



NOW HEAR THIS!

SPOKANE CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXX Number 5



September 2020

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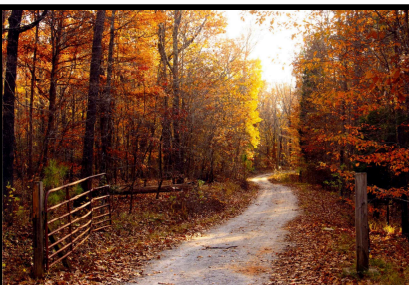
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Director

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5 Star Chapter President's Message

As we are now entering the third season with the pandemic and possibly the most dangerous one for our members, the Covid-19 and flu viruses will soon both be more active. Health expert predictions are dire when the two viruses are occurring simultaneously. The best advice is get the flu vaccine early, limit your exposure in public by wearing a cloth mask and do not venture out unless it is for necessities. Don't neglect your health by avoiding visits to physicians when needed and keep up with your medications.

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 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

LTC Donald Haden USA (retired) 16 May 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	2	7

Chapter Scoreboard 2020

JROTC Scholarship Funds (as of 2/29/2020) \$727.00

Legislative Letters, Postcards, & Emails (as of 10/5/2020): 492

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)**

Christ Kitchen **\$100.00**

Wreaths Across America

The chapter continues to support this project through MOAA Widows and Wives. Normally, the chapter would have donated the raffle proceeds from the September social to purchase wreaths. As you know, we did not have a raffle since we did not have a social. We can each sponsor wreaths for the Washington State Veterans Cemetery at Medical Lake by using the internet or by mail. *Note: options 1 & 2 are in \$15.00 increments.*

1. <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/social/WA0016---Widows-and-Wives-of-Spokane-MOAA?Sid=21044|0|0|1|>
2. Using the direct mail form located within this newsletter.
3. You may send a donation check of any amount payable to Widows and Wives, 9817 N Ute Ct, Spokane, WA 99208-9415. These funds will be combined to purchase as many wreaths as possible. If donating via Widows and Wives please see that we receive your check by 20 November to ensure the consolidated donation will be delivered by 3 December.

Whichever option you choose, we still receive one free wreath for every two that are purchased. The deadline for all donations to be received by Wreaths Across America for 2020 is 3 December. Questions: Please call Dave or Shirley Melges at 509 465-8867, please leave a message if there is no answer, we will call you back.

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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 Falls Community College for the fall. This scholarship is separate from the chapter's JROTC scholarship fund.

On 21 September I met with Ms. Cole, she was the young lady that stopped four people from burning an American flag after the Black Lives Matter protest in early June. I presented her with instructions for the school administration on how to get access to the \$2685.00 members of our chapter and members of the Ft. Sherman Chapter 9 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) donated. She will be attending Spokane Falls Community College this school year and then hopes to transfer to Eastern Washington University to get her degree. The presentation was covered by Kevin Kim (KHQ TV) and is posted on the KHQ web site (https://www.khq.com/news/blm-protester-awarded-college-grant-from-veterans-for-saving-a-burning-usa-flag/article_39a48bda-fc69-11ea-9c05-3396461f7212.html), Spokane MOAA Facebook and <https://www.spokanemoaa.org/community> if you desire to see the story. I have followed the comments made on the KHQ Facebook page concerning this. Many of the commenters think this was a Black Lives Matter issue, it was NOT. This grant was for a military “*brat*” who did not stand by and record the four men attempting to burn the flag. She stepped forward, put out the fire and took the flag away from them so they could not proceed. She is from a military family, her father is retired Army, her brother is a newly commissioned Army officer, and her grandfathers served. Lysa understands what the flag means to those who serve.



Award Winning Spokane Chapter

Once again our chapter won awards from MOAA National. We achieved our fifteenth consecutive 5 Star Chapter award. Additionally we won communications awards for the web page <https://www.spokanemoaa.org>, if you haven't visited it lately it was completely redesigned last year. We also won a communications award for the newsletter

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 of 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 _____

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!

SPOKANE CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume XXX Number 5



September 2020



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Wreath Sponsorship Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Wreaths Across America

PO Box 249

Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.

Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card = If you wish to send a physical honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, please see "In Honor" section below. The \$2 fee is required for this mailing.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		Grand Total	

GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM

In Honor of:

Below, please provide email or mailing address of "In Honor of" recipient so we can notify them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message please write it on the back of this sheet.

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Below, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service: _____

Rank: _____

State: _____

Please note, ALL sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to the location and NO wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: WAWSVC Fundraising Group ID: WA0016

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total: _____ Date Received: _____

Total No. Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____

MO: _____

Entered: _____

GEN: _____

