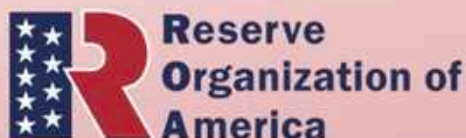


NORTHWEST



# Reporter

## *President's Message by CDR Ed Brock*



**Thank you** for the honor and trust of serving as your Department President - once again! The years ahead will bring challenges, but I am confident we can meet them together. ROA has never been a one-person show—it succeeds because members like you step up and help. **Please continue to do so and thank you in advance for your efforts!**

On behalf of all of us, I want to express heartfelt thanks to **LTC Pete Halver** for his steady leadership over the past two years. I would also like to recognize **LTC Larry Neil**, who has served as Spokane Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer for more than 25 years. Working alongside Larry this past year to try to revitalize the chapter only increased my admiration for his dedication and service. Thank you, Larry, for an extraordinary job!

Many others deserve recognition as well, including **LTC Sarah Bro**, our REPORTER editor; **CAPT Rick Thomas**, Department Treasurer; and **CPT Debbie Halver-Hanson**, our Department chef and food steward (along with brother Pete as her chief helper). **Thank you, all!**

Those who attended our April meeting were treated to a Zoom presentation by ROA Executive Director **Major General John B. Hashem, USA (Ret.)**. We appreciated his time, leadership, and insight into the opportunities and challenges facing our organization. Be sure to see page 11 of this newsletter for his comments on the Reservist's new "Bill of Rights"!

As we reflect on the this year's Memorial Day and those who made the ultimate sacrifice, we also honor those who continue to serve and those who have served faithfully for many years.

**Our greatest challenge remains membership.** Despite our best efforts, we were unable to revive the Spokane Chapter, which will soon merge with the Walla Walla Chapter. The lesson is clear: we need new members, especially younger members.

So! I challenge each of you to **recruit one new member—someone about half your age.** Wear something that identifies your service, start a conversation, and share what ROA means to you. If they're interested, consider sponsoring their first year of membership while they commit to the second. I've tried this approach, and it works.

Looking ahead:

- **August 15, 2026, at 1000:** Department EXCOM meeting via Zoom (details to follow).
- **First Saturday in December:** Christmas EXCOM meeting and party.
- **April 2027:** Department Convention in Ellensburg WA, chosen as a central location for members across the state.

**Wishing you all a wonderful summer and thank you for all you do for the ROA!**

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING **ALL** UNIFORMED SERVICES RANKS

Army - Marine Corps - Navy - Air Force - Space Force - Coast Guard - Public Health Service - National Guard - NOAA  
**Department of Northwest: proudly serving ROA members in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming!**

**President**

CDR Edward Brock, USNR (Ret)  
 PO Box 40  
 Otis Orchards WA 99027-0040  
 Cell: (425) 999-5168  
 Email: [navybrock@live.com](mailto:navybrock@live.com)

**Secretary**

Lt. Col. Judy Ford, USAF (Ret)  
 174 Sand Dune Avenue NW  
 Ocean Shores WA 98569  
 Cell: (509) 435-6170  
 Email: [lrcjudyford@gmail.com](mailto:lrcjudyford@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

CAPT Rickey Thomas, USCGR (Ret)  
 20909 Olympic Place NE  
 Arlington WA 98223  
 Cell: (360) 581-9383  
 Email: [randstthomas@comcast.net](mailto:randstthomas@comcast.net)

**Editor**

LTC Sarah Bro, USA (Ret)  
 2201 S. 3rd Avenue  
 Walla Walla WA 99362  
 Cell: (360) 951-7680  
 Email: [roa21pr@gmail.com](mailto:roa21pr@gmail.com)



**We have a NEW DEPARTMENT WEBSITE!**

**[WWW.ROANW.ORG](http://WWW.ROANW.ORG)**

*Come check out our newest postings!*



## ***The 96th Department of Northwest Annual Meeting*** **Lakewood WA | April 24 - 26, 2026**



*Members enjoying the Geography Icebreaker Friday night! Winners of the "geography bingo" games received simple cash prizes.*

**The Annual Meeting was called to order** on Saturday April 25, 2026 by **President Peter Halver**, who also led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by **Chaplain Deborah Halver-Hanson**. A quorum was present with representation from all chapters (Virtual 001, Bremerton 002, Seattle 015, Spokane 018, and Walla Walla 021). The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

**Officer Reports**

Service branch updates highlighted ongoing global operations, readiness initiatives, and personnel and equipment developments across the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Discussion included modernization efforts, reserve force structure concerns, and continued emphasis on training, wellness, and recruitment of younger service members.



*Members checking out the Silent Auction items at Saturday night's buffet dinner!*



*Silent auction items waiting for a bid!*

# The 96th Department of Northwest Annual Meeting

## Lakewood WA | April 24 - 26, 2026



### National Council & Strategic Plan

**Major General John Hashem, USA (Ret)**, provided an update on ROA's Strategic Plan ("Vision 29"), including efforts to strengthen member engagement, expand communications, and implement a Reservist "Bill of Rights." New national staff were introduced to support programs, communications, and development.

### Treasurer's Report *(photo, L, with treasurer Rickey Thomas speaking)*

The Department remains financially sound with total assets of approximately \$92,700 across accounts and CDs. The organization remains in the black year-to-date, though ROTC medal costs exceeded the budget. Funds are approaching the \$100,000 IRS reporting threshold, prompting discussion on financial planning. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

### Committee Reports

**Budget Committee:** Newly formed to review spending priorities and potential stipends for presenters.

**Constitution & Bylaws:** No immediate changes required; clarification discussed regarding national vs. department election alignment.

**Membership:** Modest decline overall; improved communication tools under development.

**Annual Meeting Planning:** Continued discussion on rotating meeting locations and potential one-day format options.

**Family Readiness & Awards:** Children's Writing Contest underway; increased ROTC/JROTC award activity reported.



*Members sharing reports*

### Chapter Reports

Seattle reported small, but steady, monthly gatherings. Spokane is considering a merger with the Walla Walla chapter, due to declining participation and outreach challenges. Walla Walla continues to be highly active with strong community engagement, ROTC/JROTC support, and award-winning communications.



### Elections & Business

Officer nominations were presented and accepted. A motion to direct 100% of today's auction proceeds to Fisher House passed unanimously. Members expressed appreciation for the meeting organizers. **CAPT Gary Ausman, USCGR**, received recognition for 60 years of membership in the ROA.

**Officers installed L - R:** SSG Bro, CAPT Ausman, LTC Foley, Maj Rowe, CDR Brock, Col Cope, LTC Stoddard, and CPT Halver-Hanson. **Find their roles on page 8!**

## **ROA National Board of Directors Update**

### *Lt Col Judy Ford, USAF (Ret)*

Following the Leadership Conference, the Board of Directors met virtually once. As an update, **beginning in 2027, the Annual Meeting will now be held in March.** This timing better aligns with Congressional budget discussions and periods when Congress is typically in session. By contrast, Congress is often not in session during October.

Accordingly, **this year's October Annual Meeting will be conducted by Zoom**, solely to address the business required under our governing documents. **The virtual meeting will take place Saturday, October 17, 2026.** Although the bylaws were amended to change the composition of the Board of Directors, our revised Charter has not yet been approved by Congress, so we must continue to operate under the current Charter provisions.



Sen. Thom Tillis  
(R-NC)

This year's **Minute Man Hall of Fame Award recipients** are **Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC)** and **Representative Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi (D-CA-11)**. Because Congress will not be in session during the planned October meeting, and both honorees are retiring, the awards will instead be presented in June 2026. Senator Tillis will receive his award in his office, while Speaker Emerita Pelosi will be honored at a reception at the ROA Building on Thursday, June 25, at 5:00 p.m. The Board of Directors meeting will begin the following day.



Rep. Nancy Pelosi  
(D-CA-11)



## **First Dept of NW Council Meeting of 2026**

### *Lt Col Judy Ford, USAF (Ret)*

The **Department of Northwest First Council Meeting** was called to order by **President Ed Brock** on Saturday April 25, 2026, with representatives participating both in person and virtually from the Virtual, Bremerton, Seattle, Spokane, and Walla Walla chapters. A quorum was present, and the minutes from the previous Council Meeting were approved.

Committee reports included discussion on future Annual Meetings, with President Brock expressing interest in rotating meetings among eastern, central, and western Washington. Members also discussed meeting length and travel considerations. The **Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)** will soon convene as Department funds approach the \$100,000 threshold, which could affect IRS filing requirements. President Brock appointed **Col Margaret Cope, CPT Deborah Halver-Hanson, CAPT Gary Ausman,** and **Lt Col Judy Ford** to the BAC, with CAPT Ausman serving as chair.

Under new business, **President Brock challenged each member to recruit one new ROA member who is half their age within the next year to encourage organizational growth!**



*New Department **President Ed Brock** (R) leads the First Council Meeting, as **LTC Larry Neil**, NW-018 Spokane Chapter Sec'y-Treasurer (L), looks on.*

## Chapter Updates - Across the Department

### VIRTUAL (NW-01)

LTC Milton D. Houghton | [LTCMilt@gmail.com](mailto:LTCMilt@gmail.com)

*No report provided.*

### BREMERTON WA (NW-02)

CPT Deborah K. Halver-Hanson | [heloaviatrix23@gmail.com](mailto:heloaviatrix23@gmail.com)

The May meeting focused on the five NJROTC programs to which the Bremerton Chapter sends presenters. **CAPT Mike Gustavson**, USNR (Ret), has already completed a presentation at South Kitsap High School, and the program went very well. The award and Cadet Certificate arrived promptly from the ROA Department of Northwest Awards Coordinator **Lt Col Barbara Kiliz**, USAF (Ret).

Chapter Treasurer **Lt Col Judy Ford**, USAFR (Ret), will send a small check from the Chapter to each NJROTC unit to demonstrate the Chapter's support for these important educational programs. She also serves as an award presenter. Chapter President **CPT Deborah-Halver Hanson**, USA (Ret), will also serve as a presenter at Shelton High School.

The next Chapter meeting will be held on Flag Day, Sunday, June 14, beginning at 1:00 PM. Attendees are encouraged to sign in to the Zoom meeting approximately 15 minutes prior to the start time. Members needing additional information about the Zoom meeting or future meeting schedules are encouraged to contact Chapter Secretary **LTC Beverley Brown Losey**, USA (Ret), at her home landline telephone, (360) 613-9886. Please leave a message with your name, telephone number, and the best time to return your call. Since there is no caller ID on the telephone, it is important to leave the number where you would like to be reached!

### SEATTLE WA (NW-015)

CAPT Rickey D. Thomas | [randstthomascomcast.net](mailto:randstthomascomcast.net) | (360) 581-9383

The Seattle Chapter remains active, though somewhat quiet at the moment. We have 7–8 regular members who gather for lunch on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Scott's Bar & Grill on North 205th Street in Edmonds. Along with addressing any Chapter business, we enjoy the fellowship and camaraderie of spending time together.

I currently serve as Chapter President, and **Lt Col Linda Sowler** faithfully serves as our Secretary/Treasurer. The Chapter remains financially healthy, and we are proud to count **CAPT Gary Ausman**, USCGR (Ret), among our members as he approaches his 90th birthday.

We would welcome additional participation and are always interested in ideas that could help strengthen engagement across the Chapter. If you would like to join us or share suggestions, please contact me at [randstthomas@comcast.net](mailto:randstthomas@comcast.net).

The **next edition of THE REPORTER** will be **November 2026!**

Be sure to send your photos and updates to the editor LTC Sarah L. Bro at [roa21pr@gmail.com!](mailto:roa21pr@gmail.com)

Keep us informed of your Chapter's status and activities!

# Chapter Updates - Across the Department

## SPOKANE WA (NW-018)

COL Larry J. Neil | [lsneil1964@gmail.com](mailto:lsneil1964@gmail.com) | (509) 482-1647

Our chapter has experienced a decline in vitality over the past several years, with fewer than five members regularly attending meetings. Despite sustained efforts over the past year to increase engagement, active participation has not improved.

Rather than disband the chapter, **CDR Ed Brock**, USNR (Ret), and I initiated discussions regarding a possible merger of the Spokane Chapter with the Walla Walla Chapter (NW-021). They have graciously accepted our proposal and stand ready to welcome our members into their chapter.

As a final effort to sustain the Spokane Chapter, I sent out a letter to our membership seeking input and support. We currently have 98 members, though only 68 have active mailing addresses, and nearly all are Life members. We believe the decline in participation is largely attributable to the advancing age of many members, which may limit their ability to drive and attend in-person events.

A final decision will be made by June 30, 2026; however, as of this writing, it appears highly likely that Chapter NW-018 will merge with NW-021 effective July 1, 2026.



**We have a NEW DEPARTMENT EMAIL:**  
**Reserve Organization of America Department of Northwest**  
**ROA.NW@outlook.com**



*Reach out for questions or concerns any time!*



**Please note:** if you have a blue military ID card you must update to the new **white** card **NLT 2027**. Just go to the ID Card Office Online at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>



# Chapter Updates - Across the Department

## WALLA WALLA WA (NW-021)

LTC Sarah Bro | [roa21pr@gmail.com](mailto:roa21pr@gmail.com) | (360) 951-7680



Our **speaker program** kicked off in February with **James Payne**, Director of the Fort Walla Walla Museum (photo, L) giving us a great lecture on extraordinary story of US Army COL Malcom V. “Bob” Fortier (a Walla Walla native), who crafted the “Bataan Death Camp” caricatures, part of a new collection at the museum. In March we heard a fascinating presentation from US Army veteran **Del Draper**, a military historian (photo, R), on GEN Robert E. Lee’s perspective of the the Battle of Gettysburg.



**Steven Reiff**, USAF veteran (photo, L), spoke in April about the challenges and setbacks he faced while establishing two veteran-owned businesses — one that failed and one that ultimately succeeded. Steven credited his faith in God and his Air Force experiences with giving him the resilience to persevere. His son, **David Reiff** (photo, R), now leads the 63-year-old Reiff Manufacturing Company, with a dedicated focus on fiberglass manufacturing.



A particularly moving story came from Chapter member **1LT Mike Howell**, USAR (photo, L), who, in May, shared his experience traveling with the Inland Northwest Honor Flight program last fall. Over three memorable days, he and 90 fellow Vietnam veterans visited significant memorials and monuments in the nation’s capital. Upon returning to Spokane, they were welcomed home by an Army band and airport staff, families, and others lining the entire concourse — a reception many Vietnam veterans never had the opportunity to experience.

The annual **Walla Walla High School JROTC Competitive Teams Benefit Dinner and Auction** on January 30, 2026 welcomed more than 200 guests from across the community, making it a truly memorable occasion. Our Chapter was proud to serve as a **Title Sponsor** for the event. Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal, lively conversation, and an exciting auction featuring a wide variety of items and experiences. Funds raised during the evening will directly support the JROTC teams, helping enhance their training and enabling them to compete in upcoming events. The event was a wonderful celebration of the students’ dedication while also strengthening community connections.



Chapter members **Cpts Mick McLean** and **Bill Howard**, USAF, were happy to present ROA certificates and coins to graduating ROTC cadets at both Washington State University (WSU) and University of Idaho (UI)!

**Congratulations, all!**



**L-R:** WSU Air Force ROTC Cadets Elena Stripty, Gabriel Perez, Emma Cooksey, and Capt McLean

**L-R:** Capt Howard with UI Navy ROTC Cadets London Rios, Corben Daharsh, and Mason Smith

## **DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP ROSTER**

<b>Department of Northwest Council Members - April 2026 - April 2028</b>		
<p><b>Department President</b> CDR Ed Brock, USNR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:navybrock@live.com">navybrock@live.com</a> P.O. Box 40 Otis Orchards WA 99027-0040 C: (425) 999-5168</p>	<p><b>Sr. Immediate Past President</b> LTC Peter Halver, USA, USAR, ARNG (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:halver21@aol.com">halver21@aol.com</a> 3659 Selah Loop Rd Selah WA 98942-9209 H: (510) 698-2240 C: (209) 676-0583</p>	<p><b>Jr. Immediate Past President</b> Lt Col Judy Ford, USAF (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:ltcjudyford@gmail.com">ltcjudyford@gmail.com</a> 174 Sand Dune Ave. NW Ocean Shores WA 98569-9788 C: (509) 435-6170</p>
<p><b>Army Vice President</b> CPT Deborah Halver-Hanson, USAR E: <a href="mailto:heloaviatrix23@gmail.com">heloaviatrix23@gmail.com</a> 23623 Lake Dr. W Bothell WA 98021-8577 H: (425) 371-9219 C: (703) 314-9219</p>	<p><b>Army Jr. Vice President</b> SSG Chad Bro, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:clecourt1@hotmail.com">clecourt1@hotmail.com</a> 2201 S. 3rd Ave Walla Walla WA 99362-4411 C: (253) 442-7574</p>	<p><b>Army Committeeman</b> LTC Chad Stoddard, USAR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:cgstoddarddrummer@gmail.com">cgstoddarddrummer@gmail.com</a> 14408 107th Pl. NE Kirkland WA 98034-5264 C: (206) 992-5255</p>
<p><b>Naval Services Vice President</b> CAPT Gary Ausman, USCGR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:gausman@comcast.net">gausman@comcast.net</a> 17502 102nd Ave. NE, Unit 229 Bothell WA 98011-6709 H: (425) 485-1123 C: (206) 200-2291</p>	<p><b>Naval Services Jr. Vice President</b> <b>VACANT</b></p>	<p><b>Naval Services Committeeman</b> CAPT Stan Smith, USCGR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:coastie43@outlook.com">coastie43@outlook.com</a> 211 Idlewood Ln Sequim WA 98382-9448 C: (360) 271-7140</p>
<p><b>Air &amp; Space Force Services Vice President</b> Col Margaret Cope, USAF (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:margaret.cope@gmail.com">margaret.cope@gmail.com</a> 7306 53rd. St Ct W University Place WA 98467-5009 C: (253) 576-1531</p>	<p><b>Air &amp; Space Force Services Jr. Vice President</b> <b>VACANT</b></p>	<p><b>Air &amp; Space Force Committeeman</b> Maj Elise Rowe, USAFR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:eliserowe@att.net">eliserowe@att.net</a> 10521 Wye Lake Blvd. SW Port Orchard WA 98367-9288 H: (253) 576-1531</p>
<p><b>Chaplain</b> CPT Deborah Halver-Hanson, USAR <i>See information above</i></p>	<p><b>Judge Advocate</b> LTC David Foley, USA (Ret) E: <i>no email, pls call</i> 3609 Surry Dr. NE Olympia WA 98506-3637 H: (360) 491-8388</p>	<p><b>Treasurer</b> CAPT Rickey Thomas, USCG (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:randstthomas@comcast.net">randstthomas@comcast.net</a> 20909 Olympic Place NW, Apt 171 Arlington WA 98223-4669 H: (360) 454-0740 C: (360) 581-9383</p>
<p><b>Secretary</b> Lt Col Judy Ford, USAF (Ret) <i>See information above</i></p>	<p><b>Awards Coordinator</b> Lt Col Barbara Kiliz, USAFR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:vfxads@gmail.com">vfxads@gmail.com</a> 1620 210th Ave. E Lake Tapps WA 98391-9364 H: (206) 575-9797 C: (253) 569-5157</p>	<p><b>Membership</b> Lt Col Judy Ford, USAF (Ret) <i>See information above</i></p>

**DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP ROSTER**

<b>Department of Northwest Chapter POCs - 2026</b>	
<b>Virtual 001 - President</b> LTC Milt Houghton, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:ltcmilt@gmail.com">ltcmilt@gmail.com</a> 1839 NW Riverview Dr Roseburg OR 98471-6103 H: (541) 637-5612 C: (562) 900-3170	<b>Virtual 001 - Secretary</b> LTC Beverley Houghton, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:camelady2@gmail.com">camelady2@gmail.com</a> 1839 NW Riverview Dr. Roseburg OR 98471-6103 H: (541) 637-5612 C: (562) 900-3192
<b>Bremerton 002 - President</b> CPT Deborah Halver-Hanson, USAR E: <a href="mailto:heloaviatrix23@gmail.com">heloaviatrix23@gmail.com</a> 23623 Lake Dr. W Bothell WA 98021-8577 H: (425) 371-9219 C: (703) 314-9219	<b>Bremerton 002 - Chapter Secretary</b> LTC Beverley Brown Losey, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:ibrown1021@juno.com">ibrown1021@juno.com</a> 10680 WilLamette Meridian Rd NW Silverdale WA 98383-9322 H: (360) 613-9886
<b>Seattle 015 - President</b> CAPT Rickey Thomas, USCG (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:randstomas@comcast.net">randstomas@comcast.net</a> 20909 Olympic Place NW, Apt 171 Arlington WA 98223-4669 H: (360) 454-0740 C: (360) 581-9383	<b>Seattle 015 - Secretary</b> Lt Col Linda Sowler, USAF (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:lindasowler@msn.com">lindasowler@msn.com</a> 1860 NE 171st St. Shoreline WA 98155-6025 (206) 841-3852
<b>Walla Walla 021 - President</b> LTC Sarah Bro, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:roa21pr@gmail.com">roa21pr@gmail.com</a> 2201 S. 3rd Ave Walla Walla WA 99362-4411 C: (360) 951-7680	<b>Walla Walla 021 - Secretary</b> SSG Chad Bro, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:clecoun1@hotmail.com">clecoun1@hotmail.com</a> 2201 S. 3rd Ave Walla Walla WA 99362-4411 C: (253) 442-7574

<b>Department of Northwest Newsletter, Historian, Webmasters</b>			
<b>The REPORTER Editor</b> LTC Sarah Bro, USA (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:roa21pr@gmail.com">roa21pr@gmail.com</a> 2201 S. 3rd Ave Walla Walla WA 99362-4411 C: (360) 951-7680	<b>Historian</b> CAPT Rickey Thomas, USCG (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:randstomas@comcast.net">randstomas@comcast.net</a> 20909 Olympic Place NW, Apt 171 Arlington WA 98223-4669 H: (360) 454-0740 C: (360) 581-9383	<b>Webmaster</b> PO2 Karola Cochran. USN E: <a href="mailto:karola.cochran@gmail.com">karola.cochran@gmail.com</a> 800 W. 1st St., Unit 8 Newberg OR 97132-2473 H: (503) 545-1741 C: (503) 545-1741	<b>Webmaster</b> Lt Col Barbara Kiliz, USAFR (Ret) E: <a href="mailto:vfxads@gmail.com">vfxads@gmail.com</a> 1620 210th Ave. E Lake Tapps WA 98391-9364 H: (206) 575-9797 C: (253) 569-5157

## **TREASURER'S REPORT - June 2026**

This report summarizes the Department's financial status for the first five months of 2026:

- A review of the year to date shows that the Department Annual Meeting Registration income **fully covered** convention expenses.
- During this period, we donated \$1,000 to Fisher House.
- We received \$270 for the REPORTER Fund along with \$337 in general donations.
- On the expense side, spending for ROTC medals and mailings exceeded the budgeted amount by nearly twofold.
  - While this currently places those categories in the red, it is actually a positive sign that our ROTC program reached more schools this year than ever before!
  - The additional expense can be absorbed within the current budget, and we can plan accordingly for increased participation next year.
- The REPORTER expenses are currently tracking at the break-even point for the annual budget.
- The Department's operating account at **Chase Bank** currently holds **\$11,427**, with no outstanding bills.
- Our two certificates of deposit at **Pentagon Federal Credit Union** mature in June and will be reinvested at the best available rate. Those CDs currently have balances of **\$57,649** and **\$16,466**. In addition, the separate PenFed savings account balance is **\$4,459**.

Total Department assets as of this report are **\$95,039**.

Respectfully submitted,

Rickey D. Thomas  
Treasurer, ROA Department of Northwest

### ***\$10/Year Ongoing Fundraiser***

*To help offset printing costs of the REPORTER for those that don't have email!*

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!***



**Our REPORTER contributors since February were  
Maj Elise Rowe and LTC Beverley Losey for a total of \$270.  
MANY THANKS!**



Please email me at [randsthomas@comcast.net](mailto:randsthomas@comcast.net) or call me at  
Rickey Thomas at (360) 581-9383 to make a donation!

**Members are always encouraged to make donations** to this fund, which helps offset the printing costs of the newsletter. Print newsletters still go to our members who do not have email addresses and want to stay connected!




## RESERVE COMPONENT BILL OF RIGHTS

**America's independence began with Citizen-Soldiers, and 250 years later, every member of the Reserve Component and their families deserve the pay, benefits, and support they've earned while serving their country - with ROA there to support you on every step of your journey.**

<p><b>RELIABLE PAY &amp; MODERN PERSONNEL SYSTEMS</b></p> <p>Accurate, on-time pay and full reimbursement for all service-related expenses - including IDT travel, lodging, and meals - enabled by simple, reliable, and transparent personnel and pay systems that ensure no personal income loss to serve.</p>	<p><b>DUTY STATUS &amp; SERVICE PREDICTABILITY</b></p> <p>Duty status aligns to the mission - not administrative convenience; consistent authorities, pay, and benefits for the same work; and predictable orders and utilization to stabilize lives and employment.</p>
<p><b>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>Access to meaningful civilian employment for members and spouses, including hiring pathways, career mobility, and employer engagement that supports long-term economic stability.</p>	<p><b>EMPLOYER PROTECTIONS &amp; LEGAL SAFEGUARDS</b></p> <p>Strong, enforceable employment protections before, during, and after qualifying service with rapid reemployment, no loss of career progression, clear recourse when rights are violated, and accountability for noncompliant employers.</p>
<p><b>HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS</b></p> <p>Resources to support physical, mental, financial, and spiritual health; immediate access to quality healthcare when serving; continuous, affordable coverage between periods of duty; and no gaps in care tied to duty status changes.</p>	<p><b>FAMILY STABILITY &amp; SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Families receive consistent support, especially during activations/mobilization and transitions; access to childcare, counseling, and financial support services; and reduced disruption to family life caused by service.</p>
<p><b>EDUCATION &amp; CAREER DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>Access to education and credentialing resources that translates to civilian careers, recognition of military skills in the civilian workforce, and clear pathways for professional growth inside and outside the force.</p>	<p><b>MODERN EQUIPMENT, TRAINING &amp; UTILIZATION</b></p> <p>Training and equipment that match assigned missions; readiness standards that match expectations; modernization based on mission use - not whether AC or RC - that is interoperable within the service and across the joint force; and utilization based on operational needs and strategic depth.</p>
<p><b>RETIREMENT &amp; LONG-TERM SECURITY</b></p> <p>Service career documented and veteran status granted appropriately; reliable retirement benefits that reflect a full career of service; affordable and accessible healthcare in retirement; and financial stability after service ends.</p>	

roa.org | 800.809.9448 | roainfo@roa.org



**MG John Hashem**, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Reserve Organization of America (ROA), spoke at our Department Annual Meeting, underscoring this document for Reservists: **“ROA’s Reserve Component Bill of Rights** sets the standard for serving. You carry the mission in two worlds. You deserve pay that works, duty status that matches the mission, real employer protections, continuous healthcare, and a clear path to retirement. This is the baseline for readiness and retention. **STAY TUNED** as ROA connects members to these rights, expose the gaps, and drive fixes using the reserve experience, backed with data!”

Find out more about this initiative at <https://roa.org/introducing-the-reserve-component-bill-of-rights/>

## ROA Children's Writing Contest - entries due by June 15!

**ROA presents**  
**Share**  
YOUR STORY

5th Annual Reserve Organization of America Children's Writing Contest

**To Enter the Contest Click Here!**

**Deadline June 15th, 2026**

Sponsored by the ROA Family Readiness Support Committee

**Eligibility:**

- Must be child or grandchild of an individual currently serving or having served honorably in the U.S. military in the Active or Reserve/National Guard component; to include: Army/Air Force/Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard/Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service/National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration/Space Force.
- Contestants must be between 10-14 yrs old on the date of the essay submission. Winning entries will be judged in two separate age categories (10-11) & (12-14).

Prizes "in each age category" if your submission is chosen:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize = \$1000    2<sup>nd</sup> Prize = \$300    3<sup>rd</sup> Prize = \$200

In celebration of the 250th Birthday of America, share your story (up to 500 word essay) how your family's military service protects/protected the USA.

In celebration of the 250th Birthday of America, share your story as a military connected child, describing how your family's military service protects or protected the USA.

- Must be child or grandchild of an individual currently serving or having served honorably in the U.S. military in the Active or Reserve/National Guard component, to include: Army/Air Force/Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard/Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service/National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration/Space Force.
- Contestants must be between 10-14 yrs old on the date of the essay submission. Winning entries will be judged in two separate age categories (10-11) & (12-14).
- By participating in the contest, entrants agree to public display of their entry material.

**Contest Entry Start Date:** April 1, 2026

**Deadline:** June 15, 2026

**Length:** No more than 500 words.

More details here: <https://roa.org/childrens-writing-contest/>

## "Long Timer" Certificates Awarded Across the Department!



**CAPT Gary Ausman** (left) receives his 60y Long Timer certificate with outgoing Department President **Pete Halver** (middle) and incoming Department President **Ed Brock** (right).



**LTC Allen Aplant** receives his 50y Long Timer certificate with NW-021 Chapter President **Sarah Bro**

70 Years!	60 Years!	50 Years!
MG Clyde R. Cherberg LTC Druid Lohr Crotts	CAPT Gary J. Ausman COL Verne A. Duncan BG James F. Robb COL Michael F. Seppa LTC Oscar M. Undeberg Lt Col Herbert A. Zeller	LTC Allen J. Aplant Lt Col Warren E. Baker Jr. LTC Barbara A. Balfour Capt Thomas L. Barth Col Louis J. Budge Lt Col Deanna L. Collins CAPT David B. Davis II CAPT Brian Dempsey Maj Mark E. Des Rosiers Col Roy Conrad Eckard CDR Robert A. Eveleigh CAPT Gary Lynn Gubser LTC William J. Helin LTC Thomas J. Hoff CAPT Karl T. House LTC Karen D. Johnson LTC Seba W. Kirkpatrick COL Thomas J. Kutz CDR Charles O. Laughary Jr. CDR E. Donald Martin Lt Col Anton S. Prechtel LTC Reid Radulski Maj Donald O. Rice CAPT Jerry J. Saulter CDR Robert W. Sendelbach CDR Douglas J. Sheehan CW2 John T. Sneddon LTC Marvin W. Stunkard CDR Thomas P. Wayne MAJ Jon A. Weck CDR Thomas R. Witkowski



# The 96th Department of Northwest Annual Meeting A Few Parting Shots!



Above: Outgoing President **Pete Halver** administers the Oath of Office to the next group of officers.



Above: New Department officers taking their Oath of Office.



Right: Incoming President **Ed Brock** thanks **LTC Halver** for all his work and dedication during his term as President!

Below: Gifts to outgoing President Halver - a gong and watchful vulture!



Above: Plaque showing the succession of presidents for the Department of Northwest since **1946!**



The tag reads "In the end old age and treachery will outsmart youth and vigor!"



### ***Department of Northwest***

The purpose of the Reserve Organization of America is to support and promote the development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security

--ROA Congressional Charter, 1950

*Opinions expressed in the Northwest Reporter are those of the editor, columnist(s), and/or contributor(s), and are not necessarily those of the Department of the Northwest OR the ROA. Publication of advertisements do not imply endorsement by the Department of the Northwest OR the ROA.*

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