



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXXII Number 2



March 2022

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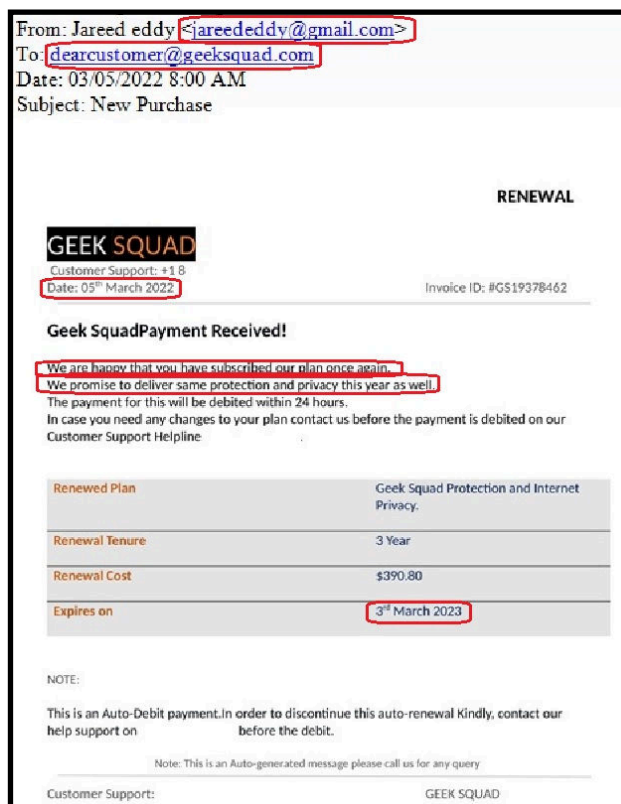
Director

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

5 Star Chapter President's Message

I recently assisted a chapter member who was the victim of an attempt to defraud them of a large sum of money. They received an e-mail with an "invoice" attached and stating that their credit card would be charged to renew their subscription to the Best Buy "Geek Squad". See the picture below.

It appears at first glance to be a legitimate receipt but there are several telltale signs it is fake.



1. The sender's address is a Gmail account.
2. Recipient address is generic.
3. The date format is not correct.
4. The wording is incorrect, see the first line it says "We are happy that you have subscribed our plan once again." second line "We promise to deliver same protection and privacy this year as well." 5. It indicates the charge has not been made yet the expiration of the contract shows it is already active.

(continued on page 2)

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 DURANONA
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

Francis Percy LTC USA (retired)
Leila L. Larson Surviving Spouse

Welcome aboard:

Jennifer Coles, COL, USAFR, (retired) & Craig,
they reside in Colbert, Washington

Richard Baldwin, LCDR USN (retired) & Eleonore,
they reside in Nine Mile Falls, Washington

Chapter Scoreboard 2022

JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 1 November 2021) \$1392.00

Legislative Letters, Postcards, & E-mails (as of 1 March 2022):

2021 Total: **647** 2022 Total: **129**

2022 Raffles:

APR: MOAA Scholarship
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 Vets \$21.00 & 0 items delivered.

Spokane Veterans Home: \$0.00, & 498 items delivered. January delivery included: 46 unfinished wood crafts, 40 postage stamps, 66 new Valentine cards, 14 sticker pages, 25 note pads, 9 stationary sets, 59 calendars, 132 hangers, 22 activity books, 5 glitter, 8 acrylic paint, 6 mag., 3 Brass Button bears, 43 Women's hygiene, 15 men's hygiene, and 5 pair ladies socks

Meals on Wheels \$21.00

Wreaths Across America \$0.00

Christ Kitchen \$0.00

The **Widows & Wives** are continuing to gather for lunch and conversation on the first Tuesday of each month at 1 pm. All are invited to join them. On April 5, 2022 they will dine at **Longhorn BBQ**, 2315 N Argonne Rd, Spokane Valley. Please call **Shirley (509)465-8867** to reserve a place at their table or to be placed on the monthly email notification list.

(continued from page 1) If you receive anything similar to this immediately delete it, do not hesitate to contact the associated company and definitely check your credit card/bank account for any fraudulent activity.

Veteran Phishing Warning

If you receive a suspicious e-mail from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), **DO NOT** open the e-mail or click on any attachments or links. VA does not send e-mails asking for personal information, threatening e-mails, or e-mails claiming to take adverse actions on claimants or beneficiaries (jail or lawsuits). If you receive any of these e-mails or are in doubt about any communications appearing to be from VA, please contact VA directly at 1 (800) 827-1000.

VA takes the security of Veterans seriously.

For more information, please see this YouTube video of VA's Office of Financial Management, Chief Financial Officer Charles Tapp II, on the proactive measures VA has taken to protect and prevent fraudulent activity and how you can protect your finances and personal data from fraud.

VA blogs also have information to help you stay vigilant at work and in your personal life and provide additional information on how phishing attacks are getting even more sophisticated.

You can find more information to help keep you cybersafe at Cybercrime Support Network and the Scam Spotter organization.

Links to web sites with additional information mentioned above (underlined above)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6X4xkNcCnNU&t=15s>

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/100177/hook-line-and-sinker-how-to-up-your-phishing-game/>

<https://fightcybercrime.org/>

<https://www.scamspotter.org/>

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 <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 April 2022

Please mail reservation early so we receive it no later than **Tuesday, 19 April 2022**
To cancel a reservation, contact Rufus Hoefer (509) 443-6822 NLT Wednesday, 21 April for a refund.

What's on the Menu:

Chef carved NY Strip
Chicken Picatta
Fresh fruit & cheese platter
Signature Salad
Au gratin potatoes
Green beans
Tea or Coffee
Cash bar

Date & Times

Sunday, 24 April 2022
Cost is \$28 per person

Location

Ramada Inn
8909 Airport Drive
Spokane

Please reserve ____ places for the Sunday, 24 April 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) 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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April Social

Don't forget about our next opportunity to get together at the Ramada Inn. This will be our annual meeting when we honor all of the chapter members who have transferred to their last assignment. We have not been able to do this since April of 2019. I urge those of you who have a uniform that has not suffered severe closet shrinkage to please wear it.

2022 Socials

24 April – Ramada Inn Airport	11 September
19 June (Fathers Day)	23 October
24 July (out doors in Post Falls)	4 December



24 April Social Event Reminders



SUNDAY 24 April, 12:30 p.m. 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 MOAA Scholarship

Hand warmers, canned meat, canned spaghetti & ravioli, chicken noodle or beef barley soup, jelly, and single serve potato chips for homeless veterans

- Plastic tube type hangers, postage stamps, and unused greeting cards for birthdays & anniversaries etc., small gift items for residents to celebrate family occasions, magazines, and craft items for the Veterans Home.