our guest speaker will be Mr. John E. Lee, Director, Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. To make this social even more special, we will be joined by members of the Washington Chapter, Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association. Note: show time is 1200, meal service at 1300. And, they will have a "pay as you go" bar with wine and beer. **Reservations are due by Friday, 3 SEP.**

In October we will vote for chapter officers and board members, and I hope some members who have not yet served on the Board will come forward. Some of our long-serving board members have informed us that they will depart the board in the near future, so we are seriously in need of new blood. See article on page 3 for why you'd like to take their place.

**Chapter Wives & Widows Club**  
**2010 Meeting Dates**

- 2 MAR: Vintages
- 6 APR: Chaps Coffee Co. & Good Eats
- 4 MAY: High Tea
- 1 JUN: Arbor Crest Wine Cellars Cliff Hse.
- 6 JUL: Dockside, CDA Resort
- 3 AUG: Harvest House
- 7 SEP: Ci Shenanigans
- 5 OCT: Maggie's South Hill Grill
- 2 NOV: Christ Kitchen
- 7 DEC: PF Chang's China Bistro

**BRING SOMETHING TO THE**  
**12 SEP SOCIAL FOR**  
**SUPPORT THE TROOPS**

**2010 Chapter Socials**

- 21 MAR- Northern Quest Casino
- 25 APR - Mukogawa Ft. Wright
- 13 JUN - Bob & Maggie Imle's
- 12 SEP - Ferraro's Italian Rest.
- 17 OCT - Coeur d'Alene Resort
- 5 DEC - Mukogawa Ft Wright

## Welcome New Members

## Now Hear This!

COL Timothy Bush, USAF, Fairchild AFB  
Vice Wing Commander, and wife Cathy

LtCol Martha Cash, USAF, NC (Ret.), Davenport

1LT Harrison Fahrner, U.S. Army, and wife Joyce, Spokane

1LT Jason Osgood, USAF, and wife Jennifer, Cheney

## Promotions

RADM Kevin J. Kovacich, USN (son of Vincent and Harriet Kovacich)

## TAPS

Vernon Baker, MOH (Honorary Member) 7/13/10

Esther Browning (Aux.) 7/10/10

COL Keith H. Campbell, USAF (Ret.) 7/24/10

Betty Hager, wife of LtCol Frank Hager, USAF (Ret.) 6/28/10

Maureen Kirkpatrick, wife of COL H.L. "Kirk" Kirkpatrick,  
USAF (Ret.) 7/28/10

Bergie Morbeck, wife of MAJ Walter Morbeck, USAF (Ret.) 7/22/10



Spokane Chapter, MOAA  
2009 First Prize Winner

*Best Legislative Coverage for  
Website*

## Widows and Wives Club



In June we met for lunch at Barlow's in Liberty Lake where members of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Washington State Veterans Cemetery graciously presented Beth Ann Daigre with roses and lilies and a \$100 gift certificate in appreciation for setting up the program. She was greatly surprised and deeply moved.

July found us at Docksider in the Coeur d'Alene Resort where six ladies from a university sorority presented a check for \$100 to the Ladies and Gentlemen for the benefit of the program and to help with start-up costs and monthly maintenance fees. In August we enjoyed perfect weather with outdoor dining at the Harvest House in Green Bluff.

At our July and August luncheons, the possibility of amending the Chapter By-Laws to include all dues paying Auxiliary members as voting members was discussed and endorsed by a majority of attendees. That message was passed to the Board of Directors at their August meeting.

Our next luncheon will be 7 September at 1:00 p.m. at Ci Shenigan's, 332 N. Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane. We're hoping for a lovely day to dine on the patio and possibly feed the ducks and swans. Call Beth Ann Daigre to save your place at the table: (509) 921-9581. Please bring food for the food bank.

The Widows and Wives Club Planning Committee will meet on 16 September at 1:00 p.m. at Marie Callender's, Argonne and I-90, to select restaurants and assign months. If you would like to participate in this committee, please join us.

## Our Hat Is Off to:

Member Recruiters	Chapter YTD 2010	Give Me 10 YTD 2010
<b>Convert to Life:</b>		2
Vince Shrigley		
George Bombel		
Beth Ann Daigre		5
Marilyn Hunt	2	21
Bob Imle		10
Margaret Imle	1	10
Ralph Shrigley		1
Pat Tolley	1	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>49</b>

**Support The Troops:** \$230 donations. 8 boxes (64.3#) sent to 44 men & 32 women in Iraq & Afghanistan (USAF, USMC, Army).

**Legislative Letters:** 854 sent as of 7 August 2010.

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

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

**Widows & Wives Food Bank Donations:** 59 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.

## 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



### September Social—Top Drawer!

By Bob Imle



For a real treat, attend the 12 September social at Ferraro's Italian Restaurant on Sprague Avenue! They are giving us the restaurant until 1530, bringing their staff in early, and the food is superb! The "Chicken Al Diavolo" is slightly spicy—sliced chicken, sautéed onions and garlic with carrots, olives, mushrooms, artichoke hearts, celery, red and green peppers in tomato sauce, served over spaghetti and topped with fresh grated Parmesan cheese. The Chicken Fettuccine is covered with their homemade white wine cream sauce, the Lasagna is superb, and they are providing additional sausage and meatballs. Dessert is authentic Spumoni ice cream.



One of the waiters will be singing throughout the meal, and they are providing "pay as you go" wine and beer. **NOTE: SHOW TIME IS 1200, MEAL SERVICE IS AT**

**1300 (1:00 p.m.).**

#### BUT WAIT, IT GETS BETTER!

Our speaker will be Mr. John Lee, WA State Director of Veterans Affairs (who, you might recall, normally resides near Olympia).



John is a Vietnam War Veteran and retired U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major. His responsibilities include advocacy and outreach for Washington's 670,000 veterans and their families, as well as oversight for the three state veterans homes.

A native of West Virginia, he entered the Army in 1968 and spent the next 21 years in the Infantry. He served in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade and assignments with the 82nd Airborne Division, Drill Sergeant, Fort Jackson SC, First Sergeant in the 3-60th Infantry (Berlin Brigade), and multiple assignments as Command Sergeant Major of the 3rd Brigade, 9th Infantry Division at Ft. Lewis, retiring in 1990.

John believes he has the best job in the world. His goal is to identify veterans' needs and find solutions. In 2008 he received the VA Secretary's Diamond Award.

### And the Nominees Are?

The Nominating Committee has been selected:

Beth Ann Daigre, Chair: (509) 921-9581

Clif Collier: (509) 443-6490

Barbara Wunderlich: (509) 928-1593



If you like to be of service to others, now is the time to volunteer to serve on the chapter's Board of Directors. This is actually a FUN thing to do! We meet the first Saturday of each month at 0900 in the Education

Building of the Valley Hospital and are usually done by 1100. Barbara Wunderlich spoils us half to death with her homemade goodies and we even sing "Happy Birthday" if it's your birthday month. Marilyn Hunt has been coming since Moby Dick was a minnow, and she says it's a great way to keep your brain synapses flexible and intact. (Note: elections will be in October, so put this idea on the front burner).

### Email Bounce-Backs & Phone Disconnects

In July we sent emails to those of you who have given us your email address, and some of them bounced back. When our Email coordinator, Dean Thie, tried to call and get your new email address, he discovered that some phones had been disconnected. So, we need to hear from the people listed below. We are sending this newsletter to them by U.S. mail in hopes that they will get it. If you are one of these people (or you know their whereabouts), please contact our Membership Chairman, Clif Collier. He will update your current mailing address, phone number and email address (if you have one) and pass it on to Dean. Also, if anyone else has disconnected their phone or moved, please use the form on page 5.



**Joan Sterling**

**Scott Greene**

**James Mangan**

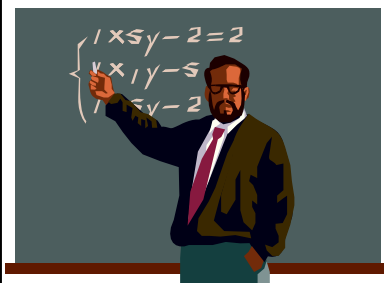
**Scott Mazanec**

## Now Hear This!

### Updates to VA Disability Rules

By Marilyn Hunt

As usual, Bob and I attended the annual Veterans Service Officer school in Boise.



Most of what we learned applies to all veterans, not just those in Idaho. You'll see the word "presumptive" or "presumption" in the following highlights. This means the VA has already established that a condition was caused by service in a given location. You need to prove you were *there*, not that a condition was caused by *servicing* there.

**TINNITUS:** (ringing in the ears) is not a disease of the ear. It actually comes from the brain. Head and neck injuries are the second leading known cause of tinnitus. Contact [jennifer@ata.org](mailto:jennifer@ata.org) for details (ata is American Tinnitus Association).

**PTSD:** VA has relaxed the rules for a stressor statement. This is a great help to those who cannot identify a specific stressor on a exact date or location.

**HERBICIDES:** Even if a veteran did not serve in Vietnam, the VA will apply a presumption of service connection if 1) There is competent evidence the veteran was exposed to herbicides during military service and 2) The veteran has a disease which the VA recognizes as being associated with herbicide exposure (38 CFR 3.309(e)). This can include, but is not limited to, Vietnam, Thailand and Korea.

On 25 March 2010, the VA published regulations which, when finished, will allow presumptive service connection for **Parkinson's Disease (PD), Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD) and B-Cell Leukemia**. IHD includes, but is not limited to, acute, subacute, and old myocardial infarction; atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease [including coronary spasm] and coronary bypass surgery; and unstable and Prinzmetal's angina immediately following "Hodgkin's disease." Note: do not file for hypertension based on IHD.

On 18 March 2010, the VA published a proposed change of regulations in the Federal Register pertaining to Iraq and Afghanistan presumptive. If implemented, it would add these nine (9) conditions to those disabilities currently presumed to be related to service in the Gulf War, OEF and OIF. The presumptive period generally begins upon discharge from service in which the veteran served in South West Asia (SWA):

- **Brucellosis, Campylobacter jejuni, Coxiella burnetii (Q fever), Mycobacterium Tuberculosis, Nonthyphoid salmonella, Shigella, West Nile Virus:** 1 yr.
- **Malaria:** Manifest within 1 year or at a time when standard or accepted treatises indicate the incubation period commenced during service.
- **Visceral Leishmaniasis:** Open

**SUICIDE:** is highest among older white males. In general, it occurs among people who are not connected to others socially, think they are a burden, and have overcome their instinct to survive. **The least number of suicides occurs on Super Bowl Sunday.**

### 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

**Now Hear This!**

Spokane Chapter, MOAA  
P O Box 466  
Veradale WA 99037

12 September 2010 at Ferraro's Italian Restaurant  
11204 E. Sprague, Spokane Valley  
1200 - Social time; 1300 (1:00 p.m.) meal service begins

**COST: \$23 each. MENU:** Chicken Al Diavolo, Chicken Fettuccine, Lasagna, Sausage & Meatballs, salad, bread, spumoni ice cream. "Pay as you go" wine and beer.

**We MUST receive reservations in the chapter mailbox NLT Friday, 3 September 2010.**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for Sunday, 12 September 2010. My check to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (\$23 times the number of reservations).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member/guest

[ ] 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 Ferraro's, 11204 E Sprague Ave (509-928-2303): From I-90, south on Pines, right on Sprague, past the Bowdish traffic light, look for the "Ferraro's" sign and the fire truck on the left/south side of Sprague. Please call with any questions: **Bob Imle @ (509) 701-3342.**

**REMINDER: Please bring the following:**

- 3 postage stamps and 6 address labels for EACH person attending (for legislative letters)
- Something for the raffle or for our troops serving in harm's way (\$\$ for postage also welcome). Troops appreciate beef jerky, popcorn, ramen soup, socks, hand & foot warmers, baby wipes, toothbrushes, & miniature packages of cookies, candy, chicken or tuna with crackers, gum, lotion, lip balm, deodorant, shampoo/lotion/soap (like a motel provides), & female hygiene products. No books please!

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

**2010 Give Me Ten (GMT) MOAA Membership Program**

**Active Duty, Reserve & Guard are eligible for one year of FREE MOAA national membership. Former officers & surviving spouses can have 2 years for \$28 (regular price \$62 for 2 years).**

**Why should they join MOAA? Try this:**

**5% discount on gas.** How? When they join MOAA, they can get a Pentagon Federal Credit Union credit card. When they use it to buy gas at the pump, their monthly statement will reflect a 5% reduction in the cost of the gas.

**20% discount on financial planning if they use Garret Financial Planners.** Garrett charges by the hour. They do not get a commission on what they sell. So they have no vested interest in what the client invests in.

Contact Marilyn Hunt at 208.773.1074 or cinc@verizon.net to get GMT forms. If you provide her with a person's name, mailing address, rank, service & DOB, she can do free memberships by phone or email. And you get the credit!

**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.