



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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May 2014



5 Star Chapter President's Message

By Rufus Hoefer

What a 40th celebration! Thanks to many, our efforts were rewarded in a wonderful Sunday afternoon with 93 attending. Vice-Admiral Ryan's remarks demonstrated just how lucky we are to have him as our leader. Another special thank you to Col Brian Newberry, Commander of the 92 Air Refueling Wing, for his outstanding briefing and tour of Fairchild AFB for VADM Ryan and his wife Judy. Friday afternoon, the staff of our Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center provided the Admiral and his wife an excellent tour of their facility and the opportunity to meet and talk with many patients. Thanks again, Admiral Ryan and Judy.

Just off the press from MOAA, a special thanks to members of the Military Personnel Subcommittee's FY 2015 defense budget. It differs significantly from the Administration's version in ways dear to our hearts. It rejects the administration's proposals to 1) hike TRICARE fees for beneficiaries of all ages, 2) eliminate TRICARE Prime, and consolidate health care options for beneficiaries under age 65, 3) increase service members' out-of-pocket housing costs, and 4) reduce the commissary benefit this year. (However, they did indicate they could support future changes by directing the SECDEF to conduct a review of the commissary system). They remained silent on pay issues, as current law ties the annual military pay raise to rate of private sector pay growth (1.8%). However, the law also allows the President to implement an alternative pay raise, which he exercised last year.

"What's MOAA done for me lately"? MG Buck Marr, MOAA Western Regional Director and member of the MOAA National Board, provided a great list at our 26 April Washington State Council of Chapters meeting hosted by the Spokane Chapter. MOAA did the following: 1) blocked the shifting of \$25 billion in health care costs; 2) helped avoid a 24% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to providers; 3) won a two-year relief to sequestration driven cuts, 4) assisted in increasing Chapter membership by 2,500 nation-wide; 5) reached out to 12,000 in their career transition program; 6) awarded \$9.5 million in scholarships to 1,700 students, and 7) used two grants from JPMorgan for two national Spouse Symposiums.



Bring Something to the 8 June Social for SUPPORT THE TROOPS

2014 Chapter Social Dates

16 Mar	Northern Quest Casino
27 Apr	Mukogawa Ft. Wright
8 Jun	Longhorn BBQ
21 Sep	Highlands Grill & Tap
	Post Falls
26 Oct	Coeur d'Alene Resort
7 Dec	Mukogawa Ft. Wright

2014 Wives & Widows Club Meeting Dates



7 Jan	Toro Sushi Bar & Grill
4 Feb	Davenport Hotel Tower Safari Rm
4 Mar	Twigs North
1 Apr	Grill from Ipanema
6 May	May Tea at the Silver Spoon
3 Jun	Dockside—Coeur d'Alene Resort
1 Jul	Twigs Bistro & Martini Bar
5 Aug	Beachouse Bar & Grill—CdA
2 Sep	Christ's Kitchen
7 Oct	Luna's Restaurant
4 Nov	P.F. Chang's China Bistro
2 Dec	Anthony's Restaurant

Now Hear This!



Welcome New Members

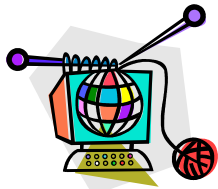


LtCol James Mullen, USAF (Ret.) & wife Valerie, Spokane
 MAJ James Strong, USAF (Ret.) and wife Lenore, Hayden ID
 Capt Byrd Stuter, USAF (Ret.), Spokane
 MAJ Brent Wilcox, USAF (Ret.) & wife Susan, Spokane
 WO1 Gary Young, USAR (Ret.), Greenacres

Dave Melges won \$175 in the 50/50 raffle at our 40th anniversary celebration and was kind enough to donate \$40 of it back to the Widows & Wives to buy Wreaths Across America. They most sincerely thank you, Dave, for your generosity. **Bravo Zulu!**
 For new members, that's "Navyese" for **Well Done!**

Our Hat Is Off To:

Member Recruiters	Chapter 2014	MOAA 2014
Clif Collier	1	
Marilyn Hunt	2	1
Bob Imle		1
Dave Melges		1
Gary Young	1 (self-recruited)	
TOTALS	4	3



Help Wanted: Chapter Website Project

Our chapter is looking for someone with website maintenance experience for a long-term project. Interested applicants must demonstrate excellent skill in programming and using HTML, PHP and JavaScript, and be able to showcase online examples of their work.

Anyone who's interested is asked to contact Alan Davis at Rota_Al@Yahoo.Com.

CHAPTER SCOREBOARD 2014



JROTC Scholarship Funds on hand as of 5/5/14: \$1736.
Legislative Letters, Postcards & Emails: 717 as of 5 May 2014.
2014 Raffle Donations: MAR \$180 COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships;
 APR \$217 Widows & Wives (for Wreaths Across America); JUN Fisher House;
 SEP MOAA Scholarship Fund; OCT Spokane Veterans Home, DEC ROTC/
 JROTC Unit Support..
Total 2014 raffle donations: \$ 530
Widows & Wives: Spokane Food Bank \$54 & 53 lbs. food. Spokane Veterans Home: 322 items total: stationery, puzzles, magazines, calendars, gloves, cards, socks, hangers, squeeze balls. Homeless Veterans: 661 items total: 44 pr. Socks, 48 hand warmers, 3 shower curtains, soap bars, razors, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, shaving cream, toothpaste/brushes/floss,



Spokane Chapter, MOAA

**2013 First Prize Winner
 Best Legislative Coverage for
 Website
 Sixth Consecutive Year!
 &
 2013 Website 1st Runner-Up!**



WIDOWS & WIVES CLUB

By Beth Ann Daigre

This will be the last newsletter until late August or early September, so I want to remind you of the luncheons between now and then. By the time you receive this, we will have held our High Tea which will have been very nice. Pat Tolley and I had the mini version last month and the food was some of the best I've had, especially the scones!

Tuesday, 3 June at 1 PM we will meet at Dockside in the Coeur d'Alene Resort, 122 Second Avenue in CdA. Pat Connell is the hostess, so call her with your reservation 208-772-2559

Tuesday, 1 July at 1 PM we meet at Twigs Bistro in Spokane Valley, 14728 E. Indiana Avenue and the hostess will be Pat Tolley. Call her to save your seat at the table 509-953-6768.

Tuesday, 5 August at 1 PM we head back to Idaho and celebrate the warm days of summer at the Beachouse Bar and Grill, 4316 E. Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive, CdA. Pat Connell will be the hostess for this fun location 208-772.2559.

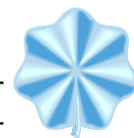
Tuesday, 2 Sep at 1 PM we hope to catch more summer solar rays in Corbin Park, 501 W. Park Place, Spokane. Call Kay White at 509-264-2774 to select your lunch, as we're having picnic boxes from Christ's Kitchen. It will be a simple selection: sandwich choice, cookie or brownie. You will need to bring cash to pay Kay or write her a check because she will pick-up the lunch boxes. Oh, don't forget to bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

In 2014 we've donated 661 items to the Homeless Veterans Program, 322 items to the Spokane Veterans Home, 53 pounds of food and \$54 to the Food Bank. Your donation of choice for the Homeless Vets is **white crew or tube socks**. The Veterans Home needs **Birthday Cards**, and Food Bank prefers **Cash**. You may bring donations to the Widows & Wives luncheons or to the chapter socials. Cont'd. page 3.

Now Hear This!



LtCol Kurt Mogensen, USMC (Ret.), - Speaker for 8 June Social



Our speaker on 8 June at the Longhorn BBQ is going to be someone very unusual. Chapter member LtCol Kurt Mogensen, USMC, who retired only two years ago, will deliver a presentation on his experience while serving as the Team Chief for Military Transition Team (MiTT 0713) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007. The presentation will cover pre-deployment training, tour of duty when embedded with an Iraqi Army Battalion in Ramadi, Iraqi, and the redeployment home. The primary mission was advising and developing Iraqi Forces in counter insurgency operations, supporting the development and joint integration of Iraqi Police, enhancing local populace security, and integrating Iraqi Forces into governance lines of operations. One of the major challenges was working to convince local Sunni civilians and leadership to work with and accept a predominantly Shiite Security Force.

LtCol Mogensen enlisted in the Selected Marine Corps Reserves Jan 1986, served six years and attained the rank of sergeant. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on 10 Apr 1992, and designated an artillery officer. He served in all traditional company grade billets. He also served with Marine Security Force Company Diego Garcia and Interim Marine Corps Security Force Company, Bahrain then attended Amphibious Warfare School. Following school, he served as the 1st Marine Division Assistant Fire Support Coordinator and commanded Battery "F" 2nd Bn 11th Marines. He was then assigned to Inspector-Instructor duty, Battery P, 5th Battalion, 14th Marines, Aurora, Colorado.

Upon completion of I&I Duty, LtCol Mogensen was selected as Commander for Recruiting Station Harrisburg, Harrisburg, PA. Next, he returned to the operating forces where he served as a Military Transition Team Chief (MiTT 0713) in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, as 11th Marines Artillery Regimental Operations Officer, and Regimental Combat Team-1 Executive Officer in Fallujah, Iraq.

LtCol Mogensen's final tour was at Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, VA, Combat Development Directorate where he served as the Fires and Maneuver Integration Division Maneuver Branch Head and Artillery Capabilities Integration Officer. Kurt retired after 26 combined years of service. He is married to CDR Katherine "KQ" Mogensen, USN (Ret.) who is also a member of our chapter.



Dean Ladd Receives Quilt of Valor

At our 40th Anniversary social, former chapter President Dean Ladd was awarded a Quilt of Valor. Dean was severely wounded in World War II, starting with his attempt to come ashore at Tarawa. This quilt was presented by Jerene Kindley, who is the north Idaho Quilt of Valor representative and a member of the Disabled American Veterans Ft. Sherman Unit 9 in Coeur d'Alene. Her husband, Kirk, is a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant and a DAV member, and he accompanied her to the social.

This quilt was a total surprise for Dean and, ironically, he announced that he would be leaving for Tarawa in a few days to retrieve the remains of 22 U.S. military personnel who died over there. Although he is 93, he came up on the stage like a young kid and it was patently obvious that he would have no trouble taking a trip of several thousand miles. We're anxious to hear about it when he returns.

WIDOWS & WIVES CLUB (Cont'd. from p. 2)



The Widows and Wives set-up a bus tour for the visiting wives of spouses who attended the Washington State Council of Chapters (WSCOC) meeting here in Spokane (for the first time). Chapter Presidents and Council Board Members attended the council plus our special guest, VADM Norb Ryan (MOAA President and CEO) and Maj Gen Buck Marr, who serves on the MOAA Board of Directors. VADM Ryan's wife, Judy, went on the tour with us and we were delighted to provide everyone a special view of our area from Liberty Lake to Downtown Spokane, including Arbor Crest; a drive by Hutton Settlement, a view of the Radio Flyer red wagon, the carousel, the Bloomsday runner statues in Riverfront Park, and a tour of the Davenport Hotel.

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Now Hear This!

40th ANNIVERSARY SOCIAL—27 April 2014

IT WAS A VERY GOOD TIME!



VADM Ryan inspects Buck knife that was personally signed by Chuck Buck and given to him as a gift from the chapter.

Jerene Kindley presents Quilt of Valor to Dean Ladd, LtCol, USMC (Ret.) just days before his departure for the atoll of Tarawa to retrieve the remains of 22 U.S. military personnel who died there in WWII.



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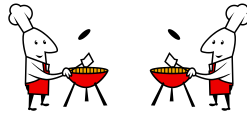
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Fax 208-667-0310

Now Hear This!

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



Sunday, 8 June 2014 **Don't miss this one!**
Longhorn BBQ, Airway Heights
12:30 Social time, 1:15 p.m. buffet begins

Speaker: LtCol Kurt Mogensen, USMC (Ret.), Team Chief for Military Transition Team
His experience while embedded with an Iraqi Army Battalion in Ramadi, Iraq, developing Iraqi Forces in counter insurgency ops & integrating Iraqi Police & Forces into governance operations

Mail early so we receive it by Friday, 30 May. Please, no late reservations or walk-ins.

MENU: BBQ beef & pork, barbecued beans, potato salad, tossed green salad with assorted condiments & dressings, buns, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. The bar is conveniently located nearby. Cost is \$16.50 per person. Please reserve _____ places for the Sunday, 8 June 2014 luncheon at Longhorn BBQ. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$16.50 X _____ no. of reservations). Make check payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" and mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ member/guest Name: _____ member/guest

Name: _____ member/guest Name: _____ member/guest

Directions: SUNDAY 8 June 2014 – 12:30 p.m. Longhorn BBQ, 7611 W. Sunset Hwy. Airway Heights, WA. West bound on I-90, take Exit 277 (Hwy. 2, which becomes Sunset Hwy). Drive 2.4 miles (as if you're going to Fairchild AFB) to intersection of Sunset Hwy. and S. Spotted Road. Longhorn BBQ will be on your left. There are three handicapped parking spaces directly in front of the front door, but limited parking immediately adjacent to the building. For additional parking, continue around the rear of the building about 100 feet to a large parking lot that is on the left.

Questions? Call Ralph Shrigley (360) 951-2660 or Betty Krafft (509) 768-3138.

We will sign legislative letters Please bring:

- 3 stamps and 6 address labels *per person*
- Something for Support the Troops or Homeless Veterans
- Something for the raffle



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
 - [] 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: _____

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.SPOKANEMOAA.ORG



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Need a Ride to a Chapter Social? Call Anyone Listed Below

WASHINGTON

Clif Collier 509-443-6490
Floyd Geiger 509-328-4483



IDAHO

Richard Oates 208-777-2671
Ralph Shrigley 208-623-2671



VADM Ryan,
MOAA
President &
CEO,
addresses
attendees at
Spokane
Chapter 40th
Anniversary
Social
27 April 2014
Mukogawa
Ft. Wright
Institute



Casualty Assistance Officer: Bernie Fritz is the casualty assistance officer for Fairchild AFB and surrounding area. He 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!