



Olympia Area Chapter

In this month's Bugle



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THE BUGLE

Presidents Note

Greetings! As I am writing my column, it's beautiful outside, going to hit the 80's tomorrow- a beautiful time to live in and enjoy the Pacific Northwest. We had an excellent turnout for our May luncheon to hear presentations by Cindy Hoover, the Quilts of Valor Washington State Coordinator, Lauri Leirdahl, President, Quilts of Valor Foundation, and by scholarship recipient Khushi Agrawal (Timberline HS). As a surprise, Cindy recognized all those present who served during the Vietnam War with a special recognition pin in honor of and in thanks for their service. It was a special moment for our Vietnam era members as one member expressed to me that for him, it was the first time anyone ever thanked him for his Vietnam War service. Khushi, one of our four scholarship recipients is an incredibly bright, articulate student who shared with us her future plans to attend UW. Also present as guests were Lauri's spouse CSM (R) Richard Leirdahl and Kushi's mother, Anshu Gupta. Our other scholarship recipients plan to attend the June meeting.

Coming in June is the USO Golf Tournament on Thursday, June 19th. This event is the USO PNW's largest fund raiser and once again, we will be selling, "pitch-a-balls." The event is at the Golf Club at Newcastle. Golfers start signing in at 09:30AM with a 12:15PM shotgun start. We will have a canopy set up and be ready to start selling "pitch-a-balls" before 9:30. For those wondering what we are doing, it is rather simple. For a donation of \$20, split between the USO and us, the player gets to throw the ball once without it counting as a stroke. Our volunteers either man the canopy or mingle with the players telling the MOAA story while selling the "pitches." Periodically announcements are made directing golfers to visit our canopy to purchase the "pitches." If you plan to volunteer and assist, I recommend being at the golf club around 9:00 AM. The Golf Club at Newcastle is located at 15500 6 Penny Ln, Newcastle, WA 98059-3086.

Next, the ARNG OCS graduation is scheduled for August 7 @ 5:30 PM.



**FIVE 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





**15 CONSECUTIVE YEARS
FIVE STAR LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE CHAPTER**

This year the class is smaller than normal, and the staff anticipates approximately 50 graduates. A slight difference between this year and previous years, the graduation will occur that Thursday afternoon and our presentation of the gold bars will be the last act before their celebratory end of course BBQ. As we get closer to the event, we will publish more details.

Our June speaker will be COL (Ret) Stu Herrington. Stu was one of my War College instructors and played an integral role in the April 30, 1975, evacuation of the US Embassy in Saigon. To accommodate Stu, who for health reasons can no longer travel, we are going to have him Zoom in at 12:00 noon. We will show 3 short videos related to the events of the last week of April 1975 and then Stu will offer his candid thoughts and observations. For this meeting, I am planning on our lunch being served at approximately 12:30. As for future programs, we are working on seeing if we can schedule a couple of dinner meetings. Our challenge is finding the “right” venue at the “right” price. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please let us know. More to follow.

Our next board meeting is Wednesday, June 11, 5:30 PM via Teams; next chapter meeting is Wednesday, June 18, social @ 11:30 AM, meeting called to order at 12:00. The location is Panorama’s seventeen51 restaurant. Our guest speaker is COL (Ret) Stu Herrington, who will share his experience managing the April 30, 1975, evacuation of the US Embassy in Saigon.

See you on the 18th.

Dave “Slots” Slotwinski

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2025 OFFICERS

President:
Dave “Slots” Slotwinski
COL, USA, Ret

1stVP (Programs):
Dave Slotwinski COL, USA, Ret

2nd VP (Membership):
Carrie Nielson CAPT, USN, Ret

Assistant Communications Director

Secretary:
Roselyn “Ro” Marcus CPT, USA

SSP, Surviving Spouse Liaison

Treasurer:
William “Bill” Moseley
Col, USAF, Ret

2025 BOARD MEMBERS

Mark Wiseman, MAJ, USA, Ret

Sam Cagle, Col, USAF, Ret

DeFrance Clarke, LtCol, USAF, Ret

Douglas White, LtCol, USAF, Ret
Chaplain

Christine McManus,
CDR, USN, Ret

Communications Director

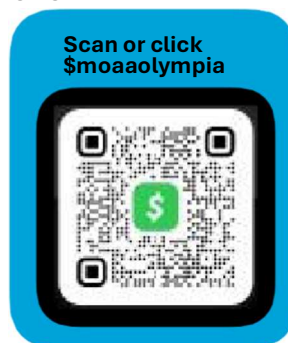
Allen Acosta, Maj, USA, Ret

Treasurer's Report

Checking account balance:	\$10,010.70
Savings account balance:	\$ 3,654.82
Total:	\$13,665.52

Note from the Treasurer: Nothing to report for this month.

CASH APP:



Treasurer Bill Moseley presents MOAA Olympia Chapter donation of \$1535 to Santa's Castle for 2024. Photo by Santa's Castle Staff

Charity	Balance as Of 05/31/25	Disbursed YTD	2025 Goal
USO	\$1,344.00	\$0.00	\$1400
Fisher House	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$1200
Santa's Castle	\$495.00	\$0.00	\$2000
Scholarships	\$4,050.00	\$1000.00	\$3000
JROTC Booster Club	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500
Sports Balls	\$3.86	0	1000 balls
TOTALS	\$6,267.86	\$1500.00	\$8100 and 1000 balls

2025 OLYMPIA MOAA SCHOLARSHIP

By Bill Moseley



Several years ago, we decided to expand our reach from the NJROTC to other youth in our community. In doing so, we developed our scholarship program. This year, the program achieved great success. It reached all the high schools in our service area and resulted in us receiving 32 scholarship applications. Of these, 21 met our criteria and were judged on academic excellence, community service, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation and a 500-word essay. Our awardees this year are Kevin Shin and Katherin Sethjinda of Olympia High School,

Celine Joseph of River Ridge High School and Khushi Agrawal of Timberline High School. Each will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Outstanding May Meeting

The May meeting was particularly moving for our members. The guest speakers spoke with real passion about service to country and deep appreciation for those who have served in uniform. They presented a token of service and said a heartfelt thank you to those in attendance who were veterans of Vietnam. They also gave us an excellent presentation on their Quilts of Valor program. In addition, we were graced with the presence of one of our very impressive scholarship recipients, Khushi Agrawal, who will be graduating soon from Timberline High School and plans to attend University of Washington in the Fall. We look forward to meeting the other three recipients in June.



Above: Guest speaker, Lauri Leirdahl, at May chapter meeting. Photo by Carrie Nielson



Above: Slots presents the "coveted" MOAA mug to Cindy Hoover at the May chapter meeting. Photo by Carrie Nielson



Right: Bill Moseley presents MOAA scholarship to awardee Khushi Agrawal, with her parents. Photo by Allen Acosta.

Supporting Your USO Submitted by: Bill Moseley



The USO Northwest is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that relies solely on the generosity of individuals and organizations like the Olympia Area Chapter of MOAA. With over 300 volunteers in the Northwest region, the USO guarantees that your donations go directly to services and programs benefiting service members and their families. Thanks to your generous donations, we anticipate rounding up and donating our goal amount this year of \$1400 to USO Northwest. As the costs of everything rise, soldiers really appreciate the chance to stop by, use the free computers and internet, and grab a free meal now and then in a friendly, welcoming environment. Your generous support helps makes this possible.

Fisher House Submitted by: Bill Moseley



Moseley. Photo by Fisher House staff.

Left: Big smiles from Emily Bonilla of Fisher House, who was on hand to receive our quarterly donation of food and miscellaneous items from their wish list dropped off by Treasurer Bill

Fisher House provides service members and their families a comfortable, nurturing and secure home away from home when they receive medical care at Madigan Army Medical Center. The JBLM Fisher House can serve 18 families in-house with their two facilities and other eligible families at off-site locations completely free of cost. Fisher House worldwide has housed over 500,000 families, saving military families over \$610 million in lodging, food and transportation costs. This is what your donations this quarter will support! Our goal for this year is \$1200. Don't forget that your donations are tax-deductible.

State Legislative Update

Chapter member Jerry Fugich, chairman of the Veterans Legislative Coalition reports the governor signed a bill which will help expand the availability of Veterans Service Officers, particularly in rural parts of the state, to ensure veterans receive all the benefits they have earned. The governor also signed a bill which permits veterans with 70% or greater disability, who have a service animal, to apply for a handicap parking placard. In the next session, the VLC will be prioritizing a bill for property tax relief for veterans based on percent disability.

*If you see a copy of Marilyn Strickland's latest newsletter it features a photo of the Congresswoman shaking Jerry's hand at the Memorial Day ceremony at the capitol.

2025 ADVOCACY IN ACTION ISSUES - From the MOAA email

Greetings from MOAA!

While our MOAA representatives have returned home, we still need to keep up the press to reach out to every congressional office in every way possible. Together, we delivered a unified message: ***Congress must do all that it can to protect service-earned pay and benefits.***

Lawmakers need to keep hearing from constituents like us. The work done on Capitol Hill in one week must be reinforced by MOAA advocates from across the country. We urge you to take action on MOAA's top legislative priorities by sending emails, writing letters, making phone calls, even visiting their offices in person, whatever means of contact you are comfortable with, to talk to your representatives and advocate for these important issues:

- **Incentivize Military Spouse Hiring:** Actions to combat stagnant, high rates of unemployment among military spouses must include measures to incentivize their hiring. Cosponsor the Military Spouse Hiring Act to add a military spouse target group to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program.
- **Unaccompanied Housing Improvements:** Transparency is key to supporting lawmaker oversight of this ongoing issue and addressing a \$137 billion maintenance backlog. Ask Congress to require DoD to make reports on unaccompanied housing installation conditions publicly available.
- **Ending the Wait for Toxic-Exposed Veterans:** Pass legislation to shorten how long millions of veterans must wait before receiving service-earned care and benefits.
- **Support Veteran Caregivers:** Champion/cosponsor the passage of the Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act.

And don't forget — every message does make a difference. The pressures on service-earned pay and benefits aren't going away — but neither is MOAA.

We need every voice and every advocate to help us keep fighting, and to remind Congress that the greatest asset to our nation's security and prosperity is not a weapon system — ***it's the men and women in uniform and their families.***

Visit MOAA's [Legislative Action Center](#) and take action today – it is super easy.

Sincerely,

MOAA Government Relations

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
201 N Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
www.moaa.org

Surviving Spouse/WA State Council Update

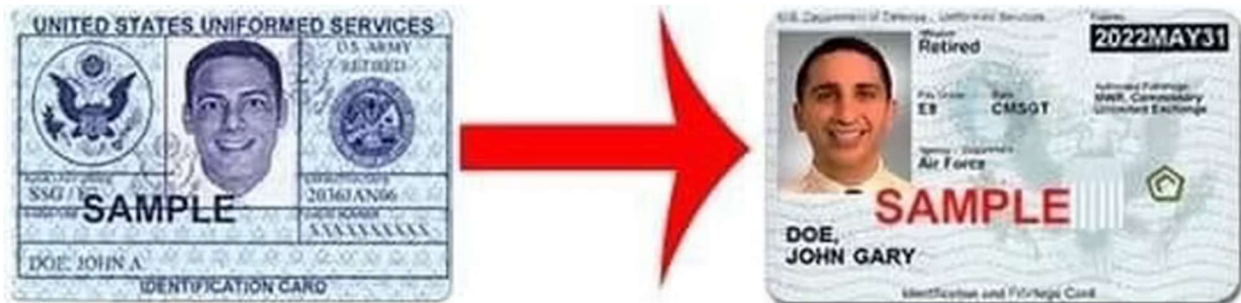
Washington State Council of Chapters has a Facebook group: [\(2\) MOAA--Washington State Council of Chapters \(WSCOC\) | Facebook](#) Our state council Surviving Spouse Liaison, Cheryl Toland, regularly posts many different events & actions there, so if you are a Facebook user, it would be very beneficial to you to read and be aware of these things. The last several things she posted were Advocacy in Action & MOAA National videos. CHECK IT OUT!!!!!! You can request to join & be more informed regularly.

Attention Military Retirees: New ID Card Required by 2026

From militaryliving.com

Beginning in 2026, the old-style, colored ID cards will no longer be accepted, regardless of the printed expiration date. This means even if your card says “indef”, if it is on the old colored stock, it will no longer be accepted in 2026. To maintain base access, please visit your nearest DEERS/ID card office to obtain a new ID. You do not need to wait until the expiration date.

Before you go to the military installation, you should make an appointment to get a new card through the RAPIDS ID Card Office Online: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> It is possible you will be able to obtain a card online, depending on your circumstances.



Welcome Our Newest Chapter Members

Submitted by CAPT Carrie Nielson

I am very excited to announce that we have multiple new members to welcome this month.

Marjorie Herring is the widow of Army Brigadier General Bernard Herring, Jr. Marjorie lives at Panorama and was invited to attend our chapter meeting back in March and April – it just took a little while for her membership application to find its way to me, so that I could include her in our welcome note.

Retired Army Colonel Aric Bowman resides in Lacey with his wife Sarah and says he is looking forward to meeting us.

We are also pleased to welcome US Army Major Alexander Nuxoll and his wife Danielle, who live in Lacey, to the chapter. Major Alexander Nuxoll is currently serving the Special Operations community at 1st Group while Danielle guides military families as they transition from military service and second career retirement through financial planning and wealth management services with AAFMAA Wealth Management & Trust. While originally from the Chicago suburbs and most recently coming from Fort Bragg NC, they call WA home. They have two young daughters. Sophie (5) enjoys dance and gymnastics while Tessa (2) is thriving with Cystic Fibrosis and continues to explore how to keep up with her big sister.

When you see any of our new members at future meetings, be sure to give them a warm MOAA welcome.

Awards Season

On May 22 and May 27, President Dave Slotwinski attended the Shelton High School NJROTC and New Market High School NNDCC Awards Ceremonies to present stellar young cadets with MOAA medals and certificates of achievement recognizing their outstanding performance. At Shelton High School he also presented the booster club with a \$500 check to support the NJROTC program. We hope to establish a similar fund for New Market in future years. Chapter officers will also be attending Timberline, River Ridge and Olympia High School Awards Events to present certificates to recognize our scholarship recipients publicly.



Above: Cadet PO3 Alexander German was the recipient of the MOAA JROTC Medal for outstanding performance at the Shelton High School NJROTC Awards Ceremony. Photo by Carrie Nielson



Above: Cadet Megan Peppers, our MOAA Award recipient, received several awards during New Market Skills NNDCC Awards Ceremony.

Photo by Carrie Nielson



Above: Chapter President Dave (Slots) Slotwinski at Shelton NJROTC Awards Ceremony with LtCol Brian Harwell and cadet preparing to present award.

Photo by Carrie Nielson

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?

If you are not currently on and wish to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, contact the Communications Director or their 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.

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- and mention the code "grassroots", you can receive a 10% discount.

Dual Military Couples - If both members of married couple are military officers and they would both like to be life members of MOAA, national MOAA says the second lifetime membership will only cost \$100 – what a great package deal

CONTACT YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Want to get in contact with your State or Federal Congressional Delegation? Here's the contact information of the Olympia Area representatives:

Senator Maria Cantwell
(253)572-2281
950 Pacific Ave Suite 615
Tacoma, WA 98402
<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/email>

Senator Patty Murray
(360)205-2878
771 Capitol Way S, Suite 502
Olympia, WA 98501
<https://www.murray.senate.gov/write-to-patty/>

Marilyn Strickland
(360)459-8514
420 College St SE, Suite 3000
Lacey, WA 98503
<https://strickland.house.gov/contact/>

Jessica Bateman, Senator, District 22
(360)786-7642
409 Legislative Bldg
PO Box 40422
Olympia, WA 98504

Beth Doglio, Representative
(360)786-7940
308 John L O'Brien Bldg
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504

Lisa Parshley
(360)786-7992
317 John L O'Brien Bldg
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504

To find other Federal Members of Congress by location you can go to:
<https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

To find other Washington State Members of Legislature by location you can go to:
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Connect!**Notable June Dates****June – Pride Month**

- 06/06 – Anniversary of D-Day
- 06/09 – 1200, Ladies Lunch, Ranchhouse BBQ, 10841 Kennedy Creek Rd SW Olympia
- 06/11 – 1730, Board Meeting, via TEAMS
- 06/14 – U.S. Army's 250th Birthday Celebration
- 06/14 – Flag Day
- 06/15 – Father's Day
- 06/18 – 1200, Chapter Lunch Meeting, gather 1130, call to order 1200, Panorama's seventeen51 restaurant
- 06/19 – Juneteenth
- 06/19 – 0900-1230, Chapter Pitch-a-Ball tent at USO Golf Tournament
- 06/23 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday
- 06/27 – National PTSD Awareness Day

Ladies Lunch Club

When: June 9 at 1200, noon

Where: Ranchhouse BBQ

10841 Kennedy Creek Rd SW Olympia

Please RSVP to:

Christine McManus

If anyone would like a ride or wants to carpool, mention that when you RSVP and something can be arranged

Next Board Meeting

June 11, 2025, 5:30 pm. Via Teams.

Next Board Meeting Join Link (MS Teams)

Contact Dave Slotwinski or Chris McManus for a Teams invite.

USO Golf Tournament

On June 19 from 0900-1230, at The Golf Club at Newcastle, located at 15500 6 Penny Ln, Newcastle, WA 98059-3086, USO NW will hold its big Golf Tournament fundraiser. Our chapter will pitch a tent and sell \$20 pitch-a-ball chances. We will split the proceeds 50-50 with the USO. This will be our third year participating in this fundraiser – it has proven to be a beautiful day, a fun event and an easy way for us to earn some money we can spend on our charitable causes. **If you are interested in helping out, recommend contacting President Dave Slotwinski or Secretary Ro Marcus so they can keep track of volunteer numbers.**

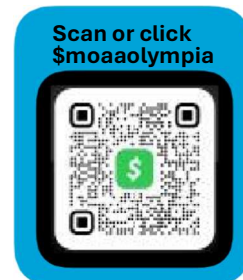
Donation/ Lunch Options

Venue: seventeen51 restaurant and bistro - Panorama, 1751 Circle Ln. SE, Lacey, WA 98503. Please RSVP no later than the morning of Friday, June 13, 2025 to Doug White, xxxx@olympiamoaa.org. Please include menu entree selection in CashApp payment description.

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 18, gather at 11:30 am and call to order at noon.

With our new menu arrangement, we do not suffer a penalty for attendees that may show up without prior notice, so do not let having forgotten to RSVP keep you from joining us. On the other hand, it is very beneficial for both the chapter and the restaurant to have a good head count ahead of time for planning purposes, so we do continue to request that you RSVP to let us know you are coming and which entrée you would like.

	Chamber's Salad with ☐ Shrimp or ☐ Grilled Chicken	\$21.00	X		= \$
	Slow-Roasted Turkey Sandwich ☐ Fries ☐ Salad ☐ Fruit	\$21.00	X		= \$
	McGandy Pasta (cavatappi noodles, veggies, pesto, and goat cheese)	\$21.00	X		= \$
	Total Lunch				= \$



The lunch cost is **\$21.00**

Coffee, tea and water are provided.

Gluten Free items are available from the menu on request.

Fisher House	= \$
Scholarship	= \$
Annual Dues \$20.00 Member, \$10.00 Surviving Spouse	= \$
Total Amount Mailed	= \$

-----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 to:

Doug White

xxxx@olympiamoaa.org

OR

Mail payment and confirmation to:

Olympia MOAA

PO Box 5957

Lacey, WA 98509-5957

National MOAA Charities

If you are looking for good causes to support in addition to our chapter's excellent regular charities, National MOAA can offer you a great option.

MOAA's Crisis Relief Program offers emergency financial assistance for service-connected households. Currently serving personnel and their spouses, veterans, surviving spouses, and military and veteran caregivers can apply for this aid, which is open to all ranks and branches of uniformed service. Aid can be used to cover housing and automobile costs, utilities, and other bills connected to financial emergencies.

"Uniformed servicemembers, veterans, and their families work hard everyday to protect our great nation, and we here at MOAA are dedicated to working hard to protect them," MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), said in a recent video supporting the Crisis Relief Program.

Learn More

Donate Now