



# Northwest Patriot News

## Mini

### Mt. Rainier Chapter

December 2020

Volume 63, Number 12

## In This Issue

- President's Message
- Events Update
- Wreaths Across America
- WSPD
- From National
- Chaplain's Corner
- Surviving Spouse Liaison

## Links of Interest

[www.mountrainiermoaa.org](http://www.mountrainiermoaa.org)

[www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

<http://takeaction.moaa.org/>

[www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov)

## Contacts of Interest

USO JBLM: 253-982-1100

Veterans Hospital Seattle: 1-800-827-1000

Veterans Assistance American Lake 253-583-1079

## Contact Us

President: Jerry Jackson –  
[gerald.jackson1@comcast.net](mailto:gerald.jackson1@comcast.net)  
253-691-5766

Membership Chair: Ray Dotson –  
[searayd@gmail.com](mailto:searayd@gmail.com)

Chaplain: Gail Porter –  
[blueplate545@gmail.com](mailto:blueplate545@gmail.com)

## From the President

Hello Mt. Rainier, are you out there Rockin' and Rollin'? Me neither. I apologize for this *Mini* being later than normal. I have rewritten it three times. I don't need to dwell on what is going on out there since we are all inundated hourly with the state of the pandemic.

We have discussed in the past the average age of chapter members and what to do to provide informational chapter meetings as well as a social platform. As we sit here approaching the 2020 Holiday Season, I find myself thinking more about the personal state of chapter members' health as well as the state of the small business community that so many of us rely on. The ZOOM platform is allowing your board to continue to do business which will be reported on as required over time. It is not as effective as a social platform and it is being reported that many do not want to participate and many others do not have either the technical capacity or equipment to connect.

What to do? I personally know of two chapter members whose health is suffering at this time and need the support that is hard to provide with the constraints that we are all living with. I want to encourage all chapter members to stay connected and keep all informed as to changes in your world and how the chapter may help. Our Chaplain, Gail Porter, is available as well as our Surviving Spouse Liaison, Cheryl Toland, to provide help and direction to sources and potential solutions in times of need.

In the interim, your board continues to seek ways to fulfill the need that all of us social creatures possess. At the first opportunity expect to see an announcement for a chapter gathering. In the meantime, I want to wish all Happy Holidays. Looking forward to the day when we can gather as we have in the past. Email me with how you are doing and any suggestions for 2021.

Jerry Jackson, President



## Events Update

There is little to report that is new. Expect monthly updates as we move into 2021. We are anticipating a Holiday gathering once things open up even if it is in February.

### 2020

6 December - Christmas Gala - Cancelled

19 December - Wreaths Across America – Live/Virtual

### 2021

17 January - TBD

20 February - Washington State Patriotic Day - Virtual

21 March - TBD

25 April - Election of Officers

16 May - Installation of Officers



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## Wreaths Across America

As noted, WAA this year to be held on February 20, 2021 will be held in a modified format. There will be a presentation as in years past with a limited number in attendance. Look for updates in future newsletters. There will be an opportunity to observe online:

<https://www.facebook.com/washingtonsoldiershomecemetery/>

## WSPD

Washington State Patriotic Day for 2021 originally scheduled for February 20 has been cancelled. A substitute program to be available on either U-tube or ZOOM is being planned. Look for a future announcement.



## From National

### The Latest on the SBP-DIC Offset Elimination:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/the-latest-on-the-sbp-dic-offset-elimination/>

### MOAA's 2020-21 TRICARE Guide:

<https://www.moaa.org/micro/tricare-guide/>

### The 2020 MOAA Holiday Gift Guide:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/the-2020-moaa-holiday-gift-guide/>

### Medicare Advantage Plans and Your TRICARE for life Coverage:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/more-about-medicare-advantage-plans-and-your-tricare-for-life-coverage/>

Under “Links of Interest” note the MOAA “Take Action” link. Please review that often for legislative action important to MOAA members.

## Chaplain's Corner – Gail Porter

“It is a good thing that the heart be strengthened with grace, not with foods, which have not profited those who have been occupied with them”

While food can strengthen us in this world, only the Grace of God can strengthen us for the world to come. May the joy of this season be accompanied by the matchless Grace of God in your life.

## Surviving Spouse Liaison Corner - Cheryl Toland

Everyone experiences death differently but MOAA has found military survivors can find the aftermath especially overwhelming. Who should you call? Who will pick up the pieces? How do you arrange a burial with service honors? Will you retain military benefits? Use the *Survivor Guide* in conjunction with MOAA's *Personal Affairs Action Guide* to keep on track. Record important names and numbers, and do a final check at each stage of the process. Both of these publications will be very helpful. As a member, you can download both and have them available for planning and to make that time of adjustments go smoother.

[survivorguide\\_goweb.pdf \(grandstrandmoaa.org\)](#)

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/personal-affairs-detail/>