



Olympia Area Chapter

In this month's Bugle



ADVOCACY FOCUS
MEMBER OF MONTH



DONATE - PAY DUES
SCHOLARSHIP



THIS MONTH'S MEETING INFO
MEAL ORDER

THE BUGLE

President's Note

A very informative January meeting! I want to thank our members who joined us for an informative presentation by Colleen Carmichael and Tamra Ingwaldson. Colleen is the Executive Director of Quixote Communities, an agency that provides permanent supportive housing in Thurston, Mason and Pierce counties for people and veterans experiencing homelessness. Her organization uses a “tiny home villages” model to foster community, encourage personal growth, and promote access to care and services for village residents. Although the original “tiny homes” village in Olympia is open to all homeless who qualify, Colleen joined us to talk to us primarily about the “tiny home” villages in Shelton and at the Orting Soldiers Home that specifically support homeless veterans. She and her assistant, Tamra, shared a wealth of information that we will be posting on our website. In addition to coordinating for a tour of the Shelton village, our board will be looking for ways we can support this highly beneficial program.

As we look for ways to improve our operations and management, the board is in the process of migrating to Microsoft Teams. An excellent training session was conducted on Jan 20th with most board members in attendance.

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 02 - 2024

After the training, a decision was made to transition to using Teams starting with the February board meeting. One major advantage that using Teams will provide is the ability to create channels to archive the Chapter's historical records. This transition is possible through a Microsoft non-profit Teams grant.

Next, this past week, Mark Wiseman and I had an opportunity to hear from the St Martins University Computer Science Senior project development team who are working to create a MOAA App for our chapter. They are well on their way and we are at a place where it is time to demo the App for you. Consequently, based on their academic schedules and need to survey us as their client (part of their grade), I extended an invitation to the Team to showcase the App and its development at our Feb 21st meeting. Because there is State Council and MOAA HQ interest, it is highly likely that we will also have a zoom audience. For this meeting, I anticipate the presentation to be made before lunch is served so for those attending, I suspect lunch will be served closer to 12:30 than 12:00. And...it's scholarship time and it looks like we already have 10 Applications. So, if you had planned to donate to our scholarship fund and haven't yet got around to it, there is still time to do so.

As a reminder, our state legislature is in session. This year is a short session, so watch for emails identifying bills of interest to the veteran, active duty, and military family communities, as we will be calling on you for your support.

Our next board meeting is via Teams at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 14 and our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 21 at Panorama's *seventeen 51 restaurant and bistro*. Our social will begin at 11:30 AM with the meeting called to order at Approximately 11:50 AM and starting with our presentation and then lunch. Our guest speakers will be our App development team from St Martins University's Computer Science Program.

Doesn't seem like we're already 1-month into 2024; lots going on and we look forward to seeing you at our February meeting.

Dave "Slots" Slotwinski

2024 Officers and Board Members

President: Dave Slotwinski,
COL, USA, Ret.
360-292-3624

1st VP (Programs): Allen Acosta,
MAJ, USA, Ret.
360-556-4642

2nd VP (Membership):
Carrie Nielson,
CAPT, USN, Ret.
847-361-7917
Assistant Communications
Director

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

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

2024 Board of Directors:
Ruth Brigden,
SSP, Surviving Spouse Liaison,
360-438-5786

Tristan Atkins,
COL, WANG, Ret.
360-339-3126

Daniel Stalling,
LTC, Army, Ret.
360-999-0020

Mark Wiseman,
MAJ, USA,
719-313-3160
Communications Director

Sam Cagle,
Col, USAF, Ret.
360-456- 8509

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

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

Dues and Donations

Annual Dues are \$20.00, \$10.00 for Surviving Spouses. 2024 Dues were 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 Fall, the board of directors establishes the annual budget, including goals for each of our charities. These charities are supported solely by donations. This quarter our focus is on our scholarship fund with a goal of \$3,000. The more money we collect, the more \$1,000 scholarships we can award. Thanks for your support!

Charity	Balance as Of 01/31/24	Amount Given YTD	2024 Goal
USO	\$400.00	\$0	\$1400
Fisher House	\$125.00	\$0	\$1000
Santa’s Castle	\$0	\$0	\$1200
Scholarships	\$3258.50	\$0	\$3000
JROTC Booster Club			\$500
Sports Balls			1000 balls
TOTALS	\$3783.5	\$0	\$7100 and 1000 balls

From the Desk of the Treasurer

As we Approach tax filing season, I want to remind you that our chapter is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. As such, all of your donations in 2023 are tax deductible. If you would like an official letter from me capturing all of your donations, just contact me at willimosel@aol.com.

2024 Olympia MOAA Scholarship

Several months ago, we launched our scholarship program in the school districts in our serving area. As with previous years, the response has been great. According to our program guidelines, we award \$1000 scholarships. Our goal this year is \$3000. However, like in previous years, we have exceeded that amount through your generous donations. We will continue to keep scholarship open this month as an option for your donations, The final amount donated will determine how many \$1000 scholarships we award. For the last 3 years, we awarded five. Please consider donating to our scholarship program and helping some deserving students continue their academic pursuits.

MOAA State Legislative Advocacy Summary



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



The Veteran Legislative Coalition hosted their annual VLC Legislative Reception on 12 January, in the Columbia Room in the Legislative Building to thank the members of the House and Senate and their staffs for their support in sponsoring and passing meaningful legislative action in support of military members and their families. Among the attendees was Governor Jay Inslee who publicly thanked VLC member Susan Woods and presented her with a card signed by several of the attendees for all her hard work and coordination for the event. Our own Jerry Fugich was in the thick of things as Chairman of the VLC, welcoming the governor and presenting awards to some of our most staunch supporters in the house and senate. Chapter members Allen Acosta and Carrie Nielson also attended, enjoying the opportunity to interact with fellow VSO representatives and our government representatives.



MOPH of WA Legislative Affairs, Allen Acosta with Rev. Robert Watson Jr National Assoc. for Black Veterans.
"One Team, One Fight"

The VLC is actively tracking over 30 bills before the House and Senate during the current Washington State Legislative session. They might attend hearings, provide testimony, speak to representatives or staffers, or just track status, as Appropriate for each bill as it moves through the process. We try to keep lines of communication open to inform chapter members of critical issues and stand ready to call to action as needed.

 [Click Here to Download Bill Tracking PDF as of January 19, 2024](#)

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

Member of the Month – Tristan Atkins

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

Tristan is one of our newest board members for the Olympia Area MOAA Chapter. He lives in Olympia, but spends the winter months in sunnier climates, so it is a good thing we conduct our board meetings by video conference.

Where are you from?

◆ Tristan is a West Coast boy, born in California and raised in Oregon and Washington. However, he also has Midwest ties as he attended high school and college in Springfield, Missouri.

Branch of Service?

◆ Tristan retired from the Washington Army National Guard as a Colonel (O-6) having spent time on active duty in Germany, the reserves, and in the Guard.

Specialty/What did you do in the military?

◆ Tristan began his career as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assigned to a combat heavy engineer battalion in Baumholder, Germany. He transferred to aviation in 1988, and completed his military career as an aviator assigned to a variety of staff and command positions.

Favorite duty station/assignment?

◆ By far his favorite duty station was as a young lieutenant assigned to the 293rd Engineer Battalion in West Germany from 1982 through 1985. During his time in Germany, he was an earthmoving platoon leader, a general construction platoon leader, and a company executive officer.

Family?

◆ Tristan is married to a native Washingtonian from Yelm. He and Teresa have two adult daughters and two wonderful son-in-laws. One daughter lives in Olympia and the other in Boise, Idaho.

How did you end up here?

◆ After serving on active duty, Tristan was hired by the Washington State Patrol in 1987. He began his 25-year career assigned as a Trooper in Shelton and finished as a Captain assigned in Olympia. After his state patrol career, he spent six years as the Director of Aviation for the Washington State Department of Transportation.

What do you enjoy doing now?

◆ Tristan and his wife Teresa enjoy traveling, hiking, kayaking, skiing, and spending time with friends and family.

What would you like to see the chapter do next?

◆ Tristan is a life member of MOAA and is interested in helping the Olympia Chapter thrive and grow.



Tristan Atkins

Events and Links

📌 February Nisqually Widows

Nisqually Military Widows will meet for our regular monthly luncheon on Tues. Feb. 20th at 11 AM. We will meet in the Boardroom of the Panorama Restaurant – Seventeen51 – and order off the regular menu.

For reservations contact:

📞 Linda Shaudis at 360-438-5095 or email – mosserson@icloud.com.

For additional information contact:

📞 Ruth Brigden at 360-438-5786 or email rbrigden@gmail.com.

📌 February Ladies Lunch Club

The February MOAA Ladies Luncheon will be at Brewery City Pizza in Lacey, February 12 at 1200, noon. The address is 4353 Martin Way E, Olympia, WA 98516. The menu is available at: <https://www.brewerycitypizza.com/menu>.

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.

📌 February Board Meeting

February 14, 2023, 5:00 pm. Via Teams. Contact DSlotwin@outlook.com for a Teams invite.

★ ★ [Next Board Meeting Join Link \(MS Teams\)](#)

📌 Washington State Patriotic Day

The 2024 Washington State Patriotic Day will take place 09 March from 2-4 at the Pioneer Middle School in DuPont, WA. This is a free event, hosted by the Puget Sound Military Order of World Wars. Come on out and see Old Glory on parade, listen to the I Corps Band play patriotic music, hear a chosen guest speaker and support our flag unit. Our MOAA Chapter will be represented by two members marching in the Massing of the Colors. There is typically plenty of free parking for this fun, inspiring event.



William Mosley presents Olympia MOAA donation to Santa's Castle



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

Events and Links - continued



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 Brothers 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.

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS ORGANIZATION CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER PASSES WITH FY24 NDAA

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Mike Rounds (R-S.D.), a member of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, today announced that the congressional charter for the National American Indian Veterans (NAIV) organization has passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2024.

Congress grants charters to recognize patriotic and national organizations that operate solely for charitable, literary, educational, scientific or civil improvement purposes. The NAIV serves the needs and interests of Native American veterans in collaboration with its national leadership and 14 regional offices. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are more than 140,000 Native American veterans in the United States. While congressional charters have been granted to Italian-American, Polish-American and Catholic-American veterans groups, no Native American veterans' organization had received one.

Headquartered in South Dakota on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Reservation, the NAIV is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocating on behalf of tribal veterans. Originally established in 2004, today the NAIV serves the needs of Native American veterans in all 50 states. The NAIV formed as a result of a request by former Senators Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.) during a Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing in 2004.

Rounds and Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) first introduced this legislation, which grants a congressional charter for the NAIV, in the 116th Congress and again in the 117th Congress, where it unanimously passed the Senate.

“Native Americans serve in our nation’s military at five times the national average, and this charter gives them the recognition they truly deserve and have earned,” said Rounds. “The NAIV works closely with Tribal Veterans Service Officers to make certain Native American veterans receive proper benefits and resources. Congress regularly looks to the NAIV for input when addressing issues facing Native American veterans. This charter will help give the NAIV a larger platform to continue advocating for and serving the more than 140,000 Native American veterans living in the United States. I am pleased to have had it included as part of this year’s NDAA.”

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.

If you are not currently on and wish to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, contact the Communications Director or his Assistant (listed on the Officers and Board Members banner) and they will happily add you to their list. Distribution is primarily via email with a small number of members still receiving newsletters via snail mail.

Additional Notes

If interested in more information about the **Quixote Communities**, the presentation Colleen gave at our January meeting is [posted on our website](#).

There has been a change up at the **JBLM Survivor Outreach Services Office**. Ro Hicklin, who gave us that excellent brief last year, has retired. Her replacement is Nikki Macias, who can be reached at (253)967-3672, or nikki.m.macias.civ@army.mil. The office is still in the same location, in Waller Hall at 2140 Liggett Ave. As she told me, new person, same great service.

Remembering Ben Adkins

It is with heavy heart we must bid **fair winds and following seas to our dear colleague, Ben Adkins**. Ben passed away January 10. His Memorial Service was January 30, and his burial service was held at Tahoma Cemetery with full military honors on January 31. Ben was a lifetime MOAA member, as well as loyal member of local VFW and American Legion chapters and he and his wife, Judy, had been frequent meeting attendees since we returned to in person meetings post-COVID. Ben proudly served in the USAF for 23 years, retiring as a Major. Ben served in Vietnam, where he earned a Bronze Star. After his military service, he served the state of Washington, first in the Office of Financial Management and then as the Deputy Director of Capitol Buildings and Grounds. After serving for a time as a Senior Research Scientist and Group Manager at Battelle Memorial Institute, Ben ran his own consulting firm until he fully retired in 2013. Ben is survived by his wife, Judy, and daughters, Michelle and Lori.

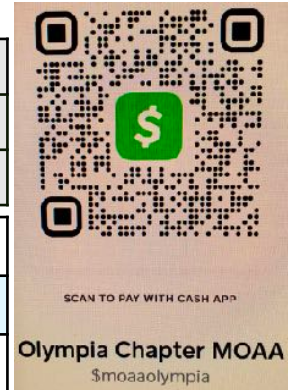
Meeting Information and Meal Request

Venue: *seventeen51 restaurant and bistro* - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. Please RSVP no later than the morning of Monday, February 19, 2024 to willimosel@aol.com. Please include menu entree selection in CashApp payment description.

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 21 gather at 11:30 am, App presentation at 12:00 & **lunch at 12:30 pm.**

February Menu and Donation Options

Prime Rib Sandwich w/ Fries	\$19.50	x		= \$
Tuna Salad Sandwich on Croissant with Soup	\$19.50	x		= \$
Wilted Spinach Salad with Pears and Maple Dressing	\$19.50	x		= \$
Scholarship Fund Donation				= \$
Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse				= \$
Total Amount Mailed				= \$



The lunch cost is **\$19.50** - Dessert is Black and Tan Brownie a la Mode. (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

Colleen Carmichael's presentation from the January Meeting can be found at <https://olympiamoaa.org/member-resources/>



Community Support Specialist for Quixote Communities, Tamra Ingwaldson gives presentation (along with Colleen Carmichael) during January meeting

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.