



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

To all, Season's Greetings, and wow, what a productive November Annual meeting! I want to thank our members who joined us, as well as our officer and board members who performed the 2-Bell Memorial Ceremony and provided our chapter updates.

To recap: For 2022 we were selected as a 5-star Chapter of Excellence, and we received 5-star Communications Awards for our Newsletter and Website. Our 2023 charity support, scholarship support, community activities, legislative advocacy, and ability to have informative meeting speakers were all exemplary. To each who contributed to our successes, thank you for your service and because of you, our community is a little brighter. Together, let's make 2024 an even better year for our chapter.

At the meeting, Carrie Nielson and Chaplain Doug White presided over our annual 2-Bell Ceremony honoring our departed chapter members and spouses from the past year. Those honored were John "Jack" Krause, Lt Col, USAF; Raymond Hensel, LTC, USA; Garth Holmes, COL, USA; Kay Minton, Spouse, USN; Richard Mirkovich, LTC, USA, and Barbara Nichols, LTC, USA. Each will be sadly missed by all.

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 12 - 2023

After lunch, we moved into chapter business. Bill Moseley, our Treasurer presented an excellent budget update while Carrie Nielson, our 2VP for Membership provided an excellent update on the status of our membership and the importance of growing our membership in the coming year. Among annual meeting actions, approved by the vote of those present, were our 2024 officer and board member slate (included in the Bugle), the 2024 annual budget, and retention of dues at the current \$20/\$10 levels. There were no recommended changes to our by-laws and no additional motions.

And... for those wondering, our sports ball drive was highly successful and to date we have donated over 700 balls to Santa's Castle. Many thanks to all who contributed, with special thanks to Lorri Gilchrist from the Olympic Peninsula MOAA Chapter who collected 232 balls and the Puget Sound MOWW Chapter who donated \$1,115 to the collection. To each of you, thank you for supporting the "collection" as it looks like this holiday season, the "Castle" will be supporting over 1,200 military families with close to 3,000 kids.

Our next board meeting is via Zoom at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, December 13. Our Wednesday, December 20 meeting will take place at Panorama's *seventeen 51 restaurant and bistro*. **Our social will begin at 11:30 AM with the meeting called to order at 12:00 PM followed by the installation of our 2024 officers and board members. Following lunch, we will be entertained by Entertainment Explosion, who will treat us to the festive sounds of the holiday season. Looking forward to seeing you at this festive occasion.**

From Ro and I to you and your family, Happy Holidays!

Dave "Slots" Slotwinski



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

Dues and Donations

Annual Dues are \$20.00, \$10.00 for Surviving Spouses. 2024 Dues are due 1 Jan 2024.

This quarter (Dec, Jan, Feb) our designated charity is our chapter scholarship fund. While other quarters, we collect for USO, Fisher House or Santa's Castle plus the scholarship fund, this quarter the sole focus of our fundraising is our scholarship fund. The more money we raise, the more scholarships we will be able to fund. The minimum target is three \$1,000 scholarships, while the reach goal achieved the past three years is five \$1,000 scholarships.

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.

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

Treasurer's Report

Bill Moseley, Col, USAF, Ret. - Treasurer

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

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 goal established for each organization. This quarter, our focus shifts to our scholarship fund with a goal of \$3000. The more money we collect the more \$1,000 scholarships we will be able to award. Thanks for your support!

Charity	Balance as of 11/30/23	Amount Given YTD	2023 Goal
USO	\$400.00	\$1200	\$1400
Fisher House	\$125.00	\$1100	\$1000
Santa's Castle	\$1170.50		\$1200
Scholarships	\$2374.00	\$3000	\$3000
NJROTC Booster Club	\$0	\$ 500	
Sports Balls	\$0	\$1470.59	1000 balls
TOTALS	\$4069.5	\$7270.59	\$6600 and 1000 balls

From the Desk of the Treasurer

We are approaching the end of the tax year. As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, all of your contributions to our charitable causes throughout the year are tax deductible. If you would like a receipt for your records reflecting your total contribution this year, please let me know by sending your request to willimosel@aol.com.

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, then make it our primary focus for donations December through February. With this approach, I expect that we will exceed the goal and allow us to award five scholarships again in 2024. We launched our program in the school districts at the beginning of the year and award the scholarships in the May-June timeframe. The application form is available on our website at: <https://olympiamoaa.org/scholarships-2/> and complete applications are due January 15, 2024.

Sports Ball Drive for Santa's Castle

MOAA team members gathered at the Olympia Elks Lodge on the 18th of November to collect and inflate sports balls, which they delivered to Santa's Castle to be distributed to military families for Christmas this year. The weather cooperated, the team played some Christmas tunes, the Elks provided space, electricity, tables and chairs and all necessary logistics support, even donating a handful of balls to the cause. This was a culminating event for the month-long project with significant donations of 232 balls from Olympic Peninsula MOAA and \$1,115 (bought 222 balls) from Puget Sound MOWW Chapters helping to put us over 700 total balls for 2023. A big thank you to all chapter members who donated balls and funds and to those who came out on the 18th – many hands make light work.



MOAA State Legislative Advocacy Summary

Jerry Fugich, Chairman of the Veterans Legislative Coalition (VLC), provided the following State Legislative update:



The VLC team are volunteers from an array of veterans' organizations passionate about advocating/lobbying for the needs of the entire military family. During the last six years, the VLC has made major improvements in employment opportunities for veterans and spouses. There have been 11 bills passed to improve veteran family employment. A major achievement this year was the Nurses Compact. Now the following medical related compacts are law: Nurses Licensure Compact, Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, Physical Therapy Compact, Psychology Inter-jurisdictional Compact, Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact and the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. There have been at least 4 bills for Education Assistance. There were 4 bills passed to provide property tax relief. **There are now 3 bills that established the Suicide Prevention 988 program.** There have also been two bills that will help our disabled veterans, one of which means they will not have to pay sales tax on their VA provided handicap vehicles. A total of 15 veteran/military related bills went to the governor's desk for signature this session – an unprecedented accomplishment for any lobbying organization.

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



TRICARE and FEDVIP Open Season

Have you had any changes to your medical, dental, vision needs? Has there been any change in your family's circumstances? Now is the time to look at your current coverage and determine if it meets your needs. Open season for FEDVIP ends December 11 and for Tricare ends December 12.

Member of the Month – Ro Marcus

Submitted by: Carrie Nielson, CAPT, USN, Ret. – VP for Membership

Ro Marcus has been a valuable member of the Olympia Area MOAA Chapter Board for years. She has served as Secretary for several years, taking notes during meetings, distributing minutes, maintaining records and correspondence for the chapter. She is a past president, has served on the scholarship committee, lead our Day of Caring efforts and been instrumental in strategic planning efforts. She attends our monthly Board of Director meetings and provides input on the direction and activities of the chapter.



Where are you from? I'm from New York City, born and raised in the Bronx.

Branch of Service? Army.

Specialty/What did you do in the military? JAG Officer. I was an administrative attorney, ran the Legal Assistance Office, served as Trial Counsel and was appointed Special Assistant US Attorney, to enable me to prosecute civilians who committed crimes on the federal installation. In the Army Reserves, I was with a Civil Affairs Unit, and in addition to serving as a legal officer, I was the assistant S3 for a couple of years.

Favorite duty station/assignment? I served 4 years at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. It was my favorite duty assignment for two reasons; it was my only active duty assignment and met my husband while serving there. From Fort Jackson, I left active duty and went into the reserves.

Family? You all know my husband David (Slots) Slotwinski

How did you end up here? Slots and I got married at Fort Jackson after I finished my commitment and he returned from his assignment in South Korea. Fort Lewis was his first assignment after we got married. We've been a lot of places since, but really liked this area so came back after his retirement. I don't think we ever thought we would end up here for our home.

What do you enjoy doing now? I still work for the state as an attorney in the Office of Financial Management, so I don't have a lot of free time, yet. I am planning for my retirement. In the meantime, I love theater and ballet, travel and cooking. We used to scuba dive here in the northwest, so I've included a picture from my cold water scuba diving days.

What would you like to see the chapter do next? I'd like to see our chapter continue to grow and get more active members who want to join in the many activities we are now engaged.

Events and Links

December Nisqually Widows

Nisqually Widows will meet for lunch and a social gathering at the Panorama Restaurant on Tuesday, December 19th. 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 December 15th. 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.

December Ladies Lunch Club

The December MOAA Ladies Luncheon will be at Tugboat Annie's on the Westside, December 11 at 1200, noon. The address is 2100 W Bay Dr NW, Olympia, WA 98502. The menu is available at: <https://tugboatannies.com/restaurnt/>.

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.

December Board Meeting

December 13, 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

November Annual Meeting Summary

The officers presented a summary of 2023 accomplishments and 2024 plans. The Treasurer presented a proposed budget. Bill Moseley moved and Carrie Nielson seconded that the proposed budget for 2024 be accepted. Motion passed unanimously. President Slots presented a proposed slate of officers and board members for the year. Jerry Fugich moved and Marc Cote seconded that the full slate be accepted. The motion passed unanimously. The Treasurer reported that expenses were not expected to increase significantly next year, so he was not proposing an increase in the chapter dues. Mark Fouch moved that the chapter dues be maintained at \$20 for regular members and \$10 for surviving spouse members. Bill Moseley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Following is the slate of officers and board members duly elected for 2024:



Olympia Area MOAA Officers and Board Members for 2024

Position

Member Officers, 1 year term

President	Dave "Slots" Slotwinski	
1 st VP, Programs	Allen Acosta	
2 nd VP, Membership	Carrie Nielson	
Treasurer	William Moseley	
Secretary	Roselyn Marcus	
Past President	Carrie Nielson	not elected
Communication Director	Mark Wiseman, Assistant Carrie Nielson	not elected not elected

Board Of Directors, 3 year term

Newly Elected	Dan Stalling	term expires 2026
	Tristan Atkins	term expires 2026
Reelected	Sam Cagle	term expires 2026
Continuing	Ruth Brigden	term expires 2024
	DeFrance Clarke	term expires 2024
	Chaplain Doug White	term expires 2025
	Mark Wiseman	term expires 2025



Olympia MOAA presenting Fisher House Donation

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.

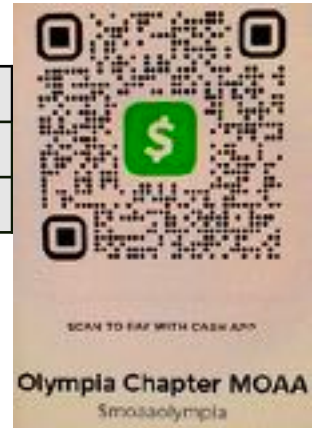
Meeting Information and Meal Request

Venue: *seventeen51 restaurant and bistro* - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. Please RSVP no later than the morning of Monday, December 18, 2023 to willimosel@aol.com. Please include menu entree selection in CashApp payment description.

Date and Time: Wednesday, December 20, gather at 11:30, lunch at 12:00 pm.

November Menu and Donation Options

Herb-Roasted Sirloin	\$20	x		= \$
Slow Roasted Turkey	\$20	x		= \$
Butternut Squash & Spinach Turnover	\$20	x		= \$
Scholarship Fund Donation				= \$
Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse				= \$
Total Amount Mailed				= \$



The lunch cost is **\$20**. All dinners include Caesar Salad, Roasted Red Potatoes and Buttered Broccoli. Dessert is *Pumpkin Pie with Chantilly Cream*. (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

Membership Notes

If you are serving or have served as an officer in any branch of U.S. service, and are not yet a member of the Olympia Area MOAA Chapter and would like to join, and/or if you are not currently a member of national MOAA and would like to join, just go to our chapter website (<https://olympiamoaa.org/join-us/>) and fill out the convenient online application form and you will be contacted by our membership chairperson. The first year of membership is free, so what are you waiting for?

Have you been thinking about upgrading your national MOAA membership from basic to premium, or even life membership? This would really help support MOAA's mission and give you access to many more MOAA resources and services from transition support to financial counseling, travel discounts to resource webinars. If you call 1-800-234-6622 and mention the code "grassroots", you can receive a 10% discount.