

## *“Talk About a Party”*

Story by Jerry Jackson and Phil Raschke, Photos by Jordan Colby and Phil Raschke

Nothing like a good old fashion Christmas Party to welcome in the Holiday Season! Over 80 party ready MOAA, MOWW and AROWS members plus guests gathered at the American Lake Conference Center to celebrate the start of the Christmas holidays and the Mt. Rainier Chapter's 63rd Birthday (yep, Chapter was born back in 1956).

Our favorite record spinner, Jay Paterson was also on hand with his "Fun Factory" to spin a night of holiday tunes and dance floor classics. Special guests included Dave Gibson, past National Commander of MOWW, Howard Lim, president of the Olympia MOAA chapter plus Dick Muri former 28th District Legislative Representative.

Besides planning the lovely table decorations and place settings, Penny Jackson and her outstanding team headed up the evening's program to include a fun round of "Heads and Tails" skillfully run by Doug and Jeanie Kotrba. The game's purpose was to raise money for the Chapter's Scholarship program. Bob Brown was the winner and he graciously donated his \$400 winnings back to the program...thank you Bob!



As the party neared the end, happy dancers and remaining guests poised for the traditional end of evening photo.

Judy and Jim Knight plus Cheryl Toland once again assembled a wonderful assortment of gift bags which were auctioned off to happy folks and added to the evening's fund raising total. The traditional dessert auction added more funds. When all was said and done, a RECORD \$3,133 was raised for the Chapter's ROTC - JROTC Scholarship Fund. A hearty "Well done" to all for their outpouring of Christmas spirit.

As you can tell, putting on an event of this

size is no easy task. Special thanks to all involved for their generous donation of time and energy. Also, to our Chapter Treasurer Paula McCarty and Bob Schwartz who did heavy duty keeping all the money straight.

And, as they say in the James Bond films, "Will Be Back" next year with another great Christmas Program. The date is already set for December 4, so put it on your calendar. Cheers, Happy 2020!



Whether you're in the Pacific Northwest or the South Pacific, "O Tannenbaum" is celebrated everywhere! In this photo, a giant Christmas Tree adorns a plaza in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Photo taken by Chapter member Phil Raschke.

## **Wreaths Across America**

Wreaths Across America's theme is to REMEMBER (our fallen U.S. Veterans), HONOR (those who serve), and TEACH (your children the value of freedom). On December 14, 2019 commencing at 9 AM Eastern Standard Time, 1.8 million wreaths were placed on Veteran's graves across the country. These were distributed nationally via nearly 600 truck loads from volunteer trucking companies and drivers.

Locally, 2265 gravesites at Washington Soldiers Home at Orting were so honored. This year Mt. Rainier Chapter members donated a 157 wreaths to the effort with another 157 matching wreaths totaling 314. On December 14, the wreaths were placed on the gravesites at Orting by many volunteers including chapter members: Doug Kotrba, Ray Dotson, Jerry Jackson, and Cheryl Toland.



Due to the success this year, increasing donations from 97 to 157 from our chapter, we expect to participate again in 2020. Please visit the Wreaths Across American website for more information. We continue to promote: Remember, Honor, and Teach while observing our own: Never Stop Serving.

**Officers and Directors  
2019-2020**

**PRESIDENT**

**CDR Gerald W. Jackson, USN Ret.**  
Fircrest 253-565-6409  
E-mail [gerald.jackson1@comcast.net](mailto:gerald.jackson1@comcast.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT- Legislative Affairs**

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

**VICE PRESIDENT- Chapter Affairs**

**LTC Carroll "RAY" Dotson, USA Ret.**  
Lakewood 253-209-8274  
E-mail [searayd@gmail.com](mailto:searayd@gmail.com)

**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**

**MAJ Gail Porter, USA Ret.**  
Port Orchard 360-265-6216  
E-mail [blueplate545@gmail.com](mailto:blueplate545@gmail.com)

**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@g.com](mailto:curtisfatkinson@g.com)

**Mrs. Cheryl Toland**

Tacoma 253-847-2852  
Email [ret07@comcast.net](mailto:ret07@comcast.net)

**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 [douglkotrba@comcast.net](mailto:douglkotrba@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, Ray Dotson. Dues paid now will cover 2020. 2020 dues are due 1 January 2020.

Please note: Chapter dues are separate from national dues. Dues are \$20 a year or \$55 for three years. For our Social / 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.

**2020 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  
P.O. Box 99212  
Lakewood, WA 98496-0212

Thanks!

**Contact Information**

Joint Base Lewis - McChord  
Passenger Terminal  
Flight Information 253-982-7259 or 7260

**USO**

Joint Base Lewis - McChord  
253-982-1100

Veterans Hospital Seattle  
1-800-827-1000, then O for  
Representative

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)  
Veterans Assistance  
American Lake VA  
253-583-1079

**MOAA National "Take Action"**  
<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>



**Your Monthly History Note**

**January 1, 1776** - During the [American Revolution](#), George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the first national flag in America.

**January 3, 1777** - During the [American Revolution](#), General George Washington defeated the British at Princeton and drove them back toward New Brunswick. During the long harsh winter, Washington's army shrank to about a thousand men as enlistments expired and deserters fled.

**January 10, 1776** - [Common Sense](#), a fifty page pamphlet by Thomas Paine, was published. It sold over 500,000 copies in America and Europe, influencing, among others, the authors of the Declaration of Independence.

**January 13, 1990** - Douglas Wilder of Virginia became the first African American governor in the U.S. as he took the oath of office in Richmond.

**January 17th Birthday** - [Benjamin Franklin](#) (1706-1790) was born in Boston, Massachusetts. Considered the Elder Statesman of the American Revolution. He signed both the Declaration of Independence and the new U.S. Constitution.

**January 20, 1945** - Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated to an unprecedented fourth term as President of the United States. He had served since 1933.

**January 20, 1981** - Ronald Reagan became president of the United States at the age of 69, the oldest president to take office. During his inauguration celebrations, he announced that 52 American hostages that had been seized in the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran, were being released after 444 days in captivity.

**January 23, 1968** - The American ship *USS Pueblo* was seized by North Koreans in the Sea of Japan amid claims the Navy ship was spying. The ship was confiscated and its crew held in captivity until December, with one fatality.

**January 26, 1994** - Romania became the first former Cold War foe to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

**January 28, 1915** - The U.S. Coast Guard was created by an Act of Congress, combining the Life Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service.

**January 29, 1916** - During [World War I](#), the first aerial bombings of Paris by German zeppelins took place.



## WDVA Legislative Updates

Welcome to the Legislative Updates! The first day of the Regular 2020 Legislative Session was January 13, 2019 and the session will last 60 days. This is not a complete listing of all bills before the Legislature. You can find more information on all of the bills by visiting [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov). Check the [WDVA Legislative Updates](#) page for updated information throughout the week.

### Bills as of 17 January 2020

Bill	Companion Bills	Title	Status	Date	Sponsor (Combined)	Latest Committee Meeting Info
HB 1201	SB 5197(S Rules 3)	National Guard ed. grants	H Approps	2/4/2019	Kilduff	
SHB 1328	SB 5772(S State Govt/Tri)	Military spouse employment	H Approps	2/7/2019	HOUS (Kilduff)	
HB 2111		Ballot return by fax & email	H State Govt & T	2/22/2019	Boehnke	Jan 21 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations at 1:30 PM (Subject to change). (2020)
HB 2185	SB 6116(S Higher Ed & Wo)	Higher Ed residency/military	H Coll & Wkf Dev	1/13/2020	Leavitt	Jan 15 Public hearing in the House Committee on College & Workforce Development at 1:30 PM. (2020)
HB 2188		Military veteran CDL waivers	H Trans	1/13/2020	Leavitt	Jan 20 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation at 3:30 PM (Subject to change). (2020)
HB 2200		Military spouse liaison	H Hous, Com Dev	1/13/2020	Klippert	Jan 17 Scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans at 10:00 AM (Subject to change). (2020)
HB 2303		Prof. licensing/military	H Hous, Com Dev	1/13/2020	Leavitt	Jan 21 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans at 10:00 AM Jan 24 Scheduled for executive session
HB 2395		Licensure/military spouses	H Hous, Com Dev	1/13/2020	Dufault	Jan 21 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Housing, Community Development & Veterans at 10:00 AM Jan 24 Scheduled for executive session
HB 2411		Suicide prevention/providers	H HC/Wellness	1/14/2020	Orwall	Jan 22 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Health Care & Wellness at 1:30 PM (Subject to change). (2020)
HB 2487	SB 6338(S State Govt/Tri)	Veterans' scoring criteria	H State Govt & T	1/15/2020	Smith	
HB 2543		In-state residency/veterans	H Coll & Wkf Dev	1/15/2020	Paul	Jan 22 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on College & Workforce Development at 1:30 PM (Subject to change). (2020)
HB 2544		Definition of veteran	H Approps	1/15/2020	Paul	
SB 5890		Disabled veteran assist./tax	S State Govt/Tri	2/11/2019	O'Ban	
SB 6183		Elections/common access card	S State Govt/Tri	1/13/2020	Hunt	Jan 22 Scheduled for executive session in the Senate Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections at 8:00 AM (Subject to change). (2020)
SB 6199		Prop. tax exemp./inflation	S Ways & Means	1/13/2020	Braun	
SB 6465		Occupational licensing	S Labor & Commer	1/17/2020	Wilson	

## Military Medical Merger Should Lead to Faster Hospital Admission, Officials Say

Military.com | By [Dorothy Mills-Gregg](#)

Patients should expect to be admitted faster and receive better access to specialized care at [Joint Base Lewis-McChord's](#) medical center as it adopts a streamlined patient admittance policy, according to an [Army](#) news release.

The Washington base hospital's patient flow, or how patients are moved from one point of care to another, is changing as management of the military services' medical facilities is transferred to the Defense Health Agency to improve efficiency.

The changes at Madigan Army Medical Center, which began 9 January, eliminate multiple avenues for admitting patients, allowing providers to call nurses directly and assigning patients to nurses with an expertise in delivering the appropriate level of care.

"The nursing staff should see smoother (patient) flow, fewer transitions of care, more lateral support, better communication and a more standardized approach at every admit and discharge," Mark Sanders, nurse methods analyst, said in the Jan. 2 release.

Placing patients in the right spot sooner will reduce the number of transfers and care transitions that can cause vital information about a patient's condition and needs to be lost, he said.

Ideally, after a review of the patient's needed care, it will take no more than 15 minutes to assign an inpatient bed. The patient should be physically in that bed within 60 minutes.

Lt. Col. Sherie Johnson, a nursing supervisor responsible for admitting, said having providers call her team directly to secure a bed keeps them from spending time tracking down the patient's condition on a chart.

The next change will be building a logistics center, which will have monitors for staff to see bed and staffing availability for the busiest units and show patient flow from entry into care through discharge. Construction is expected to begin Feb. 11.

Sanders added that streamlining the patient flow process will let staff use the full potential of the new electronic health records system, MHS Genesis, helping them predict staffing needs across the hospital.

"If the nursing staff knows we're going to give them the right patient in the right bed at the right time with the right amount of staff to support the work that's being created," Sanders said, "then they don't have to worry about [efficiency and safety]."

-- Dorothy Mills-Gregg can be reached at [dorothy.mills-gregg@military.com](mailto:dorothy.mills-gregg@military.com).

## Veterans End 2019 With Another Positive Job Report

[Leo Shane III](#)

Last year's employment figures closed on a positive note for veterans, who saw a [significant drop in jobless claims](#) in December.

The overall veterans unemployment rate fell to 2.8 percent last month, the lowest since May 2019, even as the national jobless rate remained steady at 3.5 percent, according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on Friday.

December was also the seventh month in 2019 that the unemployment rate for all veterans and for the Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans were below the national civilian rate. For younger veterans, the jobless rate fell from [4.7 percent in November](#) to 3.1 percent in December.

The statistics translate into about 265,000 veterans across America looking for work last month.

Employment experts have cautioned against focusing too closely on monthly changes in unemployment for sub-groups within the Labor Department's surveys of American workers, because small changes in sample sizes can produce significant moves in the numbers.

But the trend for veterans in 2019 was generally positive. Monthly estimates for veterans joblessness never topped 3.5 percent for the year and fell as low as 2.3 percent (in April), the smallest that figure has been since 2000.

For comparison, the monthly veterans unemployment figures for 2018 topped 4 percent four times and only fell below 3 percent once.

Last week, the White House touted the veteran job market as one of the successes of 2019, along with a host of other veteran policy achievements.

Labor officials said in the broader job market, retail trade and health care firms saw significant increases last month, while mining jobs saw significant reductions.



# Now and Always We'll be There.



1-800-247-2192 • [www.moaainsurance.com](http://www.moaainsurance.com)

## Thousands of Housing Vouchers for Veterans Went Unused Last Year, Hurting Efforts to End Homelessness

[Leo Shane III](#)

Lawmakers want to know why thousands of housing vouchers for destitute veterans are going unused each year despite almost [38,000 potential recipients](#) still living on the street.

The answer, Veterans Affairs officials testified on Tuesday, is a combination of hiring problems within the federal agency and [rising rent costs](#) in areas of the country with some of the largest homeless veterans populations.

[Outside advocates](#) warned that without solutions to those problems, the national goal of ending homelessness among veterans will remain stalled.

“Every veteran deserves safe and permanent housing,” said Kathryn Monet, CEO of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. “We’ve got to pair investments in affordable housing with housing-first initiatives in order to see true success.”

At issue are the Housing and Urban Development/Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program, launched in 2008. Over the last 11 years, in coordination with community groups, the program has provided direct housing payments to veterans in an effort to provide a stable living situation, allowing them to more effectively deal with other health and employment issues.

Outside advocates have lauded the vouchers as a key tool in driving down homeless numbers among veterans. The total number of veterans without stable housing nationwide has dropped by half over the last decade, with most of the decrease coming between 2010 and 2016.

As of last fall, more than 90,000 HUD-VASH vouchers were in use.

But Keith Harris, national director of clinical operations in the

VA Homeless Program Office, acknowledged at a House Veterans’ Affairs Committee hearing Tuesday that about 14,000 vouchers went unused last year, even though an estimated 38,000 veterans are still considered homeless.

Part of that problem is a result of paperwork issues. The department has about 650 case management positions currently vacant (about 16 percent of the federal workforce handling the vouchers). He said if the positions were filled, “HUD-VASH could house over 6,000 additional veterans.”

But Harris said the slow pace of federal hiring rules coupled with the slow pace of federal contracting rules have made filling the positions and processing more vouchers difficult.

In addition, Housing and Urban Development officials acknowledged that in some regions across the country, federal calculations for the voucher amounts have not kept pace with local housing costs.

That issue, lawmakers said, needs a faster fix from VA and HUD bureaucrats.

“All over the country, in places like California and Florida, these vouchers aren’t enough,” said Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla. “Part of the reason these vouchers aren’t being used is they aren’t helpful.”

Federal officials promised they are working on both issues, although affordable housing issues will take wider efforts from local communities and real estate firms.

VA and HUD leaders also looking at expanding eligibility criteria for voucher recipients, to give more veterans access to the financial support.

The hearing was held one day after House lawmakers overwhelmingly approved a measure to extend the homelessness vouchers to veterans with other-than-honorable discharges, who are excluded from a host of current VA health and transition benefits.

Harris said the department supports the idea, and estimates as many as 6,000 of the nearly 38,000 homeless veterans spread across the country today could have an other-than-honorable discharge.

The annual point-in-time count for federal homelessness estimates is scheduled for next week, although results from that work won’t be made public until this fall. While veterans homelessness dropped by half over the last decade, the rate among the entire U.S. homeless population decreased by only about 11 percent.

Both lawmakers and VA officials cited that statistic as evidence that their veteran-focused programs are effective. The next step, they said, is making sure they are more efficient and more fully used.

“We have a responsibility to abolish chronic homelessness for veterans, and strengthening the HUD-VASH program is an important first step,” said Rep. Mike Levin, D-Calif.

**PATRIOTS Landing**

**You've served us. Now let us serve you.**

The Pacific Northwest's only retirement community dedicated to serving former military personnel.

1600 Marshall Circle  
DuPont, WA 98327

Phone: (253) 964-4900  
Toll-Free: (877) 964-4900  
Fax: (253) 964-4901  
email: [kgetchell@patriotslanding.com](mailto:kgetchell@patriotslanding.com)

**▶ SERVING THE MILITARY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS.**

**Harborstone**  
Credit Union

No One Takes Better Care of you



# TRICARE Expands List of Drugs It Won't Cover

By Karen Ruedisueli

Thousands of TRICARE beneficiaries are losing coverage for their medication as more drugs are dropped from the list of those approved for TRICARE coverage.

The Defense Health Agency has been excluding some [prescription drugs from TRICARE coverage](#) after the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act included a provision allowing DHA to do so.

Previously, all medications were categorized in one of three tiers – Generic, Brand Name and Non-Formulary – with varying copays for beneficiaries.

Now, drugs that DHA categorizes as “Tier 4/non-covered” are excluded from coverage under TRICARE. These Tier 4 drugs cannot be obtained at pharmacies at military treatment facilities. They also aren't available through the TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery Program.

Tier 4 drugs are only available at retail pharmacies at full out-of-pocket cost to the beneficiary. Costs for Tier 4 drugs do not apply to the annual TRICARE catastrophic cap.



For the last year, the DHA has been identifying and reviewing drugs to potentially remove them from coverage. The first round of Tier 4/non-covered drugs was announced in August 2019 and included Glumetza, Vimovo, and Lexette. Excluding

these drugs had little impact on beneficiaries since very few TRICARE patients were using these prescription drugs and alternative agents were available for them.

However, nearly 19,000 beneficiaries taking Dexilant to treat gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) were impacted when that drug was dropped from TRICARE coverage effective Nov. 28, 2019.

We also recently learned that DHA is considering adding brand-name [erectile dysfunction drugs Viagra and Cialis](#) to Tier 4/non-covered status, although this decision is pending approval from the DHA director.

While MOAA understands the rationale for establishing Tier 4 to improve formulary management, we are concerned about where this process is headed. We are monitoring Tier 4 drug reviews closely to ensure DHA follows congressional intent

and moves to Tier 4 only those medications that “provide very little to no clinical effectiveness” per the FY 2018 NDAA legislative language.

MOAA is also pressing DHA to establish an appeals process for Tier 4 determinations.

Karen Ruedisueli is MOAA's Director of Government Relations, Health Affairs.

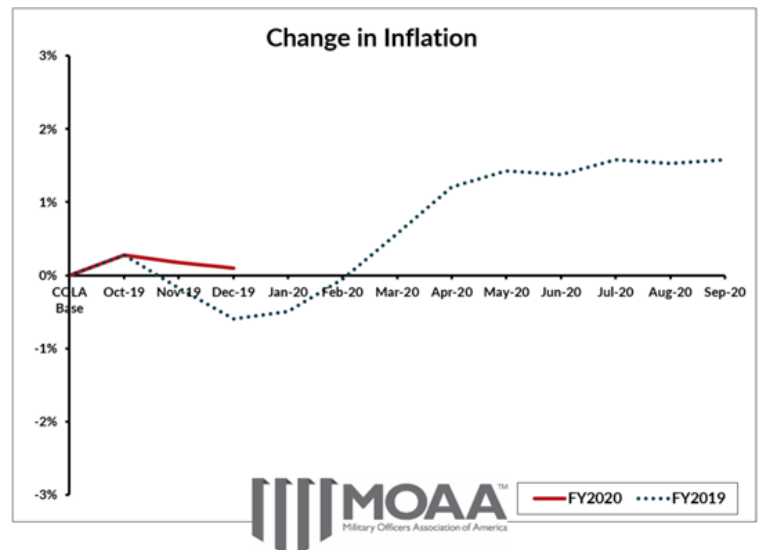
## A Bit of Doctor Humor

Q: Does an apple a day keep the doctor away?

A: Only if you aim it well enough.

## December 2019 COLA Watch

The December 2019 CPI is 250.452, 0.1 percent above the FY 2020 COLA baseline. The Consumer Price Index for January is scheduled to be released Feb. 13, 2020.



The CPI baseline for FY 2020 is 250.200. The calculation is made by comparing the average CPI from July through September of the current fiscal year to the average for the same months of the year prior. Remember, active duty pay raises are calculated differently. This information is calculated from the non-seasonally adjusted Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Calculation for monthly COLA change: (Monthly CPI-Yearly baseline CPI)/Yearly baseline CPI.

ACU proudly supports our military forces.

253.964.3113  
www.youracu.org

NCUA Your savings fully covered by at least \$100,000 and insured by the full faith and credit of the United States Government

Equal Housing Lender

acu  
AMERICA'S CREDIT UNION

# Chaplain's Corner

## "Sunshine and Relationships"

All of my friends whose moods are affected by how much sunlight they get in a day glad that we are starting to get more of it now that it is January. I am happy to report that I'm seeing "light at the end of the tunnel" now that I have only 3 1/2 more classes left in my degree program. There is still the little matter of a dissertation to write within three years following this November, but I'm enjoying the prospect of a change in the daily routine.



In my case, a change in routine is welcome. But often in my life I found a change in routine to be daunting. This is especially true as I age, my own body has been introducing changes to my routine that I find not only daunting, but downright unwelcome! But then I have experiences like many of those I enjoyed over Christmas with family and friends and realize that these unwelcome changes are a blessing. They mean that my life is still full of relationships and it is relationships that ultimately make life fulfilling and enjoyable. I look forward to the relationships that will continue with

many of you in the amount Rainier Chapter and the new ones that come my way. They remind me of a song I used to sing as a kid:

Make new friends but keep the old  
One is silver and the other gold

*Gail Porter*



## New Survey Shows Which Military Members Get Scammed the Most

By [Dorothy Mills-Gregg](#)

Bank and lender scams bilk troops and veterans out of the most money -- an estimated \$112 million since 2012 -- but job scams and identity theft are the most commonly reported, according to a new survey.

Compiled by technology consumer review website Comparitech, the report also found that a little over half of the 1 million service members, veterans and military family members who have been scammed in the last seven years were affiliated with the Army.

Researchers used media reports and data from the Better Business Bureau and the Federal Trade Commission to break down who in the military was getting scammed -- to the tune of a combined \$405 million during the survey period -- and what the most common scams were.

Last year saw the highest number of reported scams: 389,308 in total. Nearly 70% of those reports were related to phony recruiting websites directing prospective enlistees to for-profit schools instead of the military.

A \$92 million [scandal](#) involving the lending company Rome Finance, which affected 17,000 service members, contributed to 2014 becoming the most expensive scam year, and put bank and lender scams at the top of the list in terms of cost to troops and veterans.

The second most expensive scam category is impersonation, as when fraudsters pretend to be a romantic partner or an official from the Defense Department.

The DoD warned about this type of scam earlier this month, reminding Tricare beneficiaries that the military insurance branch will not ask for their birth date, Social Security number or banking information.

The most reported scams are employment and identity theft, researchers found. At 275,114 cases since 2012, employment scams target new veterans seeking a job after leaving the service. Perpetrators often ask them to buy equipment for an alleged new job that never gets reimbursed.

The number and cost of scams perpetrated since 2012 corresponded to the size of each service:

- ◆ Army: 566,738 victims, \$142,442,380 lost
- ◆ Navy: 143,718 victims, \$62,542,897 lost
- ◆ Air Force: 110,448 victims, \$44,257,654 lost
- ◆ Marine Corps: 57,204 victims, \$24,976,528 lost
- ◆ Coast Guard: 10,817 victims, \$4,772,422 lost

In cases where the data was incomplete, researchers excluded that data when creating charts breaking down the number of military members affected by status and the state where the scam occurred. Overall totals were calculated using data that listed the service with which the victim was affiliated, meaning these numbers are higher than the sum of the figures broken down by status: family member, veteran, active-duty or Guard and Reserve.

Despite some missing specifics, the report found that veterans were targeted more often than active-duty service members: 428,000 versus 153,000 victims. Veterans were had more than 55% of the total amount lost.

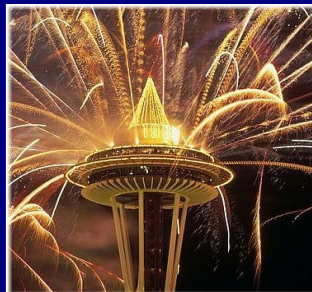
Meanwhile, when reported in the data, researchers also found spouses were four times more likely to be fleeced than a "dependent child/other," losing \$30,342,720 compared to \$6,759,379.

The DoD recommends victims of fraud or identity theft contact their respective financial institution and the FTC [online](#) or via 1-877-FTC-HELP. Tricare and Defense Health Agency fraud and abuse can be reported directly by filling out [this form](#).





**IF YOU HAVE A PROGRAM IDEA, PLEASE CONTACT RAY DOTSON, 253-209-8274. YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED TO KEEP THE CHAPTER 'FUN' TO ATTEND, YET INFORMATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE.**



**Happy Birthday Wishes to Our Treasured Friends**

- 1/4 Dennis Sapp
- 1/6 Landan O'Ban
- 1/8 Charles Brockway
- 1/10 Kristina Fortman
- 1/10 Gregory Vaught
- 1/11 Richard Mencarini
- 1/11 Monica Roberts-Brown
- 1/12 Dolores Stetson
- 1/14 Chlotilde (Coti) Dotson
- 1/17 Jon Castle
- 1/17 Bruce Dammeier
- 1/25 Ronald Dammeier
- 1/25 Nori Wendt (Wife)
- 1/26 James Manning
- 1/29 Carroll Dickson



***The people of these United States are the rightful masters of both congresses and courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert that Constitution. ~ Abraham Lincoln***

Note: MOAA Meetings will be held at the Patriot's Landing unless otherwise noted. Social Time starts at 1200, the Buffet at 1230 is \$20.00/person and Program starts 1300. For all reservations or information contact Jerry Jackson at [gerald.jackson1@comcast.net](mailto:gerald.jackson1@comcast.net) or 253.691.5766, Pat Campion at [campionpe@yahoo.com](mailto:campionpe@yahoo.com) or 253-847-7068.

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

**January 26, 2020**, Tammie Perreault, Northwest Regional Liaison Defense- State Liaison Office. *Patriot's Landing*

**February 22, 2020**, Washington State Patriotic Day. 1400-1600 at *Stadium High School, Tacoma*. Dinner social after at Tacoma restaurant.

**March 15, 2020**, Sean Dennerlein, Pierce County Human Services, Veterans Assistance Program supervisor, Patriot's Landing

**April 19, 2020**, Election of Directors, Patriot's Landing.

**May 17, 2020**. Installation of Directors. Patriot's Landing.

**June 21, 2020**, USO fundraiser.

**July 22 2020**, Reservations made for Rainier's Baseball game.

**August 23, 2020**, Picnic at Heritage Hill.



**Northwest Patriot News**

Editors Curtis Atkinson and Shirley Burrows

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

This newsletter is published monthly by the Mt. Rainier Chapter, MOAA at P.O. Box 99212, Lakewood, WA 98496-0212. Circulation 50 by mail and approximately 300 by e-mail.

Copyright @ 2020 Military Officers Association of America, all rights reserved. Part or all of this message may be transmitted for information purposes, but may not be used for any commercial purpose or in any commercial product, posted on a website, or in any non-MOAA publication (other than an MOAA affiliate or a member of the Military Coalition) without written permission of MOAA. All transmissions, postings and publications of protected material must contain this notice.

**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.



**Mount Rainier Chapter 2018 Col Marvin J. Harris Communication and Level of Excellence Five Star Awards**

