



Olympia Area Chapter

In this month's Bugle



ADVOCACY FOCUS
WA STATE VLC



DONATE - PAY DUES
SCHOLARSHIP



THIS MONTH'S
MEETING INFO

THE BUGLE

President's Note

Carrie Nielson, CAPT, USN, Ret. - Outgoing President, VP for Membership

Greetings Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Members,

It has been a great honor to serve as your President, I am very proud of all we accomplished in the past two years and I look forward to continuing to serve as I shift to Vice President for Membership.

These past few years have certainly presented unusual challenges with the pandemic shutting down in person events for most of two years. Despite losses, we did our best to keep our members informed and connected. We held meetings via Zoom with some exceptional guest speakers, reached out to members via phone calls and email, continued our 5 Star Bugle Newsletter and returned to in-person meetings earlier this year. We have diligently scrubbed the monthly report from national and encouraged members to be recruiters in their daily lives.

I especially take pleasure from charitable activities. In 2020 and 2021 we were awarded MOAA grants and conducted a school backpack project with North Thurston Public Schools for military school children, which was very well received. In 2021 and 2022 we expanded our scholarship program to all high schools in our area, raising enough money to award 5 - \$1,000 scholarships each year. We continued to support Fisher House, Northwest Youth Leadership Conference, Santa's Castle, Shelton NJROTC, and USO with very generous cash donations from our membership, plus an annual sports ball drive for Santa's Castle and presentation of the MOAA medal to an outstanding cadet at Shelton's NJROTC Awards Ceremony.

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 1, 2023

As I hand the reins to Slots, I am confident of a smooth transition. Slots has served as either President or First VP for years. I will continue to serve alongside him as VP for Membership. We will be grooming future leaders, building on the engagement aspects of the chapter to reenergize current members and grow the chapter. We have a new website, new Facebook page, we are back to in-person meetings and can start planning additional activities.

Speaking of in-person events, our next meeting should be interesting, as we have a guest speaker coming from national MOAA, retired Navy Captain Frank Michael. National will also send an email blast to all MOAA members in our geographic area, so we may have some additional guests. Please join me on January 18th for lunch at Panorama's Seventeen 51 Gallery Room to ring in the new year, welcome our guest(s) and enjoy socializing with your fellow members.

Remember MOAA's commitment to "Never Stop Serving." I know I can count on your help to update our roster. And... don't forget, we're all recruiters; let's find some new members. Invite them to our January social, then invite them to join the chapter.

Stay safe and stay well.

Advocacy Focus

From Jerry Fugich - Legislative Affairs

The Washington Veterans' Legislative Coalition (VLC) is Ramping up for the 2023 State Legislative session. The VLC Legislative reception is Friday January 13, 2023, at 1200 hours at the state capitol building on the ground floor.

<https://www.dva.wa.gov/councils-committees/vlc-veterans-legislative-coalition>

PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

The Act **(1)** expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and **(2)** expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

MOAA Legislative Action Center Link:

<https://moaa.quorum.us>

2023 Officers and Board Members

President & 1st VP: COL
Dave Slotwinski, USA, Ret.
360-292-3624

2nd VP, and past President:
CAPT Carrie Nielson, USN, Ret.
(Membership), 847-361-7917,
candnielson@comcast.net

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

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

2023 Board of Directors:

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

Allen Acosta, MAJ, USA, Ret.
360-556-4642

Mark Wiseman, MAJ, USA,
719-313-316-

CWO4 Bryon Burgess, WANG,
Ret. 360- 459-2717

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

LtCol DeFrance Clarke, USAF,
Ret. 360-438-5520

LTC Steve Edwards, USA, Ret.
915-306-0629

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

Maj Chris Dearing, USAF, Ret.
253-677-6713
Communications Director

Dues and Donations

Annual Dues are \$20.00. \$10.00 for Surviving Spouses. Due 1 Jan 2023.

This quarter donations are being collected for the Olympia Area MOAA Scholarship fund.

Payment for dues (for one, two or three years) and/or donations (maximum of \$100.00) can be done through the MOAA national web site:

<https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>

Treasurer's Report

Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret. - Treasurer

Charitable Donations	2022	2023 Goal
NWYLC (Northwest Youth Leadership Council)	\$1,350	
USO	\$1,300	\$1,400
Fisher House	\$3,271	\$1,200
Santa's Castle	\$1,800	\$1,200
Scholarship	\$5,000	\$2,000
Shelton JROTC Unit Support	\$500	\$500
Total Fundraising Amount	\$13,221	

We finished 2022 managing within our approved budget and ending the year with a net balance of \$9,763.24 which will carry over into 2023. Just as a reminder, our revenue to support all of our activities is from membership dues and your generous donations towards our charitable programs. Don't forget that we are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax-deductible. Annual dues are not tax-deductible. If anyone needs documentation on what you donated in 2022, please let me know by contacting me at willimosel@aol.com and I will provide you with a letter of receipt for your tax records.

As we enter 2023, it's dues time. Many have already paid dues for 2023. For those that have not, our dues remain at \$20 for members and \$10 for surviving spouses a year. Dues can be paid by mail, at the door at our meetings, or online at <https://chapterdues.moaa.org>.

Scholarship Committee Chair

Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret.

Finally, we are focusing our donations this quarter on our scholarship program. Since we donate to this program all year, we have already generated \$2439.50 against a goal of \$2000. As in the past, all funds donated to this program will be granted to students in the form of a \$1000 scholarship. Last year, we were able to raise over \$5000 and granted 5 scholarships. We are on pace to repeat last year's performance. Thanks for all that you do as members to help us help college-bound students and to enhance the MOAA brand in our surrounding communities.

Scholarship Committee Chair (continued)

Our scholarship program has evolved over the years. In our first year, we awarded a \$1000 scholarship to a NJROTC student at Shelton High School. Since then, we have expanded our program to reach more students in our service area. By doing so, we have awarded five \$1000 scholarships each subsequent year to students from the North Thurston Public School District, Tumwater School District, Olympia School District, Yelm High School and others. We have already begun to receive applications. Last year, we received 24 and awarded 5 scholarships during the award's programs at each of the perspective high schools. By doing so, we introduced MOAA to our surrounding communities. We plan to repeat that process this year. Through your generous donations, we hope to again touch the lives of several college-bound students. During this quarter (Dec-Feb), we will focus our donations on the scholarship program. All funds generated will be divided in \$1000 increments and awarded to deserving students. Don't forget that your donations are tax-deductible. Thanking you in advance for supporting this program.

2023 Budget Plan			
INCOME:	2022 Approved	2023	
Savings Account	3,624	3,628	
General Fund	2,863	3,445	Carryover/2023 Dues
Recruiting	2,078	2,074	Carryover/Recruiting Incentive
Social Fund	9,251	9,341	Carryover/Members Cost Per Meal
Community Fund Donations	8,400	9,100	Donations/Carryover
TOTAL INCOME	26,216	27,588	
OPERATING EXPENSE:			
General Fund	2,734	2,578	Nat'l Meeting, Admin, Name Tags, PO Box, Entertainment, Insurance, Tax Filing
Recruiting	500	500	Insignia, Business Cards
Social Fund	8,214	8,448	Meals
Community Fund Donations	8,400	9,100	USO, Santa Castle, Fisher House, Scholarship, JROTC
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE:	19,848	20,626	
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	6,368	6,963	
NET EARNINGS (DEFICIT*)	6,368	6,963	
Projected Bank Balance EOY	8,107	9,787	
Min. 3 mo. Operating Expense	4,962	5,156	

Meeting Information and Meal Request

Venue: SEVENTEEN51 - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. 360-438-6623 Please RSVP no later than 11 January to candrnielson@comcast.net or willimosel@aol.com

Date and Time: January 18, gather at 1130, lunch at 1200.

January Luncheon Menu Options:

Classic Cheeseburger with Fries	\$19.50	x		= \$
Chicken Caesar Salad with Garlic Bread	\$19.50	x		= \$
Portobello Mushroom Panini with Green Salad	\$19.50	x		= \$
Scholarship Fund Donations				= \$
Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse				= \$
Total Amount Mailed				= \$

The cost is **\$19.50** (Includes coffee, tea and water). The treasurer strongly encourages members to send in payment for meals along with any dues or donations by mail beforehand to ensure RSVP count and simplify matters on meeting day. Payment at door must be check or exact change cash. Please send a confirmation email to: candrnielson@comcast.net OR willimosel@aol.com OR mail payment and confirmation to: Olympia MOAA, PO Box 5957, Lacey, WA 98509-5957

----- Tear line for mail in payments -----

Our featured guest is Frank J. Michael, CAPT, USN (Ret) Program Director, Council and Chapter Affairs for MOAA.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/moaa-staff/councilchapter-and-member-support/frank-michael/>

Events and Links

Be sure to add our new chapter web page: <https://olympiamoaa.org> and the new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2391199391028076> to your favorite sites.

January Ladies Lunch Club

January 9, 12:00 pm at the Iron Rabbit, 2103 Harrison Ave NW, Olympia, WA 360-956-3661. <https://ironrabbit.net> contact christine.mcmanus@gmail.com

Monthly Olympia Area MOAA Board Meeting

January 11, 2023, 5:30 pm. Via Zoom. Contact candrnielson@comcast.net for a Zoom invite.

In the News

Survivor's Benefits Plan (SBP) Open Season begins Dec 23,2022 ending January 1, 2024. <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/December2022-SBPOS23/>

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.



Chaplain's Observations

Douglas White, LtCol, USAF, Ret. - Chaplain

AULD LANG SYNE

Now this is a familiar title and tune to most everybody. We sing it as the year changes but do we really know what it means? Literally translated from Scottish it is "*old long since*" but in English means something like "times gone by" and is correctly posed as a question...."Should times past be forgotten?".

Most likely we would all like to just forget the last 3 years at least and put Covid and all other concerns behind us as we launch into a new year. While we cannot undo the past, we can take a positive attitude to the future as we "take a cup of kindness yet" and let our lives reflect good will, friendship and kind regard for others.

Photos



December Meeting at Panorama

