



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 03, March, 2022

Greetings Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Members,

And just like that, it is Spring!! I am seeing buds and blossoms as I get out and about these days. Guess all that rain is good for something, as it soaks into the ground. I am not sure if Winter has completely let go its grip upon us, but I think it is time to start emerging from our hibernation and get out into the world.

I am very excited to attend WA State Patriotic Day this Saturday, 05 March, at 2pm. This year's event will be held at Pioneer Middle School in Dupont and is free to the public. I have only attended one of these before, and it was really inspiring! I have heard great things about this year's guest speaker, and the musicians from JBLM are always good. I look forward to parading in our Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Flags with new board member Chris Dearing. If you don't have other obligations, I highly recommend it!

On a sad, moving note, I was able to attend a lovely memorial event yesterday in honor of a valuable member of the USO Northwest team. Some of you may have met Mr. Tim Bogle. Altogether, he had served for over twenty years with the USO, working passionately to support members of the armed forces and their families. Tim died suddenly while working at home just a few weeks ago. The commander at McChord held a small ceremony to raise, lower and present a flag to his widow, accompanied by his children and grandchildren. The presence of a significant number of military and USO personnel made clear the close positive relationship of the military and the USO here in the Pacific Northwest and their respect and appreciation for all that Tim had accomplished in his time of service. I will definitely be thinking of Tim when I make my USO contribution this quarter.

My thanks to those members who attended our February meeting. We did have a half decent showing with over a dozen members turning out to talk with Bob Jones, founding President of Thurston County Veterans Services. What an inspiring organization, striving to fill the holes in services between other organizations for veterans. They provide financial support to help veterans get out of homelessness. They provided funds when families of veterans could not afford to pay for the cap and gown for their high school student to graduate. They provided help to veterans and military members who were too new to the county to qualify for assistance from county resources. He is always looking for ways his organization can be of service and for sources of donations. See article later in this newsletter for address if you wish to donate.

We will host our March board meeting at 5:30pm on 09 March via Zoom, and I hope to see many of you at our next Zoom Social Hour on 16 March. We will open the Zoom room at 6pm for socializing and start the official part of the meeting at 6:30pm. I am looking forward to hearing from our guest speaker, Ro Hicklin, from JBLM's Survivor Outreach Office. I have talked to her on the phone before and she is always friendly and helpful.

Given MOAA's commitment to "Never Stop Serving," I encourage everyone to pick a way to be of service. And... don't forget, we're all recruiters; let's find some new members. Is your new neighbor an officer? Maybe you meet someone standing in line at the commissary or in a different Zoom social who is also a military officer. Invite them to a social, then invite them to join the chapter. Our VP for Membership has business cards he can provide for you to give out to prospective new members with his contact information. Contact him if you would like a small supply. Also, I am still looking for a new Bugle editor.

Stay safe and stay well.

Carrie Nielson, Chapter President



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

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

LTC DeFrance Clarke, USAF, 360-438-5520

MAJ Chris Dearing, USAF, 253-677-6713

LTC Steve Edwards, USA, 915-306-0629

LTC 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

This Quarter We Focus on USO

Our charitable donations for this quarter (Mar-May) are focused on the USO. Throughout the past year, despite the pandemic, the USO has continued to service our military community. As a congressionally chartered, non-profit organization, the USO relies on the generosity of individuals and organizations to support its activities. With the help of over 400 volunteers, including 2 from our chapter, the USO Northwest serves over 800,000 military and their families annually. Locally, your donations support the Shali Center at McChord Field, the Camp Lewis Center at Fort Lewis and the mobile program that services Washington and Oregon, as well as centers at Seatac and Portland airports.

The newest center, on Fort Lewis, is located inside the America’s Credit Union (ACU). They reopened in July and are open from 0900-1500, Monday – Friday, serving lunch 1100-1300 with a comfortable lounge area, computers, snacks all day in a café seating area. Along with serving as a pleasant sanctuary, they occasionally run special events, like Coffee Connection gatherings for spouses, or an evening when guests/families could get their portraits taken professionally, and enjoy a chicken dinner, just in time to gift the photos to parents/grandparents. While lunch at Fort Lewis is usually sandwiches and chips, the Shali Center offers a bit fancier spread with their kitchen arrangement ranging from hot breakfast to beef stroganoff and beyond.

To date, we have collected \$275 against a goal of \$1400. Please consider supporting this program through your generous donations.

From the Treasurer’s Report

Bank Balance as of 28 Feb 2022:	
Checking	\$14,898.54
Prime Shares	\$ 3,623.60
Total	\$18,522.14

Charitable Donations Update:

NWYLC	\$1,500.00
USO	\$ 275.00
Fisher House	\$2,275.00
Santa’s Castle	\$ 425.00
Scholarship	**\$5,175.00

****We presented 5 \$1,000 scholarships in 2021. We will be able to present at least 5 in 2022.**

(goals: NWYLC \$1350, USO \$1400, FH \$1000, Santa’s Castle \$1200, Scholarship \$2,000)

Scholarship Program Update

Donations to our scholarship program are ongoing throughout the year. To date, we have collected \$5175 against a goal of \$2000. The \$2000 goal was established to enable us to award at least two \$1000 scholarships to high school students. To date, we have exceeded the goal, thus allowing us to award more scholarships again this year. Thanks for your continuing support to our scholarship program. The scholarship committee is combing through the wealth of excellent applications we received, and we are so excited about this opportunity to support our community!

“Get to Know TRICARE”

Looking for a new source of information about your health and healthcare? There is now a podcast from TRICARE available wherever you access podcasts that provides short, simple episodes. Check it out!

Washington State Council of Chapters

There are ten MOAA chapters in Washington, and those chapters come together in a council. The council serves as a communication conduit across chapters and between chapters and national MOAA. It serves a critical legislative advocacy role with our state legislators in coordination with chapter legislative liaisons and MOAA national. The chapter presidents and council officers meet at least twice a year. Our WA council has a website, <https://washingtonstatemoaa.com>, where you can learn more. They also have a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/moaawashingtonstatecouncilofchapterswscoc/>

2022 WA State Patriotic Day

This year's Patriotic Day will take place on Saturday, March 05, from 2pm to 4pm, at Pioneer Middle School, 1750 Bobs Hollow Drive, Dupont, WA. I Corps Band will provide some inspirational music and the featured guest speaker will be Medal of Honor recipient MSgt Leroy Petry. The event is free and open to the public. Come watch the massing of the colors in celebration (if slightly belated) of George Washington's birthday. For more information about the event, pictures and possibly video from previous Patriotic Days, you can go to: <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/event/washington-state-patriotic-day/>

Saint Martin's University (SMU) Free Tax Preparation Service

SMU senior accounting and finance students operate a certified free tax assistance program. The program serves those with incomes below \$58K, those with disabilities, limited English language skills and members of the SMU community. It runs every Saturday from now until April 9, on the SMU campus, in Harned Hall, 5000 Abbey Way SE, Lacey. Hours are 9am until 3pm. If you or someone you know is interested and qualified, you can contact Carrie or Slots (they have flyer with what to bring and directions to location).

JBLM Flea Market

According to The Ranger, JBLM MWR is planning a Spring Flea Market on Saturday, March 26, 9am -1pm, at an MWR Fest Tent on base. Admission is free. If you want to clean out your closet, garage, attic, you can get two tables or spaces for \$26. Email usarmy.jblm.imcom.list.dfmwr-special-events@army.mil for details.

JBLM's #1

Lt. Gen. Xavier Brunson, commanding general of I Corps at Joint Base Lewis McChord is the oldest of three sons of a retired Army sergeant major who served in the Vietnam War. His younger twin brothers are both currently Army brigade commanders. His wife is a retired Army colonel and the first Black female judge in the Army. He attributes his outlook on life to his biggest role models: his parents, as well as the gospel. "Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly." "That's Micah 6:8, and that's my command philosophy. I want to be better today than I was yesterday, and I want to be better tomorrow than I was today."

JBLM Physician Recognized

Army Major (Doctor) Jason Bingham is a general and bariatric surgeon at Madigan Army Medical Center. He also serves as the director of surgical research and associate program director for the General Surgery Residency. He was recently recognized with the Rising Star Award from the AMSUS, Society of Federal Health Professionals. "The awardees reflect the best of our Military Health System, and their accomplishments improve our ability to effectively deliver high quality health care to our warfighters, retirees and their families."

Chapter Survey in Progress

If you receive email, then with your chapter meeting reminder in February, you received an electronic survey. If not, then you received the survey via snail mail. As I type this newsletter, I have received eight survey responses. I will send the electronic survey out again shortly after this newsletter. The board would really love to hear from all of our chapter members as we move forward in these new times and try to engage members as they wish to be engaged. If we do not hear back from our electronic survey, we will send a copy out via snail mail with stamped, self-addressed envelopes – that's how much we want to hear from you. Let your voice be heard!

In Person Meeting in April

Your officers and board are working on plans to return to in person meetings as soon as we can find a venue that meets our needs. It does not look like Panorama is going to be able to welcome us back for at least a number of months, so we are searching for the best alternative. We need adequate space, preferably at least semi-private, with reasonable quality of food and drink and prices our members can afford. We are hopeful that we are going to pull together a plan in time for our April meeting, so we can celebrate being back together in person.

MOAA ID Card Reference Guide

MOAA has an updated reference guide regarding ID cards online. It covers eligibility, how to obtain new ID cards, how to update DEERS, the Next Generation Uniformed Services ID Card, if one can, and if so how one can obtain one's ID card by mail.

One interesting note under eligibility: beginning in the summer of 2021, DoD began issuing Uniformed Services Identification (USID) cards with indefinite expiration dates to dependent spouses and other eligible individuals at age 65 (previously age 75). This issuance does not impact cards issued with indefinite expiration dates before 2021. All other cards do expire and require periodic renewal.

How Do I Get a New ID Card?

If you are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS), your eligibility can be verified and the card can be issued at the nearest military ID card issuing office. The easiest way to make an appointment is by going to the [ID Card Office Online](#) (RAPIDS) website. The site has an [ID Card Office Locator](#) where you can plug in your ZIP code and find the closest office to you. Many offices are not answering their phones at this time, so it's best to make an appointment online.

Appointments fill up quickly. If you cannot find an available appointment, you may need to widen your search radius and look further out. Some offices also have walk-in hours.

How Far Ahead of Time Should I Renew My ID Card?

Beneficiaries should apply for a new ID card when their existing card is within 90 days of expiring. Many card-issuing locations have a significant backlog of customers, so it's a good idea to make an appointment well in advance of the expiration date.

What About the Next Generation Uniformed Services Identification Card?

First introduced in July 2020, the Next Gen USID Card transitions the current ID card to plastic cardstock with enhanced security features. ID card issuance facilities will issue Next Gen USID cards to those with *expiring* ID cards.

How Do I Update My Information in DEERS?

It is important for surviving family members to update their personal information in DEERS when the active duty or retired sponsor dies.

You can update your information at [milConnect ID Card Office Online](#) if you have a DS Logon or CAC card.

Alternatively, members may fax the data to (831) 655-8317 or call DEERS at (800) 538-9552. You also can update your address by writing: DEERS Support Office, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6671

Can I Get My Military ID Card by Mail?

If you are disabled or have an incapacitated dependent and cannot get to an ID card office, you may be able to obtain a new ID card by mail from the nearest military ID card office.

Locate your nearest ID card office by using the [RAPIDS site locator](#). Call the office to verify mail-in ID card procedures are available. Plan ahead if updating by mail; the process may take from four to six weeks. Contact the nearest ID card office for details on the process.

What If I Have More Questions?

MOAA National [always here to help](#). Call 800-234-6622 or email msc@moaa.org.

Suicide Prevention

Veterans Legislative Coalition Chairman, Jerry Fugich sends word that House Bill 1181 has passed the House and Senate and is headed to the Governor for signature. This bill establishes a Suicide Prevention Community-Based Services Grant Program at the Department of Veterans Affairs to fund programs for suicide prevention, peer support and other assistance for veterans, military members, and their families, along with a few related actions.

March 2022 Chapter Payment/Donation Form

Please fill out/check the appropriate items:

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____
(please provide if there has been any change)

1. 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). **** 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).**
2. I wish to donate \$ _____ toward our USO fundraiser.
3. I wish to donate \$ _____ toward our scholarship fund.

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: Our treasurer, Bill Moseley has established an online dues payment account with MOAA so that 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.)



Rapt Attention (or Doug forgot to tell us all to smile)

We had a great meeting in February. We were joined by Bob Jones, founding President of Thurston County Veterans Services (TCVS). Bob is a retired Army logistics officer, a retired defense contractor/consultant, and has held a leadership position on at least a dozen nonprofit/service organizations. It was a great pleasure to learn about this man of service, and his organization. TCVS seeks to serve veterans and their families by filling gaps in the services provided by other organizations. They help with funds to provide food, clothing, and shelter when it is desperately needed. For more information, or to donate: Bob Jones, LTC, USA, Retired, President, TCVS, 1716 Easthill Place, NW, Olympia, WA 98502, 360-561-3612, www.tcv.us (website temporarily down for maintenance and security upgrades ATT)

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



Scholarship Fund
\$2000 2022 goal

\$5175.00 raised!!!



Don't Miss Our March Social Hour!

You can have an early dinner, pour a favorite beverage, and join us for our next Chapter Social Hour at **6:00pm, Wednesday, 16 March**. Looking forward to seeing everyone on screen! It is a great way to catch up with friends from the safety and comfort of your home. March's theme will be green for Saint Patrick's Day, as we will be meeting the day before St. Patrick's Day, and I am certainly hoping things will be starting to look green and Spring-like by then. Everyone is encouraged to dress in green and/or decorate their Zoom space with green. I am anticipating welcoming Ro Hicklin, Survivor Outreach Coordinator from JBLM, as our guest speaker. As always, spouses welcome to this Zoom meeting.

Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Has An AmazonSmile Account!

One of the benefits of our 501(c)(3) tax status is that other 501(c)(3) entities can donate money to us to support our charitable programs. The AmazonSmile Foundation created the AmazonSmile website so its customers could shop just like they do on Amazon.com. However; when they shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation donates .5% of the purchase price to charitable organizations. 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.

MOAA Advocacy in Action (AiA)

MOAA Chapter and Councils held a Leadership Roundtable on 24 February about Advocacy State of Play. They indicated that this year's AiA would be accomplished virtually 01-29 April. They announced this year's primary advocacy topics for discussion will be (1) supporting passage of the Major Richard Star Act to gain concurrent receipt for combat-injured servicemembers, (2) reduce TRICARE Mental Health copayments (support Stop Copay Overpay Act), and (3) enact a 4.6% military pay raise (for all ranks) in the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

They also gave a brief "tour" of the new legislative action center. Highly recommend all members visit the new center. Upon your first visit, recommend logging in with your name and address, which allows the site to connect you to your legislators when you wish to "take action" and reach out to them in support of any of the legislative issues described on the site. There is also a Q&A style tutorial available on the site. There is plenty of information on key advocacy issues, active legislative campaigns, and your legislators.

MOAA's new Legislative Action Center can be found here: <https://moaa.quorum.us>

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.