



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXXII Number 3



May 2022

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Director

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5 Star Chapter President's Message

I was encouraged by seeing the attendance at our 24 April Social at the Ramada Inn where we honored chapter members and spouses who had passed in the last three years. Everyone enjoyed the comradery and most of all the great chow. There were several guests and a few of us were even able to get into our uniforms.

The next social will be at the Highlands Golf Course in Post Falls; hopefully, summer cooperates and arrives by 19 June! Our plan is to have a buffet including lasagna. In a break with past years we are going to have a July gathering at Colonel Robert Imle's home in Post Falls. He has a newly renovated back yard. Rufus is arranging to have the meal catered with a menu of staples including traditional picnic delights. Both of these events are planned to be out of doors in an effort to prevent any spread of Covid, yes it is still a concern.

Do you get your prescriptions filled on base? Are you having trouble activating new prescriptions? Would you like an improved method to do your refills? The following is important information for those of you who get your medication via the Fairchild AFB pharmacy. You can also review your **Health Record** including your **Immunizations, Medications, Allergies,** and any **Health Issues.** The step by step procedure to get access is on page 2. The access to this information requires credentials that you may already have if you use DFAS (<https://www.dfas.mil/>) to monitor your retirement payments, allotments and tax information. *I used this procedure recently and it worked flawlessly.*



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.





CONGRESSWOMAN CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
FIFTH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

CHARLIE DURANOÑA
VETERANS/MILITARY LIAISON

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

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

Taps
Surviving Spouse
Patricia Burns 22 March 2022

Spouse
Wendy Lou Hoopaw 30 March 2022

Welcome aboard:

Roger Daisley LTCOL, USAF
(retired) and Jacqueline.
They reside in Pullman, WA

Chapter Scoreboard 2022
JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 1 May 2022) \$2292.00
Legislative Letters, Postcards, & E-mails (as of 1 May 2022):
2021 Total: **647** 2022 Total: **129**
2022 Raffles:
APR: MOAA Scholarship \$160
JUN: Union Gospel Mission
JUL: Meals on Wheels
SEP: Widows & Wives Wreaths Across America
OCT: Spokane Veterans Home
DEC: COL Spady Koyama JROTC Scholarships

Widows & Wives:
Homeless Veterans YTD \$93.00 YTD Items delivered 370
Items delivered in April included – 100 granola/protein bars, 20 cans meat, 60 mac/cheese cups, 72 can Ravioli, 20 chicken noodle soup, 24 jelly, and 74 single serve snack chips
****Items requested** – Canned meat (Spam, tuna, chicken), canned spaghetti & ravioli, chicken noodle & beef barley soup, protein bars, jelly, and single serve potato chips
Spokane Veteran's Home YTD \$0.00 YTD items delivered 1504
May Items delivered included – 40 postage stamps, 97 new greeting cards, 20 unfinished wood crafts, 109 magazines, 12 novels, 24 note pads, 14 Calendars, 14 wind spinners, 35 ink pens, 15 games/puzzles/ coloring, 14 pairs socks, & 18 large sea shells
***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 \$43.00
Wreaths Across America – \$100.00
Christ Kitchen - YTD \$0.00

New Activation & Refill Option Available

Do you have a smart phone or computer with internet access? If you answered yes to these questions I have great news you can now activate or get refills on line. Here is how:
The day after your medical appointment use your web browser go to

1. <https://patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil/>
2. Log on using your DFAS credentials
3. Review the conditions to use this web site & click [Accept Policy](#)
4. Select **Message My Provider**
5. Click on **Send a message**
6. In the To: block enter **Fairchild Pharmacy Prescription Activation**
7. In the Subject line enter your Activation or Refill medication
8. In the Body of the message include all of the following data:
9. DOD ID (replaced your SSN on your ID card), Full Name, Date of birth, Medication (include prescription # for refills, your contact telephone number.
10. Click on [Send](#) (check back after 1700, when activated there will be a reply message in the "Inbox" with the date it will be ready.)

Don't forget to sign out (lower left corner click on ... near your name) and close your browser

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.*

LEGISLATIVE ACTION REPORT

Key Bills being considered by Congress

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

- S. 3541: Health Care for Burn Pit Veterans Act
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. 189: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment 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

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

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
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, Suite 625
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. Suite. 241
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 June 2022

Please mail reservation early so we receive it no later than **Tuesday, 14 June 2022**
To cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 15 June for a refund.

What's on the Menu:

Lasagna
Caesar Salad
Dessert
Coffee/Tea/Water
Cash bar

Date & Times

Sunday, 19 June 2022
Cost is \$20 per person

Location

Highlands golf course
500 E Mullan Ave, Post Falls,
ID 83854

Please reserve ___ places for the Sunday, 19 June social at the Highlands in Post Falls. My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed (\$20 x ___ number of reservations). Make check payable to "Spokane Chapter MOAA" and mail to chapter mailbox above. **Special Note:** Pay at the door will be available on this occasion. Make sure you send in your reservation so Rufus can make the proper arrangements with Highlands

Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)
Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)
Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one) Name: _____ Member/Guest (circle one)

Update My Communication Preferences

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

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

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

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.

Expanded Commissary Shopping Privileges

The Department of Defense expanded commissary shopping privileges in the U.S. effective 1 January 2020 as part of the Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018, included in the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019.

Access was expanded to include:

- Veterans with service-connected disabilities
- Purple Heart recipients
- Former Prisoners of war, and Individuals approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible Veterans under the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Are you eligible for your Veterans Health ID Card?

<https://www.va.gov/health-care/eligibility>

You can apply through one of the following methods if you meet eligibility requirements:

1. **Phone:** 877-222-8387, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET to get help with your application.
2. **Mail:** Fill out the Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ) and send to address in the instructions.
3. **In Person:** Fill out the Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ).

With help of a trained professional: You can work with a trained professional called an accredited representative to get help applying for health care benefits.





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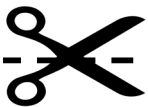
May 2022

2022 Socials

19 June Highlands Golf Course	11 September
24 July Bob Imle's home, Post Falls	23 October

Widows and Wives

MOAA Widows & Wives will meet for their first Tuesday of the month luncheon on the June 7, 2022 at Darcy's restaurant 10502 East Sprague in Spokane Valley. You are welcome to join us. Please call Shirley at 509-465-8867 to reserve your place at the table.



19 June Social Event Reminder



SUNDAY, 19 June, 12:30 p.m. Social, 1:15 p.m. Buffet

Highlands Golf Course Grill & Tap House

5600 E. Mullan Ave., Post Falls, Idaho

DIRECTIONS: *From Spokane* go east on I-90 to the East Seltice Way (exit 7) proceed in the left two lanes to the traffic light. *From Coeur d' Alene* go west on I-90 to the East Seltice Way (exit 7) proceed in the exit lane and bear right, move to the left turn lane. Turn North on Idaho 41, move to the right lane when possible. Proceed to Mullan Avenue. Turn Right on to East Mullan Avenue, Mullan turns into Royal Drive. Proceed on Royal Drive 350 yards, turn right onto Havichur Loop for 350 yards; turn right onto East Mullan Avenue. The Highlands Golf Course parking lot will be on the right just after the intersection of Mullan Avenue and Inverness Drive

PLEASE BRING:

- 3 postage stamps & 6 return address labels per person
- Something for the raffle which will benefit Union Gospel Mission
- Veterans Home would appreciate postage stamps, and unused greeting cards for birthdays & 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, canned spaghetti & ravioli, chicken noodle or beef barley soup, jelly, and single serve potato chips.

If you need to cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefler (509) 443-6822 No later than Wednesday, 15 June for refund.