



WICMOAA NEWS

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

President's comments



The weather is shifting and seems like we are in the fall season already. There are only two more WICMOAA Chapter Meetings in 2022, October 13th and November 10th. Our Christmas Party in December will be held on Saturday December 10th this year to allow those of you that work to come as well. *I hope you are marking your calendars and planning to attend all three.*

WICMOAA continues to grow a couple at a time and through Pat Fisher's recruiting efforts we believe many of the NAS Whidbey active duty are becoming MOAA members including the XO and CO of NAS Whidbey Island.

Our second part 50/50 raffle is still growing and will be **over \$300 in the kitty next month** with a one in three chance to win. Buy lots of tickets to increase your odds. Even if you do not win, it helps us fund our scholarship program.

Our Scholarship and JROTC are funded by donations from our members. We are running a little behind this year despite WICMOAA growing. I have added a donation area on our web site to make it easy for members to chip in 10 or 25 dollars for the scholarship fund or the JROTC fund. Feel free to use those buttons any time.

Upcoming ROWC Events

The October ROWC luncheon will be 11:00, Wednesday October 19 at Sweet Rice Restaurant. The address is 885 SE Pioneer Way. No reservations required, order off the menu and pay individually.

I will bring copies of the MOAA Personal Affairs Guide for those who ordered at the Sept. meeting.



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

TREASURER'S CORNER

This month I have some exciting news to share with you and some congratulations to pass along as well. As you may remember, our “Dues Year” runs from 1 October through 30 September of the following year; this is done primarily to front-load collections to ensure working capital at the beginning of the year. Well, this year, for the first year in my memory for sure, we just ticked up to 100% of 2022 dues paid before we get into the following dues year! You all deserve a huge “Thank you!” and patting yourselves on the back would be totally appropriate!



We're now moving on into the 2023 Dues Year and, as a reminder, the dues are going to remain unchanged at \$20 for Regular members (plus their spouse) or \$5 for Surviving Spouses and Auxiliary members. Please keep in mind, when it comes time to write out that check that it is either one thing or the other, not both!

When is the best time to pay dues, you ask? Well, the sailors amongst us should remember this saying: When asked “*What's the best time to reef your sails?*”, the answer is “*The first time you think of it.*”

In that spirit, we already have a selection of members who have already paid their 2023 dues, some already prepaid several years further out than that. As a reminder here at the cusp of the next year, those people include *Adamson, Bailey, Buehler, Callahan, Carnes, Cohick, Connell, Connors, Fisher, Hiestand, Koenig, Leonhardi, Malone, Michalski, Morgan, Moses, Riech, Shellenberger, and Sparks*. Thank you to all on that list and, fair warning — if additional dues payments are received from you I'll automatically extend your paid up status out as far as I can (now limited to three years).

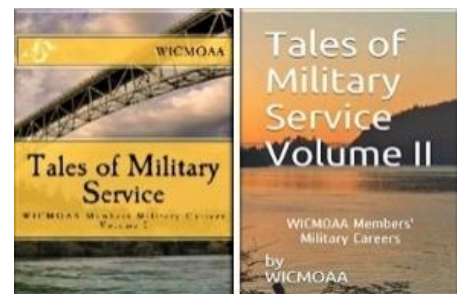
Moving on, you should be aware that for several years now we have been administering the **CDR Harvey Lasell Memorial Scholarship**, a program set up by his surviving family benefiting NJROTC members graduating Oak Harbor High School. Harvey, a long time member of WICMOAA, was a Naval Academy graduate with the Class of 1939 and, upon graduation, he and 5-6 of his classmates had been assigned to USS Yorktown (CV-5).

The following is an article that Harvey had submitted to PROCEEDINGS, the monthly magazine of the USNA Alumni Association, covering the time between the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the Battle of Midway:

“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



39/45 CLASS NEWS

"YORKTOWN joined the Hawaiian Detachment and operated out of Pearl Harbor for several months. Then, detached under secret orders, YORKTOWN proceeded via the Panama Canal to Norfolk, VA and from there to Argentia, Newfoundland- forming up with other escorts to support a convoy destined for Europe. That assignment ended, YORKTOWN returned to Norfolk and berthed at the Portsmouth shipyard to receive new anti-aircraft weapons and load aircraft and gun ammunition ready for the next assignment"

Harvey Lasell clearly recalled the morning of 7 December, 1941:

✉ "I took five days leave, beginning 3 December, for a visit to my uncle, who lived in D.C. and belonged to the Redland Hunt Club- whose members included General George Patton (the General was busy elsewhere that day). My uncle stabled two horses in Washington, D.C., a few blocks from the Lincoln Memorial Bridge. On 7 December, we trailed them thirty miles out to the hunt area in Maryland, where farmers in the area cooperated with the hunt club, providing jumps over the property lines. After the club members mounted up, the Master of the Hounds (Tom Mott) released the hounds who soon raised a fox. The four hour hunt began. The fox escaped. No one got the fox tail. The horses were reloaded for the return trip, and we headed back to D.C. about 6 pm. Enroute to the stable, we stopped at the home of a friend, an Army Colonel, whose daughter rushed to meet us exclaiming that her father had gone to the War Department Offices- the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. Needless to say, I immediately headed back to Norfolk to rejoin YORKTOWN."

"In Norfolk, we traded 50.50 mm machine guns for 20 mm air-cooled guns. We left late December for the Pacific. Enroute, we left a detachment of Marines at American Samoa. While at Pearl Harbor, we prepared for action. In company with other ships, we proceeded to Coral Sea, where we cruised with USS LEXINGTON. USS HORNET was occupied elsewhere with Doolittle and his bombers aboard. At Coral Sea, YORKTOWN was damaged, reducing her speed, and LEXINGTON was so badly damaged that she was sunk by accompanying destroyers."

"Following the Battle of Coral Sea, YORKTOWN returned to Pearl Harbor for limited necessary repairs, ordered by Admiral Nimitz, to fit her for action at Midway. While at Pearl, she received a full allowance of bombs and torpedoes and a few happy (?) battleship survivors."

(Editor's note" - In one Midway action, 41 Torpedo Bombers were launched from YORKTOWN, ENTERPRISE and HORNET - only 6 returned to ENTERPRISE and YORKTOWN, and none made it back to HORNET. YORKTOWN aircraft destroyed the Japanese carrier, SORYU, and earned three battle stars in these engagements.)

Harvey continues- "At 1620, the second day of the Battle of Midway, 5 June, 1942, YORKTOWN was hit by torpedoes on the port side- which caused her to list 25 degrees to port. The damage control officer said she was going to capsize, so the Captain ordered the ship abandoned. I left YORKTOWN by rope and swam to a destroyer- leaving all my uniforms on board!"

"The crew was picked up by escorting ships, including the destroyer, USS HAMMANN (DD412). HAMMANN was ordered alongside YORKTOWN to starboard to supply electric power and help in preparations to right YORKTOWN and prepare for towing her back to Pearl. A Japanese submarine torpedo hit HAMMANN amidship and 'broke her back'- she jackknifed and went down. When HAMMANN sank, there was an underwater explosion as her depth charges went off- killing many of the men in the water off YORKTOWN and HORNET. As a result of that damage, YORKTOWN sank. In 1998 a Dr. Ballard (who located the Titanic) discovered USS YORKTOWN, resting 18,000 feet down near Midway- her guns still elevated!"

We lost Harvey Lasell in 2016.



Harvey Lasell

In addition, a great friend of '39- **Capt. Jack Crawford '42**- was lost to us on 28 February, 2022. Jack Crawford had also been aboard USS YORKTOWN during the Battle of Midway. In our next *Shipmate* column, we will pay tribute to Jack, and further explain his enduring relationship with the Class of '39.

"What about '39!"... and What about Harvey Lasell!

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Fidel Adams
'39 Class Secretary

'40

Life Membership: 0%
Donor Participation: 0%

Corr Sec'y: **Dr. Virginia Trimble**
Widow of Dr. Joseph Weber
p: 949-824-6948; fax: 949 824 2174; e: vtrimble@uci.edu

Only '40 is 4.0!

[MOAA-Supported Legislations \(Follow Link\)](#) MOAA's 2022

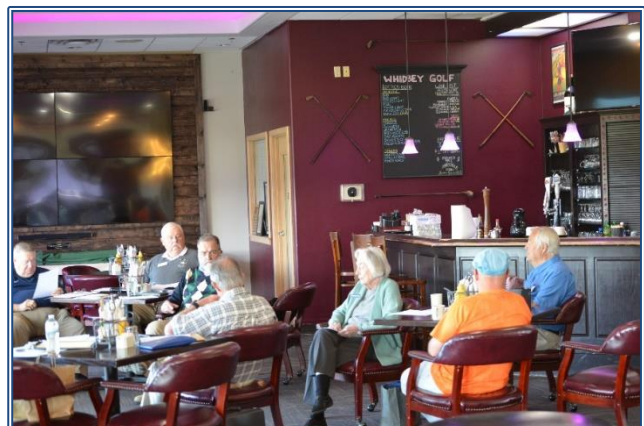
Legislative Priorities

- [Sustain pay raises and adequate BAH for the troops and COLA raises for retirees.](#)
- [Ensure the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service continue to receive pay during a government shutdown.](#)
- [Protect the value of the military health care benefit.](#)
- [Protect the Military Health System pharmacy benefit, and achieve flexibility in TRICARE pharmacy copays.](#)
- [Address barriers to accessing care within the MHS, including TRICARE coverage gaps and mental health care access challenges.](#)
- [Protect family support programs, and ensure military-provided services \(housing, PCS, child care, youth programs, financial counseling\) are readily available and meet standards for quality and costs.](#)
- [Achieve equity of benefits, protections, and administrative support for Guard/Reserve members consistent with their active-duty counterparts.](#)
- [Sustain Veterans Health Administration \(VHA\) foundational missions and services.](#)
- [Reform the presumptive process to support veterans claiming service-connected disabilities for toxic exposures.](#)
- [Achieve concurrent receipt of service-earned retirement pay and VA disability pay.](#)
- [Protect full military honors and burial at Arlington National Cemetery for those currently eligible.](#)
- [Improve survivors' benefits.](#)
- [Support a quality transition experience from active duty to veteran status for all servicemembers.](#)
- [Recognize the pandemic continues to affect the lives of our servicemembers.](#)



SEP 9TH BOARD MEETING

Our Board of Directors (BOD) meetings are held starting at 10:00 the morning before our chapter meetings. All members are welcome to attend any meeting.



WICMOAA Family

WICMOAA will be honoring Veterans again this, its 12th year, by placing the American Flag on the grave of about 1400 deceased veterans in the 5 cemeteries on Whidbey Island. As before Boy Scouts from Troop 4058 in Coupeville and Oak Harbor High School NJROTC students will be participating.

WICMOAA and family members are encouraged to help. Muster time is 0945 on November 5 for those assisting at Maple Leaf Cemetery in Oak Harbor. For those assisting at Sunnyside Cemetery in Coupeville and Bayview Cemetery in South Whidbey, muster time will be announced at a later date.

The flags will be collected on November 19th, muster at 0945. Placing the flags takes about an hour. Picking them up takes about 15 minutes.

Come and help. It's a special privilege and honor.

Thank you,

David Cohick

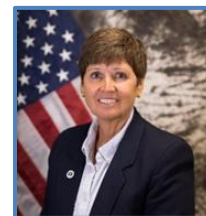
RSVP - dgcohick@comcast.net or 360-675-5171

NAS WI Open House PICTURES



Health Affairs:

Hi folks, the new COVID booster has been approved and our Public Health folks strongly recommend getting it. It is highly effective against the Omicron variant. You are eligible for this booster two months after your last booster.



Also PARDON OUR PROGRESS!

Our Pharmacy has purchased new equipment that will help to improve our services, but will require us to shut down temporarily to perform equipment installation and service checks:


- 17 OCT: Pharmacy will be fully open, but expect increased wait times (no automated processing will be available)
- 18 OCT: Pharmacy will be closed to all services, all day
- 19 OCT: Pharmacy will be closed until 1300; full services will resume at 1300 although we expect it to be busy.
If possible, planning to pick up your medications before or after these 3 days is a wise decision! Thanks in advance for understanding

WICMOAA BOD Invitation

WICMOAA Members and Family
Come have a Burger, Brat, or Dog on WICMOAA.

Cooked by the BOD

When: October 22, 2022
Where: VFW BBQ Pit (V Dome)
Time: 12:00 Noon
Cost: \$0.0, A Thank You for being a Member!



RSVP to WIC.MOAA@gmail.com
before 13OCT or call 360.544.2817

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!
Music by the stylings of Bobby O'Neil

August- No Chapter Meeting

September-6th 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.

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



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
P.O. Box 255
Oak Harbor, WA 98277



The Whidbey Island Chapter, MOAA

— Since 1968 —

WICMOAA

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Oak Harbor, WA 98277-0255