



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXXII Number 6



September 2022

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5 Star Chapter President's Message

I approached most of the attendees during the social at the *Umi Sushi Kitchen*, I could find no one that disagreed with me: the food, service and location were outstanding. We had a very special guest in attendance; Claire Graham, local NBC/Fox news anchor, sang the National Anthem. I talked with her before she had to go and she said she would

like an invitation again next year.

Can you answer the following question correctly: **Who is considered a Veterans caregiver? Is there a program to provide support for these caregivers?** Check out the answers on page 2.

Next month we are going back to the Ramada Inn near the airport. This time the meal will be Italian cuisine. Check out the menu on page 4, it will be a new experience.

Our final social will be at Darcy's in Spokane Valley. The raffle will support our chapter's JROTC scholarships

MOAA Websites & Membership:



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

MOAA "Take Action": <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

MOAA Legislative: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

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 eight uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves) of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



@SpokaneMOAA

@MOAA



Doug Roach Talent Solutions Specialist
Local Veteran Employment Representative
douglas.roach@esd.wa.gov • 509.370.9444
130 S. Arthur Street • Spokane, WA • 99202

worksourcespokane.com/employers

Taps

Capt Ann Peck, USAF, (ret)
22 July 2022
Former member
LTC Dean Ladd, USMC, (ret)
17 August 2022

Welcome aboard:

None to report

Chapter Scoreboard 2022

JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 1 September 2022) \$2292.00

Legislative Letters, Postcards, & E-mails (as of 19 September 2022):

2021 Total: **647** 2022 Total: **562**

2022 Raffles:

APR: MOAA Scholarship \$160
JUN: Union Gospel Mission \$180
JUL: Meals on Wheels \$135
SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America \$190
OCT: Spokane Veterans Home
DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships

Widows & Wives:

Homeless Veterans YTD \$215.00 YTD Items delivered 856

351 Items delivered in August.

***Items requested** – Canned meat (Spam, chicken), canned spaghetti & ravioli, protein bars, fruit cups, small serve shelf stable milk, and single serve potato chips and hygiene items

Spokane Veteran's Home YTD \$100.00 YTD items delivered 2504
Items delivered in Sept. included – 30 postage stamps, 148 new greeting cards, 18 novels, 9 calendars, 40 activity/games, 68 hangers, 109 magazines, 4 backpacks, 5 clothing/linen, 5 pencil boxes, 30 pens/note pads, 24 wall hooks, 23 craft paint/glitter, 67 unfinished wood crafts, 37 Hygiene items.

***Items requested** – postage stamps, new hair brushes, CDs, plastic tube hangers, unused greeting cards, craft items, magazines, new military hats, DVD or Blue Ray movies, Command hooks all sizes, baking mixes brownies, cookies, etc., new travel type neck pillows, body spray, wall clocks with large numbers

Meals on Wheels YTD - \$111.00

Wreaths Across America YTD - \$354.00

(includes \$190 Sept. Chapter Social raffle)

Christ Kitchen YTD - \$100.00

Do you know about the Veterans Affairs Caregiver Program?

WHO IS A CAREGIVER?

A caregiver is a person who cares for a veteran who needs assistance with everyday activities such as bathing, dressing and eating. This may be a spouse, adult child, relative or close friend.

Are there VA resources for caregivers of Veterans?

Yes, you and your caregiver may be eligible for benefits and programs such as:

- ♦ Caregiver education and training
- ♦ Mental health services and counseling related to the Veteran's treatment
- ♦ Respite care for Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family

Caregivers may also be eligible for:

- ♦ A monthly stipend
- ♦ Certain travel expenses
- ♦ Access to health care benefits through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)

For more information:

Call the Caregiver Support Line at 855-260-3274

Visit www.caregiver.va.gov

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LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORT

Key Bills being considered by Congress

Show your support for these bills by going to <https://moaa.quorum.us/bills/>
Our chapter designation is **WA07**, which will be useful when using the MOAA website.

H.R. 6458: To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement to specify an effective period of a transfer of Post-9/11 educational assistance to a dependent.

H.R. 1836: Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2021

S. 3388: Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2021

H.R. 6124: VA Home Loan GRACE Act of 2021

S. 3293: Post-9/11 Veterans' Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2021

S. 3147: Reservists Opportunity Act of 2021

H.R. 5758: COMFORT Act

S. 3016: Military FATIGUES Act of 2021

S. 3021: COMFORT Act of 2021

S. 3017: Veterans Dental Care Eligibility Expansion and Enhancement Act

S. 3003: Comprehensive and Overdue Support for Troops of War Act of 2021

H.R. 5607: Justice for ALS Veterans Act of 2021

S. 2786: Unlawful Turn-Aways Act of 2021

H.R. 5321: Unlawful Turn-Aways Act of 2021

H.R. 4880: Veterans' Prostate Cancer Treatment and Research Act

H.R. 4824: Stop Copay Overpay Act

S. 2508: Veterans and Consumers Fair Credit Act

S. 2513: Brian Neuman Department of Veterans Affairs Clothing Allowance Improvement Act of 2021

H.R. 4772: Mark O'Brien VA Clothing Allowance Improvement Act

H.R. 4769: Onward to Opportunity Act

S. 89: Ensuring Survivor Benefits during COVID-19 Act of 2021

H.R. 4633: To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary.

S. 2405: Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act

S.J.Res. 15: Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders.

H.R. 239: Equal Access to Contraception for Veterans Act

H.R. 3967: Honoring our PACT Act of 2021

H.R. 3793: Supporting Families of the Fallen Act

H.R. 3646: Reducing Barriers for Military Voters Act

H.R. 3486: Recognizing Military Service in PSLF Act

H.R. 3512: Healthcare for Our Troops Act

S. 1670: Credit for Caring Act of 2021

H.R. 3402: Caring for Survivors Act of 2021

S. 3025: Service members and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act of 2021

S. 4742: Military Housing Readiness Council Act

H.R. 8385: To require the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a study on the benefits of licensure reform for the hiring of military spouses.

H.R. 8321: Military Consumer Protection Task Force Act of 2022

The list continues, you can see them and comment on them by going to <https://moaa.quorum.us/bills/>

Legislative Contacts

President Joe Biden

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
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Spokane WA 99201
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Fax (509)353-2547

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United States House of Representatives
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Spokane WA 99201
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Fax (208)664-0889

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United States Senate
610 W. Hubbard, Suite 213
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Fax (208)765-1743

Representative Russ Fulcher

United States House of Representatives
1250 W Ironwood Dr. Suite 200
Coeur d'Alene ID 83814
(208)667-0127
Fax: (208)667-0310



Mailing Address

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

Social Registration 23 October 2022

Please mail reservation early so we receive it no later than **Tuesday 18 October 2022**

To cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 19 October.

What's on the Menu:

Lasagna with meat sauce,
chicken parmesan,
antipasto platter, Caesar
salad, garlic bread,
assorted beverages, and
chocolate mousse cake

Date & Times

Sunday, 23 October 2022

Cost is \$28 per person

Location

Ramada Inn
8909 Airport Drive
Spokane, WA

Please reserve ____ places for the Sunday, 23 October social at Ramada Inn Spokane. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$28 x ____ number of reservations). Make check payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" and mail to chapter mailbox above.

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) **Remember to bring: 3 postage stamps & 6 return address labels per person and something for the raffle which will benefit Spokane Veterans Home.**

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

Update My Communication Preferences

E-MAIL REQUEST, CHANGE OF ADDRESS or PHONE, or TEMPORARILY AWAY:

Clip and complete this form and send it to the address on the left

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

(Please print clearly)

☐ I would like to be added to the chapter e-mail list. I specifically request to (check all that apply):

☐ Receive the chapter newsletter by e-mail

☐ Receive important information in a timely manner.

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

☐ My e-mail address is: _____

(Please print clearly)

☐ My mailing address, e-mail address, and/or phone number has changed to:

Fill out and Mail to: Spokane Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 466, Veradale WA 99037

Join Today!

FREE Chapter Membership for NEW members thru 31 DEC 2022
Regular Member: \$15/yr. or \$40 for 3 yrs.
Surviving Spouse: \$9/year or \$25 for 3 years

Please Print or Type: NAME _____

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

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 <http://www.atg.wa.gov/veteran-and-military-resources> or received by mail via written request to the address below: Washington State Office of the Attorney General, Military & Veteran Assistance, 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104

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 needs.

We are participating in Wreaths Across America support for the Veteran's Cemetery at Medical Lake, WA **Please plan your contribution to purchase wreaths. MOAA Widows and Wives will accept cash or checks made out to "Widows and Wives" in any amount, which we combine together to mail to Wreaths Across America. The wreaths cost \$15.00 each and when we purchase two we receive one free. You may make out a check to Wreaths Across America in increments of \$15.00 keeping in mind that your check may not clear until January 2023.** If you have questions please call Shirley at 509-465-8867 this is not a texting number! Thank you for your support.

Please mail all fund types to:

MOAA Widows & Wives
% Shirley Melges
9817 N Ute Ct
Spokane, WA 99208

OR

Bring donations to the MOAA
Chapter Social or to a MOAA
Ladies luncheon

We wish to receive the funds by November 15 so the order can be compiled and mailed as soon as possible.

You may also order wreaths online in \$15 increments at the following link: [Wreaths Across America](#)

11 September Social at



Umi Shushi Kitchen





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SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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Chapter Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarship

In past years we donate the December Social raffle proceeds to support the local high school JROTC graduates who will be continuing their education with a \$500.00 scholarship sent to the school they attend. I would encourage you to send a donation to the chapter. This scholarship enables us to further assist these deserving individuals further their education.

Widows and Wives

MOAA Widows & Wives will meet for their luncheon on October 4, 2022 at Twigs in the Valley, 14728 E Indiana, Spokane Valley. We will **gather at 1 PM as usual**. You are welcome to join us. Please call Shirley at 509-465-8867 to reserve your place at the table.

Operation Green Light , Spokane County

Spokane County Commissioners have declared October through Veterans Day, 11 November 2022 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service. They encourage citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a **green light** in a window of their place of business or residence.



23 October Social Event Reminder



SUNDAY, 23 October, 12:30 p.m. Social, 1:15 p.m. Lunch

Ramada Inn, 8909 Airport Drive, Spokane.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-90 east or west to exit 277 (Hwy. 2 for Spokane Airport /Davenport). Take Airport exit shortly after that and then follow Airport Drive and take a left onto Flint Road. Take the next right on W. McFarlane Rd., proceed about 1/10 mile and take a left toward the Ramada Inn. The easiest entry points are on the east and the north sides of the lobby. Plenty of handicapped parking near the east side entrance of the motel. Ramp available to elevator.

• **PLEASE BRING:**

- 3 postage stamps & 6 return address labels per person
- Something for the raffle which will benefit Spokane Veterans Home
- Veterans Home would appreciate postage stamps, and unused greeting cards for birthdays and anniversaries etc., small gift items for residents to celebrate family occasions, magazines, craft items, Music CDs, DVDs and Blue Ray discs (**NO VIDEO CASSETTES**).
- Homeless Veterans Canned meat (Spam, chicken), canned spaghetti & ravioli, protein bars, fruit cups, small serve shelf stable milk, and single serve potato chips and hygiene items

If you need to cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 No later than Wednesday, 19 October for a refund.