



WICMOAA NEWS

The Whidbey Island
Chapter, MOAA
---- Since 1968 ----
Nov 2022

President's comments



It is amazing to me that 2022 has passed so quickly. We have averaged about 40 at our monthly chapter meetings and that is up from 6 or 8 during the prior two COVID years. It has been great to see you this year and life seems like it is almost back to normal.

The November meeting is our annual meeting. We will be voting for the Board of Directors that will manage the back office of our chapter at that meeting. It would be amazing to have 100% of our members at the meeting. November 10, Whidbey Golf Club, 11:30 start, signup at our web site, <https://wicmoaa.com/orders>, or send in the coupon at the end of our newsletter.

We are starting to look at our WICMOAA Christmas party Saturday December 10th at the Whidbey Golf Club, 11:30. No speaker, just camaraderie with friends and a great meal. In the past we have swapped gifts to enhance the party and I am hoping the WICMOAA family will want to do that this year. I am thinking a menu like last year's Christmas party with tender meat this year. Any thoughts on the party, send me a note at wic.moaa@gmail.com.

2022 Officers:

- President:** (360 Area Code)
Terry Sparks 544-2817
- 1st VP**
David Sullivan, 240-0560
LtCol, USMCR, Ret
- 2nd VP (Membership)**
Patrick Fisher, 678-1402
CAPT, USAF Ret
- Secretary (Personal Affairs)**
David Cohick, 675-5171
LCDR, USNR, Ret
- Treasurer:**
Michael Morgan, 298-3097
CDR, USN, Ret
- Past President:**
Laurence Moses, 678-1080
COL, USA, Ret
- 2022 Directors:**
- JROTC/Scholarships:**
William Goodman, 678-3888
CDR, USN, Ret
- Publicity:**
JR Russell, 682-6648
CAPT, USN, Ret
- Health Affairs:**
Trish Rose, 257-9554
MajGen, USAFR, Ret
- BBQ Planner**
James Patton, 678-0983
CAPT, USN Ret.
- Programs**
Marshall Bronson, 678-7097
CAPT, USN Ret.
- ROWC President:**
Pat Sparks 425-298-9319
- Surviving Spouse Liaison:**
Nancy Tull 675-6755



“Where liberty dwells,
there is my country.”
— Benjamin Franklin

TREASURER'S CORNER

Greetings to my fellow WICMOAA members. Are you getting about as tired of all this smoke as I am? I'm going to try to make this a bit shorter than some have been in the past, so will just talk briefly about money and dues, then close with a quick look at upcoming major events.



We remain in a good financial state, with sufficient cash on hand and our NFCU CD (\$21,676.64) and Scholarship Savings Accounts (\$4,940.23) also in good shape. \$3,000 of the savings is earmarked for this year's scholarship awardee, with the \$1,900 balance, supplemented by donations between now and then, to be applied towards next year's awardee.

Our membership is now sitting at 78, 75 of whom are dues-paying. As of the end of September we had 30 members already paid up for the current year (40% of the goal), with more than a few paid out into 2024 and beyond as well. No increase in dues is now needed and no increases are being considered for the immediate future.

For some time now I have also been maintaining the Chapter Roster. If any of you would like to have a copy of that for your own use, just drop me a line or grab me aside at a meeting and I'll be happy to shoot you a PDF version of it.

November is our chapter's Annual Meeting, at which the candidates for the various positions on the Board of Directors (BOD) are presented and voted upon and other business is also optionally taken care of. Can you think of a more fun thing to do than that on the odd Thursday afternoon? I can't either, so hope to see a good turnout for that.

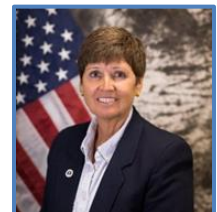
Additionally, sometime in the next few months the BOD will be proposing to the membership a series of amendments to our bylaws. These changes will primarily involve the creation of a new class of membership to receive most of the current Auxiliary Members, this done to bring our structure and operations into closer alignment with what MOAA is now doing. More details will be forthcoming, and you all will receive copies of all of the proposed amendments for your consideration and review well before we gather at one of our regular meetings to vote on them.

Between now and then, though, we have the Burger Burn at the VFW this Saturday. It's free, folks! If you're just now deciding to attend then, please, let someone know you're going to show up so that Terry can make sure we have enough of the main stuff there for feed everyone. Call him or me, send an email, or do it online at the website (wicmoaa.org).

Our traditional Christmas Dinner meeting will then follow in December. Look for more info coming out about that and start thinking now about what you would like to bring along as your *USMC Toys for Tots* donation.

Health Affairs:

The new Flu shots are now available. Please make sure you protect yourself and get your shot as soon as possible.



November Meeting Speaker

Our next Chapter meeting is scheduled for November 10th, 11:30, at the Whidbey Golf Club. I am pleased to announce our speaker will be Barbara Bennett: "Island County Marine Resources". The Blue Ticket item on the menu this month will be Crispy Chicken Parmesan with Mashed Potatoes and asparagus. It is up on the web site now with the normal chili and chicken Cesar salad. You can order/RSVP on the web <https://wicmoaa.com/orders> or send your request to WICMOAA, PO Box 255, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. Don't forget to send a few dollars to the JROTC and/or the scholarship funds. We are a bit short this year.

Mark your Calendars for the WICMOAA Meetings in 2022 at the WGC 11:30 AM

~~Jan. 13th~~ Brief by **Ricardo Jobin Emergency Manager (EM) NAS Whidbey: "Disaster Preparedness"**

~~Feb. 10th~~ Brief by **Captain Hanks: "NAS Whidbey 2022 going Forward, budget cut impacts to retired"**

~~March 10th~~ Brief by **Captain James M. Patton: "PUTIN'S ADVENTURE IN UKRAINE: Preamble Action & Reaction Aftermath."**

~~April 14th~~ Presentation by **Ricardo Jobin NAS EM: Sir Ernest Shackleton "Lessons in Leadership"**

~~May 12th~~ Brief by **Sheriff Rick Felici: "Law and Order in Island County"**

~~June 9th~~ Brief by **Captain Kewish: "Naval Health Clinic Oak Harbor, today and looking forward"**

~~July 14th~~ **Annual BBQ Event: Rocky Point Recreational Area – No Brief, just good food, friends, and fun!**

~~August: No Chapter Meeting–~~ Music by the stylings of Bobby O' Neil

~~September 8th~~ Brief by **Colonel Lawrence Moses, DAV Representative: "VA Services and Benefits"**

Brief by **Patricia Sparks ROWC President: "Retirement and Piece of Mind"**

Brief by **State Representative District 10 Greg Gilday: "Planned Legislation impacting Veterans"**

~~October 13th~~ Brief by **"TBD" Washington National Guard Structure, purpose, and function.**

~~October 22nd~~ **Member Appreciation BBQ at the VFW – Be sure and sign up**

November 10th Presentation by Barbara Bennett: "Island County Marine Resources"

Saturday - December 10th Annual Christmas Party at the Whidbey Golf Club

Key Visitor: Frank Michael MOAA Council and Chapters Affairs



MOAA ADVOCACY

If you have not signed up on MOAA's Action Center yet, please do so. Click here-> [Legislative Action Center](#) You will have to fill out your information the first time, but then to review and take action to support the initiatives MOAA is fighting for takes seconds to send a canned letter to the appropriate legislation. Even though we try to have some fun, good meals, great speakers, and a great WIMOAA family, the WICMOAA/MOAA mission is to maintain proper Pay, Benefits, and Retirement for active duty and retired uniform service members. MOAA cannot do anything for anyone without the help of the chapter members. Please log in today and take a look at what MOAA needs our help with. Thank you in advance.



MOAA-Supported Priorities

Legislative Action Center

MOAA IN ACTION: MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

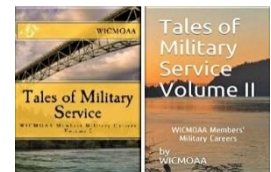
Upcoming ROWC Events

The November ROWC luncheon will be 11:00, Wednesday November 16 at Flyers Restaurant . The address is 32295 State Rt 20. No reservations required, order off the menu and pay individually.



“Tales of Military Service” – Volume III

WICMOAA is looking to create a volume III of our amazing selection of stories by our members. We all served and have stories of happy times, sad times, and funny times while serving in the military.



We really need some additional stories to create a new book. Send your stories to WIC.MOAA@gmail.com

I Bond

Within the past year the Federal Government has offered a CD style savings bond called an I Bond. The I Bond can only be purchased online at treasurydirect.gov. Its purpose is to help purchasers combat inflation by offering this security at an attractive interest rate. There is no risk to the principal. The fixed interest rate is zero, but the variable interest rate is recalculated every 6 months (May 1 and November 1) based on the effect of inflation as determined by the Consumer Price Index, CPI. The current rate is 9.62%.

Everything is easily explained at treasurydirect.gov. It is for real. Check it out. Ref: The April issue of Military Officer magazine, page 28.

NEW Member

Please welcome our newest WICMOAA member Retired

Brigadier General Michael E. Bobeck. Mike's last assignment was the Deputy Director of Force Protection and Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction. He recently moved to Oak Harbor with his wife Captain Juliann Althoff who took over as Commanding Officer of the Navy Clinic at NAS Whidbey. Mike is a Life MOAA member and has been very active in past chapters, most recently on the Board of Directors as Secretary of his last chapter. Mike is planning to attend the November Chapter meeting. Please introduce yourself and give him a warm WICMOAA Family welcome.



Events

Honoring our Veterans

Two weeks from now on November 5th is when WICMOAA members, OH HS NJROTC students and Coupeville Boy Scouts will place about 1,400 American flags on the grave of veterans buried on Whidbey Island.

Bob Blakley, 360-320-7956, will be coordinating the distribution of about 275 flags at the Bayview Cemetery. Please call Bob if you would like to help there.

Please call Dennis Bullock at 360-679-2734, if you would like to help him and Boy Scouts from Troop 4058 from Coupeville distribute about 560 flags at the Sunnyside Cemetery in Coupeville.

David Cohick, 360-675-5171 and dgcovich@comcast.net, will be coordinating the distribution of about 600 flags at the Oak Harbor cemeteries, Maple Leaf and two heritage cemeteries. The OH HS NJROTC usually helps at Maple Leaf. They really enjoy interacting with the WICMOAA members. It will take about an hour to accomplish the distribution of the 500-600 flags. Please RSVP to the coordinators.

The flags will be collected on Saturday, the 19th.

Don't forget the Veterans Day remembrance at the OH HS Friday morning, the 11th.

Thank you for helping if you can.

David Cohick

Sounding Taps

The BOD of WICMOAA has been notified of the passing of long-time member, Willida Elm.. Willida's husband of over 63, years, Lt. Cmd. Joe Lee Elm, USNR, Ret., died in 2008. On behalf of the members of WICMOAA we send our sincere condolences to Willida's family.

Sweater left at July Picnic

Call Terry or Pat F. if you know who his sweater belongs too.



PICTURES (Oct Meeting)



WICMOAA Order Form

Name(s): Date:

Chapter Meeting Meal Order for the Month of:

Number

Chicken Caesar Salad and a Roll \$18.50 ea. X = \$

Dinner plate of the month \$18.50 ea. X = \$

Bowl of Soup or Chili w/roll \$ 9.00 ea. X = \$

Include coffee or iced tea with the meal. Includes Tax, 20% Tip, and PayPal charges.

Scholarship Fund Donations \$

From the WICMOAA Store (Checks or Cash)

2022 Dues \$20.00 for Members and \$5.00 for Auxiliary Members \$

WICMOAA Shirts Gray + White = X \$25 each \$

Size(s)

WICMOAA Grey Caps X \$25 each \$

Tales of Military Service Vol 1 X \$17.50 each .. \$

Tales of Military Service Vol 2 X \$15.00 each .. \$

“Total Purchases” \$

Please print this page and include it with your check for “Total Purchases” to be mailed to

WICMOAA

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Oak Harbor, WA 98277



The Whidbey Island Chapter, MOAA

— Since 1968 —

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