



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXX Number 3



May 2020

Spokane Chapter Board of Directors

President, Newsletter Editor

David Melges, LCDR, USN (Ret.)
(509)465-8867 spomoaa@melges.net

1st Vice President

Alan Davis, LCDR, USN (Ret.)
(208)215-5607 rota_al@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President, Membership Chair & Email Newsletter Coordinator

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

Secretary

David Melges, Acting

Treasurer

Alan Davis, LCDR, USN (Ret.)
(208)215-5607
rota_al@yahoo.com

Surviving Spouses Liaison, Widows & Wives

Audrey Oates, (208)777-2671
AROates@roadrunner.com

IPP & Social Chair

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

Director, Chief Recruiter

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

Veterans Home Chair

Shirley Melges, (509)465-8867
shirley@melges.net

Director, ROTC, Homeless Veterans

Robert Imle, LtCol, USAF (Ret.)
(509)701-3342 rmikcj718@gmail.com

Director, Chaplain & Social Comm.

Betty Krafft, LCDR, USN (Ret.)
(509)768-3138 ggpugmom@gmail.com

Director & Social Committee

Barbara Thornbrugh, Surviving Spouse
(509)466-2108
bjthornbrugh@comcast.net

Website Coordinator

Dave Melges, LCDR USN (Ret.)
(509)218-0735
spomoaa@melges.net

Personal Affairs Chairman

Shirley Melges (509)465-8867
smmelges@comcast.net

Director, ROTC

Ryan Morrison, Capt. USA (Ret.)
(208)869-7696

Director

Robert Mead, Col. USAF (Ret.)
(203)314-4908

5 Star Chapter President's Message



LTC Phil Kowzan US Army Retired

Our next social is scheduled on Sunday, 13 September at the Spokane Airport Ramada Inn, this is because of the Covid-19 pandemic. This will be our annual chapter meeting honoring members who have passed during the year.

The Widows & Wives have suspended their future luncheons and will resume as allowed by the virus. We are all following the situation concerning the virus and since most of us fall into the highly vulnerable age group the plans are in a constant state of possible change. As we all know "Indecision is the key to flexibility."

Fairchild Prescription Changes

Effectively immediately due to the COVID 19 situation all prescriptions (new and refills) are to be picked up/filled/refilled at the refill pharmacy next to the BX. This change was made to reduce amount of foot traffic in the clinic. Refill pharmacy is open only 1330-1630 Mon-Fri. Minimum fill/refill time is 3 business days. The automated dispenser inside the BX entrance is also available during BX hours. Again, call automated refill 509-247-5568 telephone system ahead of going in. Operating hours info seems to be keeping up with the changes.

MOAA Websites & Membership:



MOAA Website: <http://www.moaa.org>

MOAA "Take Action": <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>

MOAA Legislative: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/>

Spokane Chapter website: <http://www.spokanemoaa.org>

Membership in Spokane Chapter and MOAA national are nonpartisan and open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States seven uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



@SpokaneMOAA

@MOAA



CONGRESSWOMAN CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
FIFTH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

CHARLIE DURAÑONA
VETERANS/MILITARY LIAISON

10 N. POST STREET, SUITE 625
SPOKANE, WA 99201

(509) 680-5583-C
(509) 353-2374-O
CHARLES.DURANONA@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

Taps

Louise Winn Surviving Spouse 6 Feb 2020
(past member)

Hats Off To:

| Recruiter | Chapter | MOAA |
|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Marilyn Hunt | 0 | 2 |
| Dave Melges | 0 | 3 |
| Bob Imle | 0 | 2 |
| Mike Robinson | 1 (self) | |
| Karen Robertson | 1 (self) | |
| 2020 Total | 1 | 7 |

Chapter Scoreboard 2020

JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 2/29/2020) \$727

Legislative Letters, Postcards, & Emails (as of 2/29/2020): 316

2019 Total: **1307**

2020 Raffles:

MAR: Meals on Wheels - **\$195.00**

APR: MOAA Scholarship

JUN: Union Gospel Mission

SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America

OCT: Spokane Veterans Home

DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships

Widows & Wives:

Homeless Vets \$117.00, & 2184 items delivered, including can meat, can soup, jelly, sugar packets, travel and full size hygiene products, disposable razors.

Spokane Veterans Home: \$0.00 & 505 items delivered, unfinished wood items, magazines/books, acrylic craft paint, back packs, baking mixes, calendars, drawings to paint, new greeting cards, stationary items, wall clocks, toiletry bag, body spray, bird seed, postage stamps, 3M Command hooks and plastic tube hangers.

Meals on Wheels **\$43.00**

Wreaths Across America **\$0.00 (0 Wreaths)**

Christ Kitchen **\$0.00**

Arrears of Pay

Ever heard of this? Arrears of Pay (AOP) is the pro-rated amount of the final month's retirement pay and any other money owed to the retiree at the time of death. This is not a death benefit. There are two ways you can prepare to leave behind money from their military retirement: by designating beneficiaries for the SBP and AOP. Naming a beneficiary for SBP does not automatically entitle that person to receive AOP. A separate election must be made. failing to designate an AOP beneficiary and keep their contact information current could cause stress and financial hardship for survivors during an already difficult time because the final payment could be delayed. Unless otherwise noted, an AOP beneficiary will also be the person Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials contact for assistance in closing the account, so it is important to designate a person the retiree trusts to handle their affairs. Also, designating a sole beneficiary in a will does not automatically make that person an AOP beneficiary. When no beneficiary is named, the payment is made to the highest person in what is known as the "Order of Precedence." The Order of Precedence is the federal-mandated order of inheritance that applies to legacies without a designated beneficiary. It can take many months to locate survivors, identify who comes highest in the Order of Precedence, and then make the payment. DFAS officials also suggest limiting the number of AOP beneficiaries to avoid delays as the AOP payment is usually less than one month's pay, and this amount will be divided among all of the designated beneficiaries. For more information, visit the DFAS website <https://mypay.dfas.mil/>.

NOW HEAR THIS! *Is published at least 6 times per year by the Spokane Chapter, Military Officers Association of America, P O Box 466, Veradale WA 99037. Editor: David Melges, spomoaa@melges.net, (509)218-0735. Advertising limited to members/spouses only. No subject matter that would preclude non-profit mailing.*

LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORT

Key Bills being considered by Congress

Show your support for these bills by going to <http://takeaction.moaa.org/?0>
Our chapter designation is **WA07**, which will be useful when using the MOAA website.

HOUSE 333

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

HOUSE 413

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes.

SENATE 2216

A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical determinations relating to eligibility for caregiver programs, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.

SENATE 21

A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event of an appropriations act expired prior to the enactment of new appropriations (official title to be confirmed).

SENATE 2981

A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

HOUSE 2406

A bill to amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 to make certain changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's commissioned officer corps, and for other purposes.

Senate 1047

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to create a dependency and indemnity compensation allowance for surviving spouses receiving dependency and indemnity compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Senate 3393

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

House 5995

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand eligibility to certain military retirees for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay or combat-related special compensation, and for other purposes.

Legislative Contacts

President Donald Trump

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington DC 20500

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 Russ Fulcher

United States House of Representatives
1250 Ironwood Dr. Ste. 241
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
(208)667-0127
Fax: (208)667-0310

Need to Update/Replace an ID Card?

We are in a unique situation with the COVID-19 pandemic causing cancelations, postponements and isolation. Life goes on with the virus calling the shots, but if you have lost your ID, need to get your dependents ID card replaced or renewed (they are only valid for four years, better check it while you read this). You can make a reservation for the Fairchild ID office on line by going to <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/#/>, (Expiring IDs expiring 1 Mar — 30 Sep 2020 have been extended to 30 Sep 2020) **The direct number to the office is (509)247-9240** bring two forms of ID if yours is expired.

CONTINUE

1. Select the **CONTINUE** button in the **Site Locator & Appointments** box.
2. In **Show Locations Near** Enter your Zip Code, change the **Radius** to an applicable distance
3. Click on **SEARCH**
4. Under Fairchild AFB click on **MORE INFO**
5. At the bottom of the page you will see the office hours and address click on **SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT**
6. A calendar will be displayed for the current month, if there are no appointments available for the current month select the next month (located above the calendar).
7. When you find a month with available appointments select the date you desire.
8. Click on the number of **Available Appointments** this should show the times open for that date.
9. You may encounter times when the server displays the dates showing **Available Appointments** but goes no further, this means you will need to try again the next day. Call the office if you continue to experience problems with the web site.
10. An example of the calendar is displayed below.

6/1/2020

June 2020 Available Dates ← →

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| | 1 15 Available Appointments | 2 15 Available Appointments | 3 15 Available Appointments | 4 15 Available Appointments | 5 15 Available Appointments | 6 |
| 7 | 8 15 Available Appointments | 9 15 Available Appointments | 10 15 Available Appointments | 11 15 Available Appointments | 12 15 Available Appointments | 13 |
| 14 | 15 15 Available Appointments | 16 15 Available Appointments | 17 15 Available Appointments | 18 15 Available Appointments | 19 15 Available Appointments | 20 |
| 21 | 22 15 Available Appointments | 23 15 Available Appointments | 24 15 Available Appointments | 25 15 Available Appointments | 26 15 Available Appointments | 27 |
| 28 | 29 15 Available Appointments | 30 15 Available Appointments | | | | |

Local Resources

Washington Attorney General's Military & Veteran Legal Resource Guide

This guide summarizes in one place some of the many legal rights, protections, and resources available to Washington's military service members, veterans, and their families. It is designed to help promote awareness and understanding about the laws and protections among military service members, veterans, and others to help current and former military service members see the full benefit these laws provide.

The free guide can be downloaded at the following link or received by mail via written request to the address below:

<http://www.atg.wa.gov/veteran-and-military-resources>

Casualty Assistance Officer

Erica Kerin is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and surrounding area.

Bldg. 2040 at 7 W. Arnold St., (509)247-4488.
If you leave a message, she will call you back.

U.S. Air Force Legal Assistance Fairchild AFB Wing Headquarters (509)247-2838

Legal Assistance: Tuesday & Thursday 0830-0930
Notary & Power of Attorney: Mon—Fri 0830-1600
Call to find out if they can help with your legal

Membership Chair/Committee
Spokane Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 466
Veradale, WA 99037



Update My Communication Preferences

EMAIL REQUEST, CHANGE OF ADDRESS or PHONE, or TEMPORARILY AWAY:

Clip and complete this form and mail it to the address to the left so we can update our database. Thank you.

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
 Receive important information in a timely manner.

NOTE: We do not send junk email or spam. Also, we do not give away, sell or trade anyone's email addresses.

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: _____ Date: _____

Fill out and Mail to: Spokane Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 466, Veradale WA 99037
Please Print or Type: NAME _____

Join Today!

FREE Chapter Membership for NEW members thru 31 DEC 2020
Regular Member: \$15/year or \$40 for 3 years
Surviving Spouse: \$9/year or \$25 for 3 years

RANK _____ SERVICE _____ STATUS (Circle one): Active, Retired, Former, Surviving Spouse

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ NAME OF SPOUSE _____ MOAA NAT'L NO. _____

E-MAIL _____ I do / do not (circle one) wish to receive my chapter newsletter by E-Mail.

DATE OF RETIREMENT OR SEPARATION (If Applicable) _____ CIVILIAN OCCUPATION _____

To join Spokane Chapter, MOAA, membership is required in MOAA national. I am / am not (circle one) a current member of MOAA national. Membership in the Spokane Chapter and MOAA national is open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States seven uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ RECRUITER _____



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