



NOW HEAR THIS!
SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XVIII, Number 5 **President's Message** September, 2008

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Again, we are a Five Star Chapter. For the third year in a row, the Spokane Chapter of MOAA received recognition from MOAA Headquarters for demonstrating an every day level of excellence in activities that benefit service members and their families.

The Spokane Chapter wishes to welcome our newest Board Member—

LTC Rufus Hoefler US Army Retired

He was sworn in during the 6 September 2008 Board Meeting. Our next Board Meeting will be the second Saturday of October (the 11th) at 0900 hours in the Shriner's Hospital Cafeteria.

Marilyn Hunt and I, and our spouses, will attend the 2008 Presidents' Symposium in Tahoe, Nevada from 16-18 October. I will attend the President's workshop and Marilyn will attend the Personal Affairs workshop.

On 19 October, we will elect new chapter officers and board members for 2009 at our meeting at Northern Quest Casino in Spokane. See you there.

SEMPER FI !!

Dick Oates Phone: 208-777-2671

October Social

19 October is our social at the Northern Quest Casino, which is close to Fairchild AFB. Combine your exchange/commissary shopping and stay overnight at Fairchild – the Qs are first rate and the charge is small. If the turnout is good and the comments indicate, we will return there in 2009. Our speaker is Brad Hunter, who will present information on new laws and planning that could improve your financial planning and the inheritance that you will leave behind. The Spokane Chapter of MOAA cannot endorse any speaker or business; we want to provide timely/valuable information to our members. Dec Mukogawa: Randy Wagner's EWU choral group returns!

News Brief

The 92nd Medical Group at Fairchild AFB Immunization Walk-In Clinic is open Monday through Friday, 0730 to 1600 hours. You must be over 60 for the Shingles vaccine, and over 65 for Pneumonia. Bring your shot record if you have it. Call ahead of time to make sure either both or either vaccine are in stock. in stock.

Calendar of events

October 19, Northern Quest Casino
 October 28, Auxiliary Luncheon, Perkins Restaurant on Division, 1-3pm
 December 7, Mukogawa Ft. Wright
 March 15, 2009 Chapter Luncheon
 April 26, 2009, Mukogawa Ft. Wright
 June 14, 2009, Picnic at Imle's
 —Programs: Bob Imle (509-701-3342

Now Hear This!

Chapter Dues Are Due

Chapter dues expire this December for those listed here. If you will send your dues in now, it will save the chapter over \$150 in paper, postage and printing. Please use the coupon in the bottom right hand corner.

Aguirre, Vincent
 Albrecht, H. Karl
 Albright, Paul
 Alm, May
 Arnold, Nancy
 Atkins, Gary
 Avriett, Lucinda
 Bailey, Gardner
 Barrett, Jean
 Bender, Walter
 Benschmidt, Lisa
 Benschmidt, Carl
 Betz, Jeremiah
 Bevacqua, Alfred
 Billings, Michael
 Blackwell, Toni
 Blair, J. Birney
 Blake, James
 Bombel, George
 Bowmer, Richard
 Brandstoettner, Edward
 Brierley, Sheila
 Brooke, Robert
 Browning, Esther
 Bublitz, Robert
 Burke, Charles
 Burnham, Charles
 Burns Jr., Charles
 Campbell, Keith
 Canfield Jr., Majorie
 Cappello, Cynthia
 Cappello, James
 Carll, Donald
 Chandler, Carl
 Chew, I Katherine
 Chorvat, Michael
 Clark, Jim
 Clark, Virginia
 Colburn, Hebert
 Colliton, Jeffry
 Connally, William
 Connell, James
 Cook, Doris
 Countryman, Roxie
 Craghead, Robert
 Cresswell, Douglas
 Crocker, Carol
 Crouter, Mary Lou
 Daigre, Beth Ann
 Daniel, Homer
 Davidson, Frances
 Davis, Theodore
 Day, Richard
 Dion, Joseph
 Dixon, Fred
 Dorman, Frank
 Duncan, Kenneth
 Eastburg, Geraldine
 Endahl, Charles
 Finnegan, John
 Fliger, Manley
 Flood, Jerry
 Fox, Roland
 Frigeri, Peter

Fullington, Douglas
 Garcia, Jerry
 Garrett, Thomas
 Gerlach, Gerald
 Gorton, Merl
 Grangnelli, Joseph
 Grashio, Devonia
 Green Jr., Dr. Harry
 Gresham, Elwin
 Griffith, Lawrence
 Gronberg, Robert
 Guillotte, Dolphus
 Hand, Charles
 Harris, Marmaduke
 Haupt, Jerome
 Henrikson Sr., Donald
 Hepburn Jr., George
 Herion, George
 Higinbotham, June
 Hinman, Craig
 Hitter, James
 Hobbs, Fred
 Hodgson, Myron
 Hogue, James
 Holmberg, Harry
 Hooppaw, James
 Hosterman, Larry
 Hough, Ann
 Hueber, Marilyn
 Hutcherson, Carl
 Imle, Robert
 Jarrard, Thomas
 Jeffs, Barbara
 Jenkins, Hobart
 Jensen, Howard
 Jeremiah, Roy
 Jewell, Richard
 Johnson, Duane
 Jones, C. Dave
 Jordan, James
 Juber LCDR, USN (Ret.) C.
 Kallestad, Lowell
 Kersting, William
 King, Brent
 King, Renee
 Klee, Valerie
 Kloehn, The Rev. Gordon
 Knox, Richard
 Kovacich, Vincent
 Kratt Jr., Jacob
 Lacy, Thomas
 Ladd, Dean
 Langenheim, John
 Lanning, Thomas
 Larribeau, John
 Latham, Patricia
 Lekstrum, J. Marvin
 Liberg, Ray
 Lind, Carl
 Luppert, Paul
 Mabeus, Dr. Duane
 Makar, Stephen
 Malone, Jerry
 Martin, Lylal

Martin, Paul
 Martin Jr., John
 Martin Sr., Richard
 Mastantuono, Karen
 Mayer, Walter
 McBride, James
 McCabe, Gaylord
 McCauley, Bertram
 McKinney, Lillian
 Means, Paul
 Meinert, Gary,
 Melges, David
 Memminger, Mary A.
 Mueller, Sylvia
 Millard, Val
 Miller, John
 Minkler, John
 Moerschel, Thomas
 Mongelluzzo, Judith
 Moore, William
 Morbeck, Walter
 Morisset, Carlyn
 Mullin, Rober
 Nevers, Betty
 Northrup, James
 Nystrom, Edward
 Oates, Richard
 Oliver, Almon
 Olson, Beverly
 Olson, Oscar
 Osborne, Robert
 Parker Jr., Edward
 Nystrom, Edward
 Oates, Richard
 Oliver, Almon
 Olson, Beverly
 Olson, Oscar
 Osborne, Robert
 Parker Jr., Edward
 Parkison II, Ralph
 Patrick, Paul
 Pearson, Roy
 Pelegreen, Robert
 Percy, Francis
 Petrin, Milton
 Phillips, Jim
 Piper, Clinton
 Povich, Michael
 Pruitt, Bill
 Regan, Michael
 Roberts, Carroll
 Roden, Susan
 Shrigley, Vincent
 Simmons, Daniel
 Slaton, Clifford
 Smith, Eugene
 Smith, Omer
 Snow, Jeffery
 Sommers, Duane
 Spitzbarth, Marcella
 Starling, Joan
 Starrett, Jack
 Stein Jr., Henry
 Stephenson, Lyle

Stratton, Charles
 Strautman, R. B.
 Swain, Lee
 Swisher, Helen
 Tate, Harlan
 Taylor, Steven
 Thie, Dean A.
 Thompson Jr., Lawrence
 Thorstenson, Irene
 Thrash, James
 Tolman, Scott
 Trapp, Vincent
 Tuttle, Donald
 Vasil, George
 Vogel, Howard
 Walker, Elmer
 Wallick, Marie
 Warner, Duke
 Watts, Blanchard
 Weaver, Bruce
 Werner, Ila
 Wetherholt, Thomas
 White, Stanley
 Williams, Donald
 Williams, Dr. David
 Williams, Fred
 Williams, Irene
 Williams, Wilho

Wilson, Harold
 Winskie, John
 Wood, Larry
 Woolard, J. D.
 Wordinger, David
 Wunderlich, Barbara
 Young, Charles
 Zemler, Edwin
 Zitterkopf, Carole
 Zitterkopf, Fred

Enclosed re my chapter dues of
 \$_____.

(Regular \$25/3 yrs., \$10/1 yr.
 (Auxiliary \$15/3 yrs., \$6/1 yr.)

Name _____

Address _____

City/ State/Zip _____

Phone —()_____

Email (opt) _____

Mail to:
Spokane Chapter MOAA
P.O. Box 466
Veradale, WA 99037

Now Hear This!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jeffrey Cashion, MAJ, USAF and wife, Elana, Spokane
John "Jay" Cochrane, Capt, USAF and wife Stephanie, Post Falls
Joseph Ferraro LtCol, USAF Air Guard and wife Mary, Chattaroy
Stacey Valentino, LT, USN and husband Jeremy Winkle, Spokane

Our Hats are off to:

Year to Date:

<u>Member Recruiters</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Give Me Ten</u>
Beth Ann Daigre	3	3
Merl Gorton	4	3
Marilyn Hunt	13	31
Bob Imle		9
Chuck Latimer	3	7
Michael Maehl	1	
Dick Oates	4	3
Frank Potter	2	2
Chuck Young	1	
Jerry Zee	1	1
Ann Hough (Converted to Life)		1
Dave Stanicar (Converted to Lile)		1
Marie Wallick (Converted to Life)		1
<u>Totals:</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>62</u>

TAPS

Carol Crocker, AUX, August, 2008

Mark your calendar for the 19 October Social at the Northern Quest Casino.

Our speaker will be Bradley Hunter of Hunter Financial, Inc. He will provide information on how to evaluate financial advisors, how to make your investments more tax efficient, how to uncover and then compare hidden fees, and updates on trust laws. This presentation is not an endorsement of Hunter Financial; the information is presented to benefit MOAA members. — **Robert Imle, Social Programs**

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Legislative Report

As my deadline for our newsletter nears, the most current MOAA weekly electronic legislative report gives us some good news. The FY2009 Defense Authorization Bill finally got moving this week, but only a few votes on amendments have taken place so far. Sen. Bill Nelson's (D-FL) amendment that would repeal the offset of the military's survivor benefit plan by the VA's dependency and indemnity compensation was adopted 94-2.

Also reported was that MOAA was closely tracking the following amendments:

- Sen. Frank Lautenberg's (D-NJ) and Sen. Chuck Hagel's (R-NE) amendment to protect military beneficiaries from disproportional TRICARE fee hikes
- Sen. Harry Reid's (D-NV) amendments to concurrent receipt payments and improve Combat Related Special Compensation calculations for some Chapter 61 retirees
- Sen. Saxby Chambliss' (R-GA) amendment to provide retroactive early retirement credit for Guard and Reserve members who served in Iraq and Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001
- Sen. Bob Corker's (R-TN) amendments to extend federal hiring preferences to military spouses and to provide work opportunity tax credits to employers who hire teleworking military spouses

Sen. Bill Nelson's amendment to provide a federal charter for MOAA

It is important to keep after your senators on these issues, but it is equally important to demand from our members of the House of Representatives that they make sure that we get favorable results on these issues when they finally go to conference. Votes on TRICARE fees, concurrent receipt, and reserve retirement are expected to take place in the Senate during September 15-19.

Once again, the administration has issued a statement indicating that the president "strongly opposes" a 3.9% pay raise for the troops (versus the 3.4% proposed by DoD). The statement also said the administration was "disappointed" the Senate bill does not include language to raise TRICARE fees for retirees under age 65 as recommended by the Task Force on the Future of Military Health Care.

Continued on next page ...

Military Coalition Honors Hill Champions

One of the most effective means of recognizing legislators who are "there for" the military community is to give them awards. The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of 35 military and veterans organizations of which MOAA is a leading member, singled out four legislators and two congressional staffers for special recognition at TMC's annual awards reception on Capitol Hill on September 9. Fleet Reserve Association National Executive Secretary Joe Barnes, who co-chairs TMC along with MOAA's Steve Strobridge, hosted the event with TMC President Mike Cline of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the U.S.

The Coalition recognized the following legislators:

- Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Representative Charles Rangel (D-NY), Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, were honored for their leadership in preventing the 10.6% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors, as well as shepherding legislation that provides a multitude of tax advantages to service members, retirees, their families and survivors
- Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) for championing the passage of the post 9-11 GI Bill, which covers the full cost of tuition at any public university and many private institutions, and provides a monthly stipend for housing. (NOTE: go to www.moaa.org to find details of the new GI Bill provisions.

Representative Thelma Drake (R-VA) for championing improvements in military basic pay that would eliminate the gap between private sector wages and military pay. She was also honored for her bill that would allow military members to make after tax contributions to their thrift savings plan and withdrawal that money tax free in retirement.

— Chuck Latimer

Now Hear This!

Spokane Chapter of MOAA
P O Box 466
Veradale WA 99037

19 Oct, 2008 at the Northern Quest Casino
100 North Hayford Road, Airway Heights
1245 Social time, 1330 served meal begins

Please mail your reservation early, we must receive it by **Saturday, 11 October**; no late reservations or walk-ins as meal preference must be ordered – MENU CHOICES: Herb Crusted Choice Sirloin atop Onion Fritz w/ Mushroom Demi Glaze, baby red potatoes, fresh veges \$16. Or Chicken Provencal (boneless breast on rice pilaf) \$14. Both include garden salad rolls, and coffee, tea, or soft drink. Please reserve ____ places for the Sunday 19 October 2008 picnic. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed. Make check payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" - mail to chapter mailbox. above.

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 _____

Directions: Northern Quest Casino: I-90 west, exit 277 (Fairchild/airport exit), 4 miles, right at first traffic light on Hayford Road, 2 miles, park in first casino parking lot on left. Transport is by shuttle to casino front door. MOAA room is on right; follow the signs. .Questions? Call **Bob Imle @ (509) 701-3342**

Reminder: Bring something for the Raffle and something for our troops serving in harm's way.

WSCOC TO MEET

On the 4th of October, the WSCOC Board will be meeting in Richland Washington for the semi annual meeting. Principal topic to be discussed will include, recruiting, organizing for legislative support and the possible integration of auxiliary members.

The total number of new members in all chapters now exceeds more than 70. The Spokane Chapter and Columbia Chapter are leaders in recruiting. Over all WSCOC Chapters are about 11th in the Nation in recruiting. The Spokane Chapters total on new recruits exceeds that of many states.

During the October meeting, the WSCOC Board will review possible legislative issues to support and submit to the Washington State Legislature in January 2009. Ken Deich who is our representative on the Veterans Legislative Council will make recommendations to the Board meeting. His efforts to pass critical legislation affecting veterans and retirees were important in the passage of bills. He also noted that the support of the Spokane Chapter in contacting members of the legislature helped in the passage of important bills.

Chuck Latimer who is a National Director will update the Council on the status of Federal Legislation. A Chapter Strategy model will be discussed that organizes a chapter to support legislation identified by MOAA as important to retirees, veterans, active duty service members and families.

Three Chapters of WSCOC and the WSCOC President will be attending the Presidents symposium sponsored by MOAA at Lake Tahoe on October 16-18 October. Council Presidents have been scheduled for a special meeting time to share ideas and discuss how to make Councils more effective.

MOAA has almost 12,000 members in the State of Washington. Of these about 2000 are members of our 10 chapters. MOAA membership in our state is greater than AUSA, AFA, and ROA combined. A total of 5 MOAA chapter members serve on the Veterans Advisory Council to the Washington state Legislature. We are a powerful voice.

