



Photo © 2010 by Ed Kane

## Colonel Babcock from 62nd Maintenance Group Provides Update

Story and Photos By: Jerry Jackson

On Sunday, January 24, 2019, the Mt. Rainier Chapter gathered at Patriots Landing for the first brunch meeting of 2019. Present were 30 adult members and guests along with 5 children who were considered "Lieutenants" by the speaker, Colonel Tony Babcock. Two familiar faces, Don Campbell and Tom Slee, tendered their dues and joined the chapter. In addition, two colleagues of member Doug Taylor, Deanna Sheets and Will Atwell, attended along with Don Campbell's daughter and son-in-law, Bruce and Deanna Harris.

Colonel Babcock is the commander, 62<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Group, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Tom Slee offered a background to a picture of the Tuskegee Airman "Red Tails" of WWII fame. Tom cherishes a personally signed copy of this picture. In addition, he endorsed the support of commemorative bricks for the Lakewood Veteran's Memorial.

Contact data is available if any members are interested.



He spoke regarding the 62<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Group's maintenance, servicing, and loading of 48 assigned C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. This in conjunction with partner, the 446<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group, support worldwide combat and humanitarian airlift and airdrop operations. While maintaining 48 aircraft which is 25% of available C-17's worldwide, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Group fulfills 50% of total operations. This includes cargo, passenger, and aerial delivery of JBLM's power projection platform as well as operating the Air Mobility Command Passenger Terminal at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Of particular interest was their support of operations in Antarctica. General Brown provided personal experience regarding that mission from his active duty days flying the C-17 at McChord AFB. The bottom line was that if nothing else, it was cold. Next time you see him, ask about operations with the back door open.

Lastly, President Jerry Jackson and First VP Steve Schenk participated jointly in affixing the 2017 Level of Excellence Award emblems to the chapter banner supporting same.



President Jerry Jackson and Vice President Steve Schenk with Guest Speaker Colonel Babcock.



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Fir crest 253-565-6409  
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**VICE PRESIDENT- Legislative Affairs**

**COL Steve Schenk, USA Ret.**  
DuPont 253-307-7208  
E-mail [steven.schenk@comcast.net](mailto:steven.schenk@comcast.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT- Chapter Affairs**

**CPT Bob Brown, USA Ret.**  
Lakewood 253-582-2726  
E-mail [jaeger66@comcast.net](mailto:jaeger66@comcast.net)

**SECRETARY**

**LCDR Bob Schwartz, USN Ret.**  
University Place 253-381-6453  
E-mail [bobschwartz.wa@gmail.com](mailto:bobschwartz.wa@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**

**Paula M. McCarty, 1Lt, USAF prior svc.**  
Puyallup 253-864-0626  
E-mail [paula\\_mccarty1@yahoo.com](mailto:paula_mccarty1@yahoo.com)

**CHAPLAIN**

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Port Orchard 360-265-6216  
E-mail [blueplate545@gmail.com](mailto:blueplate545@gmail.com)

Alice Peoples

**SERGEANT AT ARMS**

**COL Chris Guppy, USA Ret.**  
Steilacoom 253-581-2662  
E-mail [guppyc@comcast.net](mailto:guppyc@comcast.net)

**DIRECTORS**

**LTC Curtis F. Atkinson, USA Ret.**  
University Place 253-564-1721  
E-mail [curtisfatkinson@q.com](mailto:curtisfatkinson@q.com)

**COL Patrick Campion, USAR Ret.**  
Spanaway 253-847-7068  
E-mail [campionpe@yahoo.com](mailto:campionpe@yahoo.com)

**MAJ Douglas Taylor, USA**  
Steilacoom 760-577-4628  
E-mail [douglas.taylor37@gmail.com](mailto:douglas.taylor37@gmail.com)

**LTC Douglas Kotrba, USA Ret.**  
Parkland 253-531-6701  
E-mail [dougekotrba@comcast.net](mailto:dougekotrba@comcast.net)

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER  
2019 Chapter Dues**

Have your Chapter dues expired or about to expire? If you are not sure please contact our 2nd Vice President, Bob Brown. Dues paid now will cover 2019. 2019 dues are due 1 January 2019.

Please note: Chapter dues are separate from national dues. Dues are \$20 a year or \$55 for three years. For our auxiliary membership it is \$5 a year or \$12 for three years. Also there is the new electronic membership for **Officers 35 and under**. Electronic membership provides members with a Chapter newsletter via email, but no printed copy.

The Electronic membership is free to those under age 35. Just send your name, birthday and e-mail address to postal address below.

**2019 dues are due 1 January**

If you are a National Life Member, please advise the Chapter of your Life status.

Mail your dues to:

MOAA Mount Rainier Chapter  
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Thanks!

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**MOAA National "Take Action"**  
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**Your Monthly History Note**

**February 3, 1865** - A four-hour peace conference occurred between President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Vice President [Alexander Stephens](#) at Hampton Roads, Virginia. The meeting was unsuccessful as President Lincoln insisted there could be no armistice until the Confederates acknowledged Federal authority. The Confederates wanted an armistice first. Thus the [Civil War](#) continued.

**February 4, 1985** - Twenty countries in the United Nations signed a document entitled "Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment."

**February 7, 1795** - The 11th [Amendment](#) to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, limiting the powers of the Federal Judiciary over the states by prohibiting Federal lawsuits against individual states.

**February 10, 1942** - The first [Medal of Honor](#) during World War II was awarded to 2nd Lt. Alexander Nininger (posthumously) for heroism during the Battle of Bataan.

**February 13, 1635** - Boston Latin School, the first tax-payer supported (public) school in America was established in Boston, Massachusetts.

**February 17, 1865** - During the American Civil War, [Fort Sumter](#) in South Carolina was returned to the Union after nearly a year and a half under Confederate control. The fort had been the scene of the first shots of the war.

**February 21, 1972** - President [Richard Nixon](#) arrived in China for historic meetings with Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai.

**February 24, 1867** - The House of Representatives voted to [impeach President Andrew Johnson](#). The vote followed bitter opposition by the Radical Republicans in Congress toward Johnson's reconstruction policies in the South. However, the effort to remove him failed in the Senate by just one vote.

**February 27, 1950** - The 22nd [Amendment](#) to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximum of ten years in office.

**February 28, 1844** - During a demonstration of naval fire power, one of the guns aboard the USS *Princeton* exploded, killing several top U.S. government officials on the steamer ship, and narrowly missed killing President [John Tyler](#).

## US Veteran Unemployment Rate Hits All-Time Low in 2018

By [Brittany De Lea](#)

Unemployment among America's military veterans reached an all-time low in 2018, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For the year, unemployment among post-9/11 vets fell below 4 percent, to 3.8 percent, for the first time, as first reported by [the Military Times](#).

For veterans of all ages, the unemployment rate fell to [3.5 percent](#) - the lowest level since 2000. That compares with 3.7 percent in 2017 - which was the lowest annual rate since 2001.

In December, the unemployment rate for veterans ages 18 and over was [3.2 percent](#), compared with 3.8 percent from the same period one year ago.

Additionally, homelessness among veterans decreased by 5.4 percent last year, the fact-finding agency reported.

The national unemployment rate for all workers was 3.9 percent in December - a slight rise from previous readings of 3.7 percent, which was the lowest rate in about 50 years.

In 2011, during the height of the financial crisis, unemployment among veterans spiked above 12 percent. In the years since, there have been a number of initiatives launched among companies and the federal government to promote hiring former military workers.

E-commerce giant [Amazon](#), for example, is one company that actively recruits service members and their families for jobs.

In Washington, D.C., - the site of one of Amazon's new HQ2 locations - skilled former service members with security clearances tend to be in [high demand](#) among the nation's defense contractors.

Military members received a 2.6 percent pay [raise](#) in January, while veterans will see a 2.8 percent cost-of-living adjustment in their compensation this year.

Over the past 18 years, pay increases among active-duty military members rose meaningfully [faster](#) than those enjoyed by civilians. In 2000, a midlevel soldier made 10 percent less than the average American - but just 11 years later, the same soldier was making 10 percent more, without including benefits.

Military members also have access to one of the best pension plans, with benefits that begin upon the day of retirement, regardless of age. After 20 years of service, members receive a pension equal to between 40 percent and 50 percent of their last paycheck.

## Embattled VA Health Care System May Merge With Pentagon's

By Robert Levinson and Megan Howard

The Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs may be considering merging parts of their two health care programs in a move that could alter how about 19 million military personnel, retirees, dependents and veterans receive care.

In an [announcement](#) released Jan. 31, the [Defense Health Agency](#) said that an initiative known as DOD VA Health Care Staffing Services has reached the "strategy development stage." The effort is designed to merge the delivery of health care using facilities run by both agencies to serve the two populations of beneficiaries in a combined fashion, according to veterans' advocates.

"The idea in itself makes sense," said Pat Murray, Deputy Director of the National Legislative Service for Veterans of Foreign Wars. "But it's going to be a lot harder than I think they understand."

"I think you have the possibility to save," said Kathy Beasley, Director of Health Affairs for the Military Officers Association of America. "Where there might be excess capacity in one area it may be utilized by beneficiaries in the other," Beasley said.

In October, the DHA, which oversees the health care system for the 9.4 million participants in the military, sought health-care company feedback on the private industry's ability to supplement clinical operations in Pentagon and VA facilities. That request also said DHA had "partnered with the VA to determine the feasibility of a joint strategic solution for the delivery of integrated, high-quality health care services to 19 million beneficiaries."

Although the two health care systems serve populations of roughly similar numbers, they deliver care differently and serve a different clientele: The VA on average treats an older population, while DOD deals more with younger individuals and families.

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## VA Update: Key Programs, Policies Take Shape as 2019 Dawns

There are a series of ongoing initiatives throughout the VA underway as 2018 winds down. Here's a recap of some of the key issues; many of the details are courtesy of a December webinar presented by Col. Brian Anderson, USAF (Ret), director of MOAA's Career Transition and Member Services.

### **Issue: Fixes to the Forever G.I. Bill**

**Status:** Delayed, but in process.

After months of confusion, the VA [announced in November](#) that it would need an additional 12 months to correct glitches in its computer system that paid out housing stipends through the Forever G.I. Bill.

The VA said it will have the stipends sorted out by Dec. 2019.

The primary issue: Changes to benefits legislation that require the VA to pay housing stipends based on the location where the student attends most of his or her classes, not the location of the school's main campus. These were supposed to go into effect Aug. 1; when VA officials saw the problems making the change would be significant - Wilkie compared the situation to "flying a plane while building it" - they pulled the plug for current recipients and reverted to the old housing-allowance calculations.

The move came after lawmakers from both parties pressed VA officials for an estimate on when the changes would go into effect and a backlog of education claims would be cleared. VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said the department plans to ensure "each and every beneficiary will receive retroactively the exact benefits to which they are entitled under the law."

### **Issue: Expanded Benefits for Blue Water Navy Veterans**

**Status:** Derailed.

The Senate did not vote on the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act when it received the bill from the House in late 2018. Pre-holiday attempts were [blocked by senators opposed to the legislation](#).

MOAA president and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins (USAF, Ret.) joined leaders from other military and VSOs [in urging President Donald Trump](#) to help pass the bill.

The bill unanimously passed the House in June. Shortly after, Wilkie, who took lead of the VA in July, called into question the scientific evidence behind the Blue Water Navy bill, which would allow those who served aboard ships off the coast of Vietnam to claim presumptive exposure to Agent Orange. He addressed the issue [in a November interview](#).

### **Issue: Changes to Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation**

**Status:** Ongoing.

The VA's Pension and Fiduciary team is working under a new policy to reduce delays in payment to spouses who are entitled to both the Survivor Benefit Plan and the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

Delays can affect these beneficiaries because the SBP process is usually started soon after a retiree's death, but the DIC claim is not always submitted immediately. Delays also occur when the death certificate is not included with the claim.

Under the new process, if a veteran is paid 10 years of SBP premiums and the survivor is receiving SBP for less than one year, then DFAS will alert the VA to begin DIC and start the offset in the same month. An audit will be conducted to determine if the recoupment is required.

The claim process has been reduced from 300 days to about 80, according to the VA.

The VA is considering putting DIC into the [Decision Ready Claims](#) process in early 2019, which could further cut the time.

### **Issue: Implementing the Appeals Modernization Act**

**Status:** Ongoing.

The Veteran Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017 - known as the Appeals Modernization Act - mandates the VA to modernize the current claims and appeals process, include three review options for disagreements with decisions, require improved notification of VA decisions, provide earlier claim resolution, and ensure earliest effective date possible. The program should be fully implemented by February 2019.

### **Issue: Reorganizing the Veterans Health Administration**

**Status:** Ongoing.

The VA announced its plan to reorganize the Veterans Health Administration under President Donald Trump's executive order to reorganize the entire federal government in efforts to reduce bureaucracy.

The VHA will be realigned into four offices:

- The Office of Population Health will focus on health care in a particular region to promote best practices and standards.
- The Discovery, Education and Affiliates Networks (DEAN) Office combines two former offices - the Office of Academic Affiliates and the Office of Research and Development - to advance medical care and innovation.
- Engineering and Environment of Care functions will be integrated into a single office to improve coordination between related environment and safety initiatives.
- Human Resources functions will merge four headquarters-based groups into one office.

### **Issue: Redesigning the VA website**

**Status:** Complete.

The VA officially launched its updated website, [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov), on Veterans Day. The new website includes plain language and an action-oriented design as a portal for veterans to access a full suite of services. The website allows users to access health care, disability, education benefits, and VA records in a more straightforward fashion than previous designs; get a breakdown [here](#).



**WDVA Legislative Updates 1 February:** You can find more information on each of these bills by visiting [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov). This list is not all inclusive but are those of particular interest.

Bill	Status	Brief Description	Companion Bills	Original Sponsor	Latest Committee Mtg Info
SI 1000		Concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion.		People of Washington	
HI 1000	H Civil R & Judi	Concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion.		People of Washington	
HB 1138	H Civil R & Judi	Concerning the armed forces exceptions for giving notice of termination of a tenancy.	SB 5180(SRules 2)	Ryu	Feb 01 Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary at 10:00 AM (Subject to change). (2019)
HB 1141	H H Svcs & Erly	Concerning child care supports for military families.		Reeves	Jan 29 Public hearing
HB 1181	H Finance	Providing property tax relief for senior citizens and qualifying veterans.		Lekanoff	Jan 29 Public hearing
HB 1307	H Finance	Providing a sales and use tax exemption on eligible purchases made on behalf of Washington chapters of the veterans of foreign wars.		Mosbrucker	Jan 31 Public hearing)
HB 1320	H Finance	Concerning property tax exemptions for service- connected disabled veterans and senior citizens.		Wylie	Jan 29 Public hearing)
HB 1328	H Hous, Com Dev	Increasing employment opportunities for spouses of military members.	SB 5772(SSState Gov t/ Tri)	Kilduff	Feb 05 Scheduled for executive session
HB 1448	H Hous, Com Dev	Creating the veterans service officer program.		Maycumber	Feb 05 Scheduled for executive session
HB 1628	H Hous, Com Dev	Creating an account to be used for purposes of supporting community efforts to reduce development conflicts with nearby military installations.		Reeves	Feb 6 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans at 8:00 AM (Subject to change). Feb 08 Scheduled for executive session
HB 1629	H Finance	Providing property tax relief for disabled veterans.		Reeves	Jan 29 Public hearing
HB 1688	H Coll & Wkf Dev	Concerning resident student status as applied to veterans.	SB 5713(SHigher Ed & Wo)	Morgan	Feb 6 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on College & Workforce Development at 1:30 PM (Subject to change). Feb 08 Scheduled for executive session
HB 1736	H Hous, Com Dev	Concerning tax relief for veterans and service members with disabilities to purchase adaptive agricultural equipment.		Kraft	Feb 06 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans at 8:00 AM (Subject to change). (2019)
HB 1829	H Finance	Concerning veterans' assistance levies.		Chapman	
SB 5049	S State Govt/Tri	Concerning the creation of a property tax exemption for spouses of military members or first responders killed in the line of duty.		O'Ban	Feb 06 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections at 8:00 AM (Subject to change). (2019)
SB 5160	S Ways & Means	Concerning property tax exemptions for service- connected disabled veterans and senior citizens.		Dhingra	Jan 31 Public hearing
SB 5197	S Ways & Means	Concerning the Washington national guard postsecondary education grant program.	HB 1201(HHous, Co m Dev)	Hobbs	Feb 07 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 3:30 PM (Subject to change). (2019)
SB 5231	S Higher Ed & Wo	Concerning veteran survivor tuition waiver eligibility.		Bailey	Jan 31 Public hearing
SB 5428	S Higher Ed & Wo	Concerning veterans' mental health services at institutions of higher education.	HB 1716(HColl & Wkf Dev)	Wilson, L.	Jan 31 Public hearing
SB 5463	S Transportation	Concerning notice to active duty military owners of impounded vehicles.	HB 1410(HTrans)	Warnick	Feb 07 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation at 3:30 PM (Subject to change). (2019)
SB 5544	S Transportation	Increasing the types of commercial driver waivers allowed for military veterans.		Hobbs	Feb 06 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Transportation at 3:30 PM (Subject to change). (2019)
SB 5571	S Financial Inst	Creating a military benefit zone program.	HB 1386(HHous, Co m Dev)	Randall	Jan 31 Public hearing
SB 5603	S EL/K-12	Concerning enrollment and course registration access for children of military families.		Randall	Feb 08 Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K- 12 Education at 8:30 AM (Subject to change). (2019)
SB 5748	S State Govt/Tri	Creating an account to support necessary infrastructure nearby military installations.		Conway	Feb 01 Scheduled for executive session

# Embattled VA Health Care System May Merge With Pentagon's

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The move would offload some of the VA's burden onto the military health care system, according to Murray. VA has struggled in recent years to provide timely care to veterans within its internal systems. Congress overhauled a community care program in 2018 that expands opportunities for veterans to receive government-subsidized care from private providers.

In December, the VA [announced](#) the award of the first three of six contracts for its community care program, which will greatly expand the use of civilian providers. Bloomberg Government has estimated that health spending through the private health care program could reach as much as \$21 billion annually.

## Political Resistance

A merger of the two health care systems is likely to be a complex undertaking compounded by political resistance. Both veterans' service organizations and those that represent military personnel are always concerned that drastic changes to their members' health systems will have a negative impact on care.

The Trump administration and officials from both departments came under [fire](#) in 2017 for secretly considering merging parts of the two health care systems. Lawmakers said any attempt to combine the two would require congressional oversight and significant input from stakeholders.

Political infighting over community care also led to the ouster of then-VA Secretary David Shulkin in 2018. Democrats have promised to stop any further health care privatization attempts at the agency and are already gearing up for a fight over the implementation of the community care overhaul.

Not every stakeholder will resist the idea, however: The proposal could present enormous opportunities for federal contracts both in resolving the technical and logistical barriers to the merger and in the further expansion of the Tricare and community care programs into the private sector.

## New House Armed Services Chairman Pledges to Keep 'Bipartisan Tradition'

The House Armed Services Committee held its first meeting of the new 116th Congress on Jan. 24, while much of Washington remained in the [shadow of the federal shutdown](#).

The committee is responsible for funding and oversight of the Department of Defense, including personnel policies and

services to support the health and well-being of Service members and their families.

Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.), the new chairman, convened an "organizational meeting" to layout priorities and procedural rules for governing in the session. Smith thanked the former chairman - and now ranking member -- Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) for his leadership and staunch support of "one of the most bipartisan committees in Congress," having shepherded passage of a National Defense Authorization (NDAA) for the past four years.

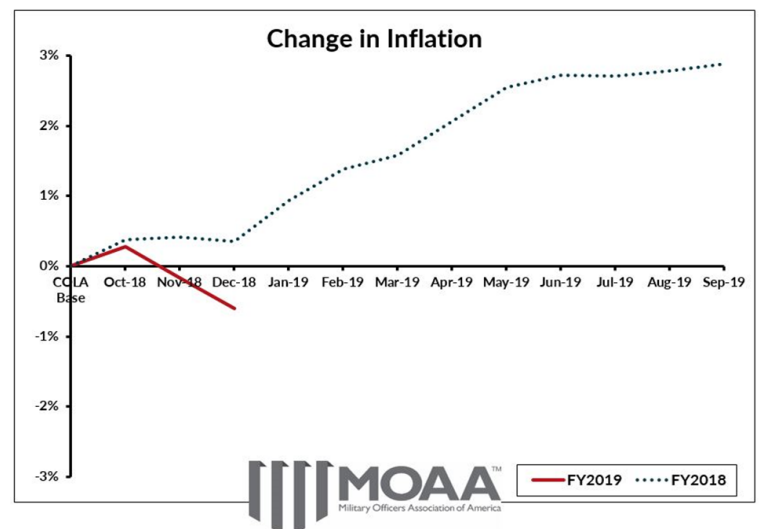
"Working issues with both sides of the aisle is the best model for this committee which has endless number of important and complicated issues it must work," said Smith.

Smith said his two priorities as committee chair are "to maintain its bipartisan tradition and to produce an NDAA."

Thornberry supported the new chairman's priorities, saying, "It doesn't matter if you are in the majority or minority you can meaningfully contribute to this committee." He also emphasized how important it was "for the committee to do everything it can to not go backwards and to make sure progress is made."

## December 2018 COLA Watch

COLA is headed down again. The December 2018 CPI is 244.786, 0.6 percent below the FY 2019 COLA baseline. The Consumer Price Index for January is scheduled to be released Feb. 13. The CPI baseline for FY 2019 is 246.352.



The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by the spending patterns for each of two population groups: all urban consumers and urban wage earners and clerical workers. The all urban consumer group represents about 93 percent of the total U.S. population.

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## Chaplain's Corner

### "February the Month of Love and Affection"



Here we are in the month of February with bits of winter pushing its frosty shoulders at us. The whole air yields to thin sunshine that rides along the back of cumulonimbus clouds. Today I sit at my big window distracting myself by watching for more flakes of what is known locally as "the greatest snow event in decades". February, the month of love and affection. God helps lovers learn how to be true, faithful, and have great fun doing it.



Our Lord also teaches us about the love of our neighbor, not just our friends or family. He includes in these neighbors our wonderful Canadians to the north of us and Mexicans to the south. We are enriched by the history and languages of both countries. As Americans, we have the privilege of being a polyglot people. We hope one day to enjoy all our neighbors, their languages, their types of worship so we can do these neighborly kind of things together. To do this we need to love each other; settle our differences. Maybe we can do this through a prominent day like St.

Valentine's Day. Can this be the celebration for God's word when He says: "Love thy neighbor as thy self"?

February can be a more romantic month even though it's been commercialized beyond imagination. Setting that aside it's also the month in which those who find it difficult to express their feelings, give gifts to the person they care for. In times of stress, sorrow, even illness many of us have been caught up in this inability to speak of love or any other tender emotions.

How similar we are when we don't speak to our Lord of our love for Him. He is there to listen, to comfort, to love and nurture, and often to chastise us as we need it. The love we have for Him is exceeded only by the love He gives to all mankind. Remember He loved us in such magnitude that He gave His only Son on our behalf to save us from the sins of the world. The greatest love came from the Lord.

We have such excellent examples of romantic love that come to mind. My parents come to mind. Separated through the war years; she under foreign captivity; he landing troops on foreign shores under fire and being injured badly three times. She was believed to be lost forever yet each month at my grandmother's mailbox came her spousal allotment check; whereby it was properly banked by grandmother against the day papa came

home at the end of WWII. At no time did my papa ever talk about my mother as a dead person yet others coaxed him to begin a new life.

Years later after they were together again mama worked at McChord as a secretary while papa having earned his principal's accreditation worked so happily every day with children and teachers who loved their jobs. He moved from elementary education to principal of the first new high school in the city. At one point they began a series of Saturday brunches for all staff- teachers, support staff, and custodians. They sought to bring disparate people together to share their affection for them and to honor each job as a worthy contribution to the work day. Recently these brunches were recalled for me by an attendee. He remarked that the reason he and his wife would never miss one of mornings was because it was such a thrill to be hosted in that particular setting. There is a certain settee that was so comfortable for them to set arms touching each other, fingers entwined, sharing almost secretive smiling asides while conversation went on around them. This was a true love match and enjoyable for staff to watch. I think that my parents were so natural in the pattern of their loving gestures they didn't even realize they were loving and caressing as it happened. It is a healthful thing to love and be loved.

This same healthfulness of loving one another is seen so often when one lives round children. The cuddling, rocking, soft singing, teaching the sounds and use of language. If there are pets, they often act as some have done in our family, Uncle Wally, who took very protective care of the babies and Grandma Rosie, a soft American shorthair tabby cat who thought babies should be kept on schedule. She loudly proclaimed her disappointment when a baby cried by blaming the infant's caretaker with yowls, swats to ankles, then grateful loud prayers when the child was being fed. A general love of babies seems to develop between some animals and what we refer to as the "two legged children".

Married love takes all forms. Myself, I have been so lucky. I have married several times. Each time it was a marriage of love where there was mutual support, a varying modicum of adoration - depending upon life's little pleasures or glitches. I was delighted to discover that I had married brilliant men, more than once. I was completely devastated when my husbands, often on a day with a clear blue sky, just died. Almost like they wanted to be sure the lord saw them coming. I will always love these mercurial, warrior types I married. I seem to be drawn to love in abundance the warrior. As a Celt I married in type, loved long and strong and those loves are still dear in my heart. How I envy you lucky people who marry and love each other hard for your whole married lives. But then God gives us what He thinks we need. It could be that just one husband would have bored me. I doubt that but it's a thought, bless them each.

Just a month before St. Valentine's Day another man's birthday was celebrated and left us these final words to ponder: "Together let's try to tame the savageness of men and rather seek the courage found in love, gentleness, and a hearty handful of friendship." Martin Luther King Jr.

*Alice Peeples*



**IF YOU HAVE A PROGRAM IDEA, PLEASE CONTACT STEVEN SCHENK 253-307-7208. YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED TO KEEP THE CHAPTER 'FUN' TO ATTEND, YET INFORMATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE.**

Note: MOAA Meetings will be held at the Patriot's Landing unless otherwise noted. Social Time starts at 1200, the Buffet at 1230 is \$17.50/person and Program starts 1300. For all reservations or information contact Jerry Jackson at [gerald.jackson1@comcast.net](mailto:gerald.jackson1@comcast.net) or 253.565.6409, Steven Schenk at [steven.schenk@comcast.net](mailto:steven.schenk@comcast.net), or Chris Guppy at [guppyc@comcast.net](mailto:guppyc@comcast.net).

Remember, when making a reservation, your word is your bond.

**23 February 2019: Saturday** Washington State Patriot's Day at Stadium High School Tacoma. Social at restaurant Rhein Haus, 649 Division Ave, Tacoma after ceremony.

**17 March 2019:** Ray Arment with Kerri Pedrick, Executive Director Washington Trafficking Prevention. Nominations for officers.

**28 April 2019:** Election of Officers – Program: Sound Military and Communities Partnership; Bill Adamson

**19 May 2019:** Installation of Officers – Program MOAA National Representative

**23 June 2019:** Lakewood Playhouse – “Producers”, social to follow.

**21 July 2019:** Rainier Baseball, **Note this is a Sunday event.**

**18 August 2019:** Annual Picnic at Heritage Hill.



**Happy Birthday Wishes to Our Treasured Friends**

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 2/1 Lonnie Lai             | 2/20 David Eck      |
| 2/1 Joseph Lewis           | 2/20 Hans Zeiger    |
| 2/2 Richard Mackey         | 2/23 Chung Sugaya   |
| 2/4 Dorothy Weichseldorfer | 2/24 Sherri Eck     |
| 2/5 Thomas O'Ban           | 2/25 Nancy Hart     |
| 2/7 Joan Brown (Wife)      | 2/26 Carolyn Cubert |
| 2/7 William Cargill        | 2/27 Kevin Ballard  |
| 2/8 Tatiano Saxe           |                     |
| 2/10 Jennifer Willis       |                     |
| 2/11 Lucretia Drangstveit  |                     |
| 2/13 Jerome Hoban          |                     |
| 2/16 Kenton Deich          |                     |
| 2/18 Otis Hollar           |                     |
| 2/18 Paul Wood             |                     |
| 2/19 Carl Bayha            |                     |
| 2/19 Joseph Quinn          |                     |



**The February sunshine steeps your boughs and tints the buds and swells the leaves within. ~ William C. Bryant**

### Northwest Patriot News

Editors Curtis Atkinson and Shirley Burrows

**The information in this newsletter, both National and Local, is Nonpartisan**

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### AROWS

The ladies of AROWS (Associated Retired Officers Wives), an auxiliary of the Mt. Rainier Chapter of MOAA, has members from every branch of the service. They meet monthly from 11:00 to 13:00 hours on the 3rd Thursday every month at Patriot's Landing. Reservations are required.

Contact Carolyn Guppy  
(253) 581-2662 for any questions.



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**Mount Rainier Chapter Has Been Selected as a 2017 Four Star Chapter**

