



The Bugle



The 5 Star Award Winning newsletter for the members and friends of Olympia Area Chapter (WA 04) of the Military Officers Association of America, a 501(c)(3) organization,
P.O. Box 5957, Lacey, Washington 98509-5957
Number 07, July, 2022

Greetings Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Members,

I hope everyone else is staying healthy. Sorry to report I am isolating at home after testing positive with COVID, luckily my symptoms are not serious, probably because I am fully vaccinated and boosted, yay science!

Early June was a very exciting time for me as your chapter president. I had a wonderful time attending the Region Leaders Workshop and several high school awards ceremonies. I took lots of notes at the Washington State Council of Chapters, accepted the Communications Awards on behalf of the chapter, helped update the council bylaws and compared notes with my fellow chapter presidents. Continued taking notes during the workshops on tips from chapters, council and national representatives on tools and programs that might be of use to us. I hope to put what I have learned to work for all of us. I attended four high school awards ceremonies (five if you count the NJROTC awards ceremony in May). It was so inspiring hearing about all the achievements and aspirations of these young people who have accomplished so much despite having to complete high school during the “COVID years.” It was a pleasure to present some of them with \$1,000 scholarships to assist them in their academic pursuits.

My thanks to those who attended our June meeting. We gathered at the Red Lion, now called Olympia Hotel. It proved to be a very effective venue for us with a spacious room, plenty of food and good service for the price. Things went so well that we voted to meet at the Red Lion/Olympia Hotel again in July. Slots has lined up a representative from Fisher House as our guest speaker to tell us about their facilities and programs. We do need to RSVP and place dinner orders ahead of time, just like last month.

I invite you to join me in presenting gold bars to the newest National Guard OCS graduates on 28 July at 1700 on JBLM North. This will be an informal pre-graduation event with more of an opportunity for interaction.

Barbara Nichols will turn 100 on 19 August 2022! She is a special lady. A retired Army nurse, Barb served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. She has an amazing life story recently featured on local news:

<https://komonews.com/news/erics-heroes/erics-heroes-barbara-the-battlefield-nurse>

I would like to suggest everyone send her a birthday greeting, as she loves getting cards. Barb is residing at Panorama’s Gentle Care Facility, 1600 Sleater Kinney Rd SW, Lacey, WA 98503, and that would be the address for sending cards. Her DAR colleagues are also planning a party for her, and we are invited! The party will be at **1100, 19 Aug 2022, at the Fort Lewis Army Museum**. If you think you can make it to this special event, please RSVP to me (candrnielson@comcast.net or 847-361-7917), so I can provide a good number to the party organizer. It would be great to make a good showing for this special Army veteran and Olympia MOAA chapter member.

One more special event this month: a fundraising night for Santa’s Castle at the Red Robin on Galaxy Drive in Lacey. All you have to do is mention the fundraiser while enjoying a meal there between **4-8pm on 14 July** and 20% of the proceeds will go to Santa’s Castle. Sounds like a win-win for diners and one of our favorite causes.

Stay safe and stay well.

Carrie Nielson, Chapter President

04 July

Independence Day

25 July

National Hire a Veteran Day

28 July

National Guard Gold Bar Day



Be sure to add the chapter web page, moaaolympia.org, and its Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/MOAAOlympiaAreaChapter/> to your favorite sites.

2022 Officers

President: CAPT Carrie Nielson, USN,
also Newsletter Editor, 847-361-7917,
candrielson@comcast.net

1st VP: COL Dave Slotwinski, USA,
Programs, 360-292-3624

2nd VP: CWO3 Jim Richards, USA,
Membership, 360-459-2217, slimrjc@aol.com

Secretary: CPT Ro Marcus, USA
360-561-7451

Treasurer: Col Bill Moseley, USAF
360-688-7626

Immediate Past President: COL
Dave Slotwinski, USA

2022 Board of Directors

Ruth Brigden, SSP, Surviving Spouse
Liaison, 360-438-5786

CWO4 Bryon Burgess, WANG, 360-
459-2717

Col Sam Cagle, USAF, Newsletter Co-
Editor, 360-456- 8509, caglels@comcast.net

LtCol DeFrance Clarke, USAF, 360-438-5520
Maj Chris Dearing, USAF, 253-677-6713

LTC Steve Edwards, USA, 915-306-0629

LtCol Douglas White, USAF, Chaplain, 253-
686-8966

***Board meets at 5:30 p.m. in the**
Tacoma Room of the Quinault Building
(Panorama main bldg) 2nd Wednesday.
All members are welcome to attend
these meetings. **Board will meet via
Zoom until further notice.

President Joseph Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500
(202)456-1414
president@whitehouse.gov

Senator Patty Murray
[Http://murray.senate.gov](http://murray.senate.gov)
950 Pacific Avenue, Ste. 650
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253)572-3636

Senator Maria Cantwell
<http://cantwell.senate.gov>
950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 615
Tacoma, WA 98402
(253)572-2281

U.S. Rep Jaime Herrera-Beutler (3rd
District) www.house.gov/herrerabeutler
350 N. Market Blvd.
Chehalis, WA 98532(not a mailing address)
(360) 695-6292

U.S. Rep Derek Kilmer (6th District)
www.house.gov/kilmer
345 6th St, Suite 500
Bremerton, WA 98337
(360)373-9725

U.S. Rep Adam Smith (9th District)
www.adamsmith.house.gov
101 Evergreen Building
15 S. Grady Way, Renton, WA
98057
(425)793-5180

U.S. Rep Marilyn Strickland (10th District)
420 College St SE, Suite 3000
Lacey, WA 98503
(360) 459-8514

Time to Donate to Fisher House

For 30 years, the Fisher House program has provided “a home away from home” for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. These homes offer free, temporary lodging to military and veterans’ families, allowing them to be close to their loved one during a medical crisis and focus on what’s important – the healing process. There are 91 Fisher Houses located in the US, Germany and United Kingdom. We are fortunate to have two on JBLM. Fisher House Foundation receives 4 out of 4 stars from Charity Navigator and an A+ grade from Charity Watch. Along with providing free lodging, their Hero Programs allow donated frequent flyer miles and hotel points to be used to bring family members to the bedside of injured or ill service members, and the Foundation offers scholarships for military spouses and children

Fisher House depends on donations from individuals and organizations such as Olympia Area MOAA for the bulk of its funding. They also rely on the support of volunteers to help keep their houses feeling like homes, to assist in fundraising efforts and to explore donation options. If you have questions regarding Madigan’s Fisher Houses, the acting director is Vattana Garcia at (253)964-9283, or vattana.garcia.naf@mail.mil

We ask that you show your support for our active duty and veterans and their families in times of distress by generously donating to Fisher House this quarter. Our contributions to Madigan’s Fisher Houses go a long way in providing residents with food, toiletries, household items, computers, phone cards and much more.

From the Treasurer’s Report

Bank Balance as of 30 Jun 2022:

Checking	\$12,466.43
Prime Shares	\$ 3,624.21
Total	\$16,090.64

Charitable Donations Update:

NWYLC	*\$ 150.00
USO	**\$ 125.00
Fisher House	\$2,790.00
Santa’s Castle	\$ 575.00
Scholarship	***\$2,526.00

*Paid for NWYLC 2022 last month.

**Paid \$1,300 to USO this month.

**We have paid out 3 of 5 scholarships so far in 2022.

(goals: NWYLC \$1,350, USO \$1,400, FH \$1,000, Santa’s Castle \$1,200, Scholarship \$2,000)

Treasurer’s Comments

Thanks to your annual dues and ongoing donations to our charitable programs, our chapter remains financially sound. Our expenses to date are well within the budget approved at our last annual meeting. For this quarter, we target donations to Fisher House, which relies primarily on donations for its operations, so your generosity is appreciated. We continue to support our Scholarship Program with donations throughout the year. This year, we were able to grant \$5000 in scholarships to local high school students. We have awarded \$3000 to date with two awards pending school enrollment confirmation. With both of these programs, we are enhancing the MOAA brand within our community!

Barb Nichols to Turn 100!!

On August 19, 2022, our very own Barbara Nichols, retired Army Nurse extraordinaire, will turn 100 years old! Come help her celebrate at 1100 at the Fort Lewis Army Museum on JBLM.



Chapter President Carrie Nielson receiving 2021 Communications Awards for Newsletter and Website on behalf of the Olympia Area Chapter from Frank Michael, MOAA Program Director, Council and Chapter Affairs, and Dave Castillo, WSCOC President, at Washington State Council of Chapters meeting and in group shot (standing third from right) with the entire WSCOC group, which met right before the Regional Leaders Workshop in Tacoma June 3-4.



Legislative note:
Our VLC (led by Jerry Fugich) expressed concern over VA's decision to reduce services in eastern WA. Senator Patty Murray led the charge to stop consideration of these cuts. Rep Derek Kilmer, in conjunction with MOAA advocacy and fellow WA Members of Congress, are putting the brakes on DoD cutting medical billets and requiring DoD in the FY2023 NDAA to report and justify any proposed cuts.
MOAA's new Legislative Action Center can be found here: <https://moaa.quorum.us>



Bill Moseley and Carrie Nielson present a check for \$1,300 to Dan Lochner of the USO on behalf of the Olympia Area chapter of MOAA.



Bill Moseley and Carrie Nielson present a \$1,000 scholarship check to Alden Whitney at the Capital High School Scholarship Recognition Social on 06 June.

- Spirit Night for Santa's Castle
- Red Robin on Galaxy Drive in Lacey
- 14 July 4-8pm
- Mention the drive and 20% of food sales go to Santa's Castle.



Bill Moseley and Carrie Nielson present a \$1,000 scholarship check to Soham Bihari at the Olympia High School Night of Stars on 6 June.



Bill Moseley and Carrie Nielson present a \$1,000 scholarship check to Molly Corak at Yelm High School's Community Scholarship and Military Recognition Night on 07 June.

20 July 2022 Dinner Meeting RSVP and Chapter Payment/Donation Form

Please fill out/check the appropriate items:

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

(please provide if there has been any change)

****Please RSVP NLT 18 July.**

1. I ___do___ do not intend to attend the dinner meeting. My dinner entrée choice is ___barbeque chicken, ___smoked beef tips, or ___mixed vegetable kebabs.
2. If you live at Panorama and would like to ride the bus, DeFrance Clarke is in charge of procuring bus transportation. He needs names to pass to the staff. Your account will be charged \$3 for the ride. ___Yes, I want to ride the bus from Panorama. Please email DeFrance Clarke NLT 15 July to confirm at defrance@usa.net.
3. I wish to pay my 2022 Chapter Dues of _____ (\$20 for members and spouses, \$10 for surviving spouses, which were due as of 01 January 2022). **** At this time, 58 members have not paid for their 2022 dues. If you are unsure of your dues payment status, give Jim Richards a call, or send him an email, to confirm (360-459-2217, slimrjc@aol.com).**
4. I wish to donate \$ _____ toward our Fisher House fundraiser.
5. I wish to donate \$ _____ toward our scholarship fund.
6. My check, in the amount of \$ _____, is enclosed to cover the above indicated items.

You can mail this form with check to Olympia Area Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 5957, Lacey, WA 98509-5957.

ALTERNATE PAYMENT OPTION: Members can pay dues and make charitable donations online. Dues can be paid for one, two or three years. This tool also allows for a maximum donation of \$100. It will only allow one charitable category at a time. So, it is set up to go to our quarterly charity. Here's the link: <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>
No login information is needed. Once you select the state and chapter, the payment made will go to that chapter. You only need to pay your dues once a year, but you can use this system to make charitable donations any time of year and as many times as you want. (Helpful Hint: It may ask for your MOAA Member #, which is listed on our chapter roster.)

**At this time, you cannot pay for the dinner online. You can either mail in a check to pay for dinner, or pay upon arrival at the Red Lion/Olympia Hotel on the night of the dinner meeting. On the night of, we can accept checks or exact change cash, \$28. Thank you.

June Chapter Meeting

We met at the Red Lion, which is apparently now called the Olympia Hotel, for the first time in June. The room was spacious and accessible. The food was plentiful for the price and the service was good. We had a fully stocked and manned bar at our disposal throughout our meeting. The membership voted to return to this venue for the next few months while we coordinate an eventual return to Panorama (word is they are starting to do banquets, but only lunches at this time). Our guest speaker was Thurston County Sheriff Snaza who gave an interesting talk about his office, some of the trends and challenges they currently face. We were pleased to be joined by three of our scholarship students, a couple of their family members, a couple of new members and at least one guest.

July Chapter Meeting

We will meet at the Red Lion, now the Olympia, Hotel, 2300 Evergreen Park Dr, Olympia, WA, on **Wednesday, 20 July**. We **gather at 5:30** for social, with dinner served at 6:00. This month we will be asking everyone to RSVP and place their orders ahead of time. The cost for the dinner will be \$28 per person. The fee will include pre-set water/iced tea, coffee service, starter salad, jalapeno cheddar corn bread, chef's choice dessert, choice of one of three entrees: barbeque chicken, smoked beef tips, or mixed vegetable kebabs, all of which are served with smoky baked beans and buttermilk potato salad. The price includes tax and tip.

I have modified our usual dues/charity contribution form to include a dinner RSVP/order line. You can print/cut it out and mail it to the chapter mailbox with your RSVP/dinner order. Or you can call or email the chapter president or treasurer to RSVP and place your order. You can send your check, to include payment for the dinner as well as any charitable contribution, in with the order form, or you can pay at the door when you come to the dinner, BUT you **must RSVP NLT morning of 18 July for dinner**. We have to give numbers to the restaurant beforehand. If you pay at the door, we can accept check or exact change cash.

For Panorama residents, DeFrance Clarke has reserved a bus for transportation. He will need to provide names of those wishing to ride the bus to and from dinner, so the right size bus can be provided and residents' accounts can be properly charged for the ride (\$3 each). Please RSVP to DeFrance at defrance@usa.net to let him know if you plan to ride the Panorama bus. ****Please RSVP no later than 15 July for bus transport.**

Based on a vote of the members at the last meeting, we will not be holding raffles at the meetings. Our guest speaker this month will be a representative from Fisher House to provide us an update on their services.

**Olympia Area Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 5957
Lacey, WA 98509-5957**



Fisher House Fundraiser
\$1000 2022 goal

\$2790.00 raised



Surviving Spouse Corner

MOAA has a Surviving Spouse virtual chapter! Surviving Spouses from around the world can join and meet other spouses with whom they may share similar stories and/or from whom they might learn valuable information about navigating the world of military spouse life. Individuals can belong to both a virtual chapter and a geographic chapter (like our Olympia Area chapter). If you go to the MOAA website, it has an “I am a ___” drop down menu. Once you select “Surviving Spouse”, you will find a world of interesting information, including information and a link for an application to join the virtual chapter. Contact mssvc02@gmail.com for information.

Now there is even a private MOAA Surviving Spouses & Friends Facebook group.

During Leaders Workshop Surviving Spouse Session, they recommended a “Day After Calls” document from a Minnesota MOAA Chapter, which provides a lot of food for thought and would serve as a good reference in the event of the loss of a spouse: moaa.org/dayafter

MOAA Virtual Chapters

MOAA now has four virtual chapters: the [Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter](#), the [Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](#), the [Public Health Service Virtual Chapter](#), and the [Chaplains Virtual Chapter](#). MOAA’s virtual chapters are growing, successfully executing their respective missions, and complementing the efforts and membership growth of geographic chapters. MOAA National would like to continue to establish new virtual chapters to promote camaraderie amongst affinity groups and reach even more potential members.

Veterans Town Hall

On Wednesday, **10 August**, from **10:00am to 12:30pm**, the Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee will hold a Veterans Town Hall at Yelm Community Center, 301 2nd Street, Yelm, WA. It will feature representatives from WDVA, VA, VFW, JBLM Survivor Outreach, and Veterans Hub. Should be informative with a chance to ask questions and make suggestions. Save the date now.

National Guard OCS BBQ and Gold Bar Distribution–28 July

This year we will participate in their pre-graduation BBQ, scheduled for **28 July at 1700** behind Bldg 13436 on JBLM North, where we will have the opportunity to pass out gold bars and talk to the 135 new LTs in more depth about MOAA while they feast on BBQ and celebrate completion of OCS. It would be great if we could have a good five-ten officers attend this event. Please RSVP to Carrie or Slots to let them know you can attend and they can give you further details on the event.

Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Has An AmazonSmile Account!

The Olympia Area Chapter of MOAA now has an AmazonSmile account, so when you shop on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com and shop as usual, then select Olympia Area Chapter MOAA as your charitable organization, and we will receive quarterly donations from the AmazonSmile Foundation. Let’s take advantage of this benefit.

Editorial Policy: The Olympia Area Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and national MOAA provide their advocacy in a nonpartisan manner. Any inference of partisanship is unintended.