



# Olympia Area Chapter

In this month's Bugle



**ADVOCACY FOCUS**  
WA STATE VSO



**DONATE - PAY DUES**  
USO NORTHWEST



**THIS MONTH'S MEETING INFO**

# THE BUGLE

## President's Note

David "Slots" Slotwinski, Col, USA, Ret. President

Excellent March meeting. Let me welcome our newest members- Jason Hite, Agnes KimDugan, a former Army Captain and spouse of member Keith KimDugan, and John Orfao, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel. If you see our new members at our April meeting, introduce yourselves and invite them to sit with you.

I want to thank our members who joined us for an update on Santa's Castle from Donna Handoe, President of Santa' Castle. Of particular note was the efforts by the "elves" to take the Castle to the Navy folks in Bremerton. Working with the Navy fleet family team, a mini- Castle was set-up in a Day Care Center where approximately 50 Navy families shopped for almost 100 children. Overall, the "Castle" distributed toys to 1245 families with 2633 children.

For our April meeting, I am working on scheduling either a presentation by the Buffalo Soldiers of Seattle on the history of the Buffalo Soldiers in the Pacific Northwest or a presentation and update by the Commander of the Shelton HS NJROTC unit. Either should be very informative...

And, starting with our April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting we will return to dinner meetings with our social at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6:00 PM. In addition to vegetarian meals, those wishing a gluten-free meal, may order off the menu.

Reminder, this year's Advocacy In Action is April 26 and will focus on restoring BAH to 100%, Reversing Tricare Pharmacy Network Cuts, and increasing support for the All-Volunteer Force. Watch for messages from MOAA and "mail-in" cards with the MOAA magazine asking us to add to mail campaign to help get MOAA's voice heard. Dave Casteel, WSCOC President will be our council representative and once he gets back, we will invite him to provide us an update.

We received 10 scholarship applications, and our scholarship committee is busy reviewing their packets. I anticipate announcing the 5 selected winners at our April 19 dinner. Many thanks to each of you for your generosity. March, through May our charity is the USO, and we have a goal to collect \$1400. Please note that to ensure your donation goes to the Local NW USO, make your donation through the chapter. Thank you.

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 4, 2023

Saturday, March 25 our BOD held a retreat that focused on recruiting and retention, supported charities, adding an on-line payment system and development of a Chapter App and QR code. I will provide an update on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Of most importance is our recognition of the need to establish a sponsorship program and welcome packet to ensure each new member feels welcome to the chapter. Other issues discussed included how to get more members involved in projects and activities that show our Chapter's commitment to continuing to serve. If you have ideas or suggestions, please share with any officer or board member. More on the on-line payment system can be found in the Bugle article by our Treasurer Bill Moseley.

As a reminder, for monthly meeting reservations, we would like to get back to collecting most of the payments via mail before the meeting as we would like to provide the restaurant with an accurate meal selection count at least two days before our luncheon or dinner (NLT Monday afternoon the week of our Wednesday meeting). Consequently, we need to either receive your mailed-in reservation before the Monday afternoon cutoff time or have received a notification from you, preferably via email, confirming your attendance and meal selections. If we don't hear from you and you attend, you may not get your preferred selection or will need to order off the menu.

Our next board meeting is via Zoom at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, April 12 and our next dinner meeting is on Wednesday, April 19 at the Gallery Room of Panorama's *seventeen51 restaurant & bistro*; social at 5:30 PM, meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

I am looking forward to seeing you on April 19. And remember, we're all recruiters- bring a guest to the March meeting and your drinks are on me.

Dave "Slots" Slotwinski

## Dues and Donations

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

While we continue to collect for our scholarship fund throughout the year, this quarter (Mar, Apr, May) donations are being collected for USO Northwest.

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

<https://chapterdues.moaa.org>

or by mail to: Olympia MOAA, PO Box 5957, Lacey, WA 98509-5957.

If you are unsure if you owe dues, contact VP Carrie Nielson or Treasurer Bill Moseley: [candrnielson@comcast.net](mailto:candrnielson@comcast.net) OR [willimosel@aol.com](mailto:willimosel@aol.com)

## 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,

**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,  
719-313-3160

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

Col Sam Cagle, USAF, Ret.  
Newsletter Co- Editor, 360-456-  
8509

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

# Treasurer's Report

Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret. - Treasurer

A complete monthly Treasurer's Report is available on request.

Charitable Donations	as of 3/31/23	2023 Goal
USO	\$486	\$1,400
Fisher House	\$25	\$1,000
Santa's Castle	\$75	\$1,200
Scholarship	\$5,084	\$2,000
<b>Total Fundraising Amount</b>	<b>\$5,670</b>	



## Support Your USO

USO Northwest serves active duty and reserve service members, veterans, and their families with centers at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport , Joint Base Lewis McChord (at the Shali Center on McChord Field and at a center located in the America's Credit Union building on Ft. Lewis), Portland Airport USO Center, plus with the use of the mobile units.



## Message from the Treasurer

Submitted by Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret.



During the Board of Directors' strategic retreat, we decided to explore electronic means for making meeting reservations, paying dues or making donations other than through MOAA online. This new option will involve the use of CashApp--a peer-to-peer payment app that allows individuals to receive or send money to other people or organizations from their computer or mobile devices. To use CashApp, you must first download the app on your phone, computer or laptop and create an account. Then, link a funding source like an existing bank account, debit or credit card. Once this is done, you can simply and safely transfer money from one CashApp account to another via your phone or your computer's web browser. We are in the process of creating a CashApp account for the chapter. After the account is established and tested, we will provide more information on how you can get started and use it. Keep in mind that this will not replace our current payment system but enhance it with technology.

# MOAA Legislative Action

Olympia MOAA Board Member Alan Acosta, MAJ, USA, Ret. recently visited Washington D.C. as a member of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Military Coalition to support the MAJ Richard Star Act (S.344)(<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/117/s344>). A group of 35 national Veterans Service Officers who serve 5.5 million veterans and family members. He was featured in MOAA National's article: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2023-news-articles/advocacy/military-coalition-and-lawmakers-rally-as-star-act-support-expands-in-congress/>

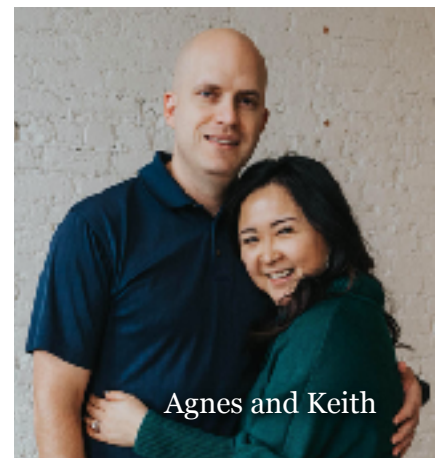


MOAA Legislative Action Center Link: <https://moaa.quorum.us>



## Welcome Our Newest Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest chapter members; John Orfao, Jason Hite, and Agnes KimDugan. John is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel who lives in Lacey with his wife, Michelle, and works in real estate. Jason is a retired Army Major who lives in Rainier with his wife, Ellen, and works in optimization. Agnes was born in Korea, grew up, went to school, and joined the Army in NJ. She was an EOD/Logistics officer in the Army. Married to Keith (also a chapter member), two kids - Eli is about to turn 7 in a month and Emily is 4. Keith and Agnes were stationed at JBLM and fell in love with the area, so they decided to transition out and put down roots here. Agnes was a musician previously so some of her passions are in music and teaching. She loves coffee and books (mostly audible now). Keith and Agnes are busy lately with kids' activities! They have found a new interest in traveling since 2021 and look forward to exploring the world as a family. We are very happy to welcome John, Michelle, Jason, Ellen, and Agnes to our chapter!



Agnes and Keith

# Member of the Month

Submitted by: Carrie Nielson, CAPT, USN, Ret. - Membership

CWO4 Bryon and CWO5 Teresa Burgess are both retired from the Washington Army National Guard and members of our MOAA chapter. Bryon has served on the board for a number of years, helping to craft our scholarship program. They both regularly attend meetings and participate in community service activities when they are not traveling the world.



**Where are you from?** We were both born in Minnesota but Teresa grew up in a military family around the US and overseas. Bryon grew up in the Chicago area.

**Branch of Service?** We were both in the active Army then full time active duty in the Washington Army National Guard

**Specialty/What did you/your spouse do in the military?** Bryon started as an enlisted paratrooper stationed in Vicenza Italy and FT Bragg, NC Then he became a warrant officer aviator flying scout and attack helicopters and then flying fixed aircraft. Teresa went directly from high school to flight school. She flew UH-1, and UH-60 helicopters and was an instructor pilot and Tactical Operations Officer

**Favorite duty station/assignment?** Vicenza Italy for Bryon and FT Lewis for Teresa.

**Family?** We have two adult sons that both live in California. Teresa's parents live in California and Bryon's live in Minnesota.

**How did you end up here?** The Army sent us here.

**What do you enjoy doing now?** Teresa makes/sews hand bags and wallets, we both like to walk/hike and we really enjoy traveling.

**What would you like to see the chapter do next?** Continue increased opportunities for social interaction with chapter members.

After spending the last several years serving on our board, helping to develop our scholarship program, participating actively in our many community activities from our school supply backpack project to our Santa's Castle Sports Ball Drives, Bryon and Teresa Burgess are going to be leaving us. They are selling their house, packing up their possessions and they are going to become nearly full time travelers. They are going to be spending a lot of time overseas, staying in hotels and AirBnBs, with a home base back in Minnesota. Hopefully they will send us a postcard now and then. Bon voyage! You will be missed!

## Events and Links

### Surviving Spouse - Nisqually Widows

Ruth Brigden, Surviving Spouse Liaison

Nisqually Widows will meet for their monthly luncheon April 18th at 11 AM in the Panorama's *seventeen51*. The speaker will be Rebecca Hon. She will speak about the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program and museum. Cost for lunch is \$15. For further information contact Ruth Brigden at [rmbrigden@gmail.com](mailto:rmbrigden@gmail.com). For lunch reservations contact Linda Shaudis at 360-438-5095.

## April Ladies Lunch Club

April 10, 12:00 pm at Sushi House, 2000 Black Lake Blvd, Olympia, WA 98512. 360-943-1915.

<http://www.sushihouseoly.com>

Contact [christine.mcmamus@gmail.com](mailto:christine.mcmamus@gmail.com) Please pass along any other recommendations you have - our priorities are good food, good parking, and takes reservations for decent sized groups. Please RSVP and feel free to pass the word. If anyone needs a ride or wants to carpool please let Christine know.

## Monthly Olympia Area MOAA Board Meeting

April 12, 2023, 5:30 pm. Via Zoom. Contact [DSlotwin@outlook.com](mailto:DSlotwin@outlook.com) for a Zoom invite.

## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Doug White, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.

HAPPY EASTER!

Probably all of us who have had time in the military can appreciate the tactics of diversion which an enemy often uses to camouflage their real intent. As this issue of the bugle is published, those of us who have a Christian outlook on life recognize a diversionary tactic of our faith enemy. Bunnies and colored eggs draw the most attention, especially for our young ones. In the same way that our military forces find it necessary to stay focused on the real "mission", my prayer for those who claim a Christian faith is to stay focused on the real "mission" in a way that is compatible with your individual church or faith position.

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.



## Photos



March Meeting Guest Speaker  
Donna Handoe, Santa's Castle



Doug White and Carrie Nielson at Washington State's Patriotic Day



# Meeting Information and Meal Request

**Venue:** *seventeen51 restaurant and bistro* - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. 360-438-6623 Please RSVP no later than the afternoon of 17 April, 2023 to [willimosel@aol.com](mailto:willimosel@aol.com)

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, April 19, gather at 5:30, dinner at 6 pm.

## April Dinner Menu Options:

Chicken Parmesan with Caesar Salad	\$24.00	x		= \$
Eggplant Parmesan with Caesar Salad	\$24.00	x		= \$
<b>Scholarship Fund Donation</b>				= \$
<b>USO Northwest Donation</b>				= \$
<b>Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse</b>				= \$
Total Amount Mailed				= \$

The cost is **\$24.00** (Includes sides Herbed Pasta and Buttered Broccoli; Dessert: Tiramisu Cake, coffee, tea and water). Gluten Free items are available from the menu on request. 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: [willimosel@aol.com](mailto:willimosel@aol.com) OR mail payment and confirmation to: Olympia MOAA, PO Box 5957, Lacey, WA 98509-5957

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

## Quilts of Valor

The “Quilts of Valor” is a national organization which honors Vietnam Vets with a “comfort quilt”. Olympia Chapter MOAA members that were honored L-R are Hal Miller, CWO4, USA Ret; Wayne Olsen, CAPT, USN Ret; Doug White, Chaplain, Lt Col, USAF Ret; Barbara Nichols, LT COL, USA, Ret.



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. The Olympia Area MOAA is not liable or responsible for the content found in the links to other websites.