



Olympia Area Chapter

**In this
month's
Bugle**



ADVOCACY FOCUS
TRICARE AT RISK



DONATE - PAY DUES
SANTA'S CASTLE



**THIS MONTH'S
MEETING INFO**
MEAL ORDER

THE BUGLE

President's Note

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

A very informative October meeting! I want to thank our members who joined us for a thoughtful presentation by Cheryl Toland, our State Council's Surviving Spouse Liaison. Cheryl is a member of the Mt Rainier Chapter and was recently selected at the council level as the 2023 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award winner. She provided an excellent update on MOAA's Surviving Spouse Program, a review of pending legislation such as the "Respect for Grieving Military Families Act" and shared several documents and pamphlets with a wealth of survivor information. We will be posting the documents and the links she shared to our website.

It's now "sports ball" time! Once again, we are collecting new sports balls for Santa's Castle. Our goal is to collect over 1000 and this year's drop off time and place is the Olympia Elks Lodge, 1818 Fourth Ave E, Olympia, WA 98506, on Saturday, November 18, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Please tell your friends, neighbors, other service organizations and local business about the drive and let's see if we can collect over 1200 this year.

Development of a mobile app for our chapter and possibly all of MOAA continues to move forward with our team of students working to develop the app's framework. Many thanks to Mark Wiseman who is working closely with the team to guide the app's development. If all goes as planned, we will have a functioning app this Spring.

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 11, 2023

November is our annual meeting. We will be voting on the slate of officers and board member candidates presented later in this newsletter. As is now tradition, this November we will honor chapter members and spouses who have passed in 2023 with a 2-Bell ceremony in their honor and memory. Please join us for this solemn ceremony.

Our Wednesday, November 15 meeting will take place at Panorama's *seventeen 51 restaurant*. **Our social will begin at 11:30 AM with the meeting called to order at 12:00 PM followed by the 2- Bell Ceremony, lunch and the Annual meeting.**

Our next board meeting is via Zoom at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, November 8. I look forward to seeing you on the 15th for our 2-Bell Ceremony and Annual meeting. Please bring a guest. For our December meeting, we will have holiday entertainment provided by Entertainment Explosion...

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 (Sep, Oct, Nov) donations are being collected for **Santa's Castle at JBLM**.

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

<https://chapterdues.moaa.org>

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

2024 Dues will be due 1 Jan 2024.

If you are unsure if you owe dues, contact VP Carrie Nielson candrnielson@comcast.net or Treasurer Bill Moseley 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

Treasurer's Report

Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret. - Treasurer

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

Notes From The Treasurer

During the first of the year, the board of directors established monetary goals for each of our charities. These charities are supported solely by donations. Through your generous donations, we have met or exceeded the goals established for each organization. This quarter, our focus shifts to Santa's Castle with a goal of \$1200. I'm sure that they could use more. So, dig deep and help us beat that goal. Also; if you would like to donate cash to the Sports Ball drive, please do so by designating the amount when you send in your meeting reservations or just CashApp or drop a check in the mail. I plan to go shopping soon. Thanks for your support!



Charitable Donations	Balance as of 10/31/23	Amount Given YTD	2023 Goal
USO	\$400	\$1200	\$1,400
Fisher House	\$1206		\$1,000
Santa's Castle	\$1,000.50		\$1,200
Scholarship	\$2319	\$3,000	\$2,000
NJROTC Booster Club	\$0	\$500	
Sports Balls	\$180.50		
Total Amount	\$5106	\$1,000	

2024 Olympia MOAA Scholarship

Several years ago, we decided to develop a scholarship program that has been successful in awarding five \$1000 scholarships each year. This year, our goal is again \$3000. We allow donations into the scholarship fund throughout the year. With this approach, I expect that we will exceed the goal and allow us to award five scholarships again in 2024. We will launch our program in the school districts at the beginning of the year and award the scholarships in the May-Jun timeframe.

Olympia Area MOAA Sports Ball Drive

'Tis the season. This quarter not only are we collecting funds for Santa's Castle, we are also conducting a Sports Ball Drive in support of the castle. We are collecting new sports balls of all shapes and sizes to contribute to Santa's Castle so they can give a free ball to every family that shops at the Castle this year. We expect the need will be greater than ever this year, so we are aiming for a minimum of at least 1,000 balls. Start now to scour the local stores and shop on line. Tell all your friends and family. Get your favorite businesses and non-profits in on this very worthy cause. **Drop off time**

and place is the Olympia Elks Lodge, 1818 Fourth Ave E, Olympia 98506, on Saturday, Nov 18 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

**Questions? Slots: 360-292-3624
Carrie: 847-361-7917**



MOAA Legislative Action

If you haven't already done so, be sure to sign up at the MOAA Legislative Action Center. You can track and learn about your legislative representatives and send them emails in support of key MOAA advocacy issues. You can read about bills MOAA is tracking/supporting and about MOAA's critical advocacy issues. This is a terrific source of information, coordination and support.

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

Olympia MOAA Board of Directors Election

Olympia Area Chapter MOAA Officers and Board Slate for calendar year 2024

Position	Incumbent	Officers 2024, 1 year term
President	Dave Slotwinski	Dave Slotwinski
1st VP	Dave Slotwinski	Allen Acosta
2nd VP	Carrie Nielson	Carrie Nielson
Treasurer	William Moseley	William Moseley
Secretary	Roselyn Marcus	Roselyn Marcus
Past President	Carrie Nielson	Carrie Nielson
Bugle Editor/Web Site	Chris Dearinger Assist Carrie Nielson	Mark Wiseman Assist. Carrie Nielson

Vacant or BOD members up for re-election

Term expires 2023 New Term 24-26	Steve Edwards	Dan Stalling
Term expires 2023 New Term 24-26	Bryon Burgess	Tristan Atkins
Term expires 2023 New Term 24-26	Sam Cagle	Sam Cagle
**Term expires 2023 New Term 24-26	Chris Dearinger has moved out area	
**Term expires 2025	Allen Acosta: moving to officer position	

Board members not up for re-election

Term expires 2024	DeFrance Clarke	Next Term 25-27
Term expires 2024	Ruth Brigden	Next Term 25-27
Term expires 2025	Chaplain Doug White	23-25
Term expires 2025	Mark Wiseman	23-25

Member of the Month - Bill Moseley

NOVEMBER 2023

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

Bill Moseley is a long-standing and invaluable member of the Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Board. He has served as treasurer for several years, keeping the bills paid and the books balanced and developing the annual budget each year. He also chairs the chapter's Scholarship Committee, which developed the program and has proudly selected the top five candidates from all applications the past three years to receive \$1,000 scholarships. He attends our monthly Board of Director meetings and provides input on the direction and activities of the chapter.



Where are you from? Kinston, North Carolina

Branch of Service? He is retired from the United States Air Force.

Specialty/What do you do in the military? Aircraft Maintenance/Logistics Officer

Favorite duty station/assignment? Osan Air Base, South Korea/ Served as 7th Air Force Director of Logistics, Combined Forces Command Director of Logistics for the Air Component, United States Forces Korea Director of Logistics for the Air Component

Family? Married to ChungHee Moseley. Have two sons, three grand kids.

How did you end up here? After 18 moves in 31 years, my wife wanted to retire on the West coast. Her high school friends convinced her to move to Washington.

What do you enjoy doing now? Volunteering, playing golf, riding my bike on the Western Chehalis Trail, traveling the world.

What would you like to see the chapter do next? Adopt an active duty unit and do more with them.

The Respect for Grieving Military Families Act

-From MOAA National website

Under DoD's current policy, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) recoups the final month of retirement benefits upon the passing of any retired servicemember. This can put surviving family members in a stressful financial position; many survivors are unaware DFAS can recoup benefits – by pulling funds out of a joint checking account, for example – without their consent.

The Respect for Grieving Military Families Act prevents DFAS from immediately recouping any overpayment of benefits and instead gives survivors the opportunity to repay the benefits over a 12-month period. It would also allow the Secretary of Defense to forgive the repayment.

The last thing military families who are grieving should have to worry about is getting hit with a surprise bill because the Department of Defense bureaucracy miscalculated pay at the end of a retiree's life," Cornyn said. "This legislation would safeguard veterans' families from this unfair practice and allow them to rectify any overpaid retirement funds at a more appropriate time."

"Military families suffering the loss of their loved one should not be penalized for an accounting oversight," Garamendi said. "The Department of Defense's current practice of clawing back retirement benefits deposited in joint checking accounts when a veteran dies is both callous and needless. Our Respect for Grieving Military Families Act would finally fix this to ensure that our military families have one less worry following the loss of their loved one."

Grief-stricken survivors may forget to notify DFAS when a retiree passes, resulting in a large fund recoupment that could potentially empty a bank account and result in overdraft fees. The gradual repayment option provided by the Respect for Grieving Military Families Act is the right thing to do for our surviving spouses. Add your voice to this effort by [contacting your lawmakers today](#).

Events and Links

November Nisqually Widows

Nisqually Widows will meet for lunch and a social gathering at the Panorama Restaurant on Tuesday November 21st. We gather, socialize, and order lunch from the menu starting at 11AM. Lunch is served at 11:30. For Reservations contact Linda Shaudis at 360-438-5095 or email her at mosserson@icloud.com. Reservations are due no later than Friday November 17th. Nisqually Widows is open to all military widows, enlisted and officers. If you know of someone who may be interested feel free to contact Ruth Brigden at 360-438-5786 or Rmbrigden@gmail.com.

November Ladies Lunch Club

The November MOAA Ladies Luncheon will be at Shari's Cafe & Pies at 4525 Martin Way E Olympia WA 98516 in Lacey November 13 at 1200, noon.

Please RSVP to christine.mcmanus@gmail.com. If anyone would like a ride or wants to carpool, mention that when you RSVP and something can be arranged.

Also, Carrie Nielson is attending "Who's in Bed with the Butler?" at the Olympia Little Theater at 1:55pm on 29 October and would be happy to meet up with anyone interested in attending either for lunch before or just at the theater. Contact her directly at candrielson@comcast.net to coordinate.

November Board Meeting

November 8, 2023, 5:30 pm. Via Zoom. Contact DSlotwin@outlook.com for a Zoom invite.

Volunteer Opportunity - Air & Space Forces Association - 100th Anniversary - Round the World Flight

After almost six months en route, two Douglas World Cruiser Aircraft completed the first Around the World Flight landing at Sand Point Airfield near Seattle on September 28, 1924. The fliers were supported by 36 ships while flying with pontoons when crossing the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. This flight is considered the second most important aviation achievement, exceeded only by the Wright Brother first controlled flight at Kitty Hawk.

In commemoration of this historic event, planning has started on a **100th Anniversary** of the First Aerial Circumnavigation of the World, to be held on **Saturday, September 28, 2024**.

Volunteers are needed to be team leaders, or oversee an activity to make sure it is on track. If you are interested, please contact General (Retired) Frank Goodell at goodellwf@comcast.net.



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

This QR code will take you directly to our webpage: olympiamoaa.org

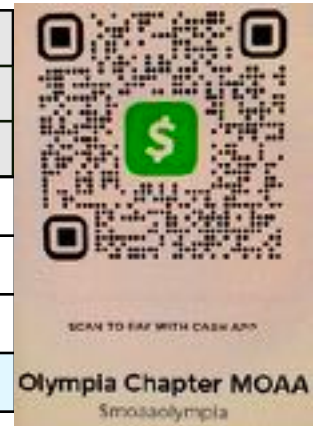
Meeting Information and Meal Request

Venue: *seventeen51 restaurant and bistro* - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. Please RSVP no later than the morning of Monday, November 13, 2023 to willimosel@aol.com. Please include menu entree selection in CashApp payment description.

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 15, gather at 11:30, lunch at 12:00 pm.

November Menu and Donation Options

Classic Macaroni & Cheese with Garlic Bread	\$19.50	x		= \$
Mandarin Salad with Soy-Ginger Dressing	\$19.50	x		= \$
Classic Cheeseburger with Fries	\$19.50	X		= \$
Scholarship Fund Donation				= \$
Santa's Castle Donation				= \$
Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse				= \$
Total Amount Mailed				= \$



The lunch cost is **\$19.50**. Dessert is Chocolate Zucchini Cake. Vegetarians may order from the menu. There are five options to choose from. (Coffee, tea and water are provided). Gluten Free items are available from the menu on request.

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

The treasurer encourages members to send in payment for meals along with any dues or donations by mail or via CashApp beforehand to ensure menu item entree selection and RSVP count. Please include menu entree selection in CashApp payment description. Payment at door must be check, CashApp or exact change in cash. Please send a confirmation email to: willimosel@aol.com OR mail payment and confirmation to: Olympia MOAA, PO Box 5957, Lacey, WA 98509-5957



October Meeting - Speaker Cheryl Toland, WA State MOAA Council Surviving Spouse Liaison

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