



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXX Number 4



August 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

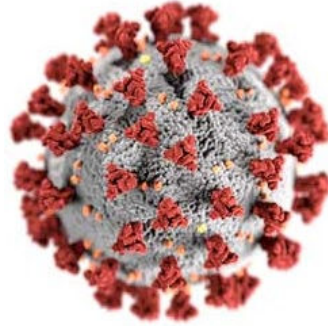
Director, ROTC

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

Director

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

5 Star Chapter President's Message



Recognize the picture to left, it represents the Covid-19 virus that is holding us virtual hostages. It is responsible for disrupting our 2020 social schedule and will likely continue until well into 2021. There is hope on the horizon but with little real data known about this virus an effective vaccine/cure maybe a couple years off.

The Widows & Wives have canceled their luncheons until the situation allows for *normal* operations, I anticipate this will be sometime in 2021. We are still following the situation concerning the virus and since most of us fall into the most vulnerable age group puts our plans in a constant state of possible change. As we all know "Indecision is the key to flexibility."

Fairchild Prescription Changes

Effective immediately all prescriptions (new and refills) are to be picked up/filled/refilled at the refill pharmacy next to the BX. This will reduce the amount of foot traffic in the clinic. Minimum fill/refill time is 3 business days. New prescription activation is required by calling 509-247-2513/5567 before going in to confirm your new Rx. The Refill pharmacy is open only 1330-1630 Mon-Fri. The automated dispenser inside the BX entrance is also available during BX hours for refills. Operating hours are subject to change, call before you go.

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 DURANA
VETERANS/MILITARY LIAISON

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

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

Taps

Anne Dever Klise Spouse of James Klise Cpt USA ret.
28 June 2020

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 \$177.00, & 2361 items delivered, including can meat, can soup, jelly, sugar packets, travel and full size hygiene products, disposable razors, T-shirts, peanut butter.

Spokane Veterans Home: \$0.00 & 584 items delivered, thank you for service greetings, reading glasses, unfinished wood items, magazines/books, acrylic craft paint, back packs, baking mixes, calendars, drawings to paint, unused greeting cards, stationary items, wall clock, toiletry bag, body spray, and bird seed.

Meals on Wheels **\$43.00**

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

Wreaths Across America

Information on how to support holiday wreaths in 2020 for the Washington State Veterans Cemetery at Medical Lake, Washington will be included in the upcoming newsletter. The chapter continues to support this project through MOAA Widows and Wives

Stamps, Cards, Gifts for Spokane Veterans Home

Residents at the Washington State Spokane Veterans Home would appreciate used iPods, postage stamps, hair brushes, reading glasses, CDs, wall clocks with large numbers, plastic tube type hangers, unused greeting cards for birthdays, anniversary, sympathy etc., craft items, magazines, and new military hats of Army, DVD or Blue Ray movies, 3M Command hooks all sizes, baking mixes brownies, cookies, etc., travel type neck pillows, body wash. If you could donate any of these items, please call Shirley Melges at 509-465-8867 or give them to her at the next chapter social.

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 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.

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.

HOUSE 847

A bill to provide interim appropriations for the Coast Guard Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2018, 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.

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 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 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.

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 2629

A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Public Health Service Corps.

SENATE 2297

A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

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.

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

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 _____

Lysa Cole Scholarship

During the second weekend of organized protests in downtown Spokane several people attempted to burn a United States flag. One protester tried to light the flag on fire behind the scene and moved it to the street where he again tried to get it to burn. Three others joined him trying to get the flag to burn. This attempt was foiled by a 20 year old, college student, Lysa Cole. Lysa told a KHQ reporter she stopped them because it was disrespectful to all of the men and women who are serving and have served to protect their rights. She put the fire out and took the flag away from them.

The board of directors discussed this brave action and would like to offer Lysa a small token of our appreciation in the form of a scholarship. She is not going back to Whitworth this fall as she is short on funds and will be applying to Spokane Community College for the fall. This scholarship is separate from the chapter's JROTC scholarship fund. We plan to present her with a letter from the chapter for her to present to the school administration in order to verify her enrollment, the money collected will then be sent directly to the college to assist with her education. The Ft. Sherman Chapter 9 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) have also collected for this scholarship and sent the money for inclusion in this. I plan to invite the Spokesman Review and KHQ reporters that covered this when she receives the letter. I had hoped to do this at our next social but that will not be practicable for the upcoming school year.



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXX Number 4



August 2020