



Northwest Patriot News

Mini

Mt. Rainier Chapter

September 2020

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Links of Interest

www.mountrainiermoaa.org

www.moaa.org

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

www.dva.wa.gov

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From the President

The month of September brings the first day of Fall. As we go forth into another season dealing with social distancing, how do we maintain? As a chapter, we need to continue doing business. As social creatures, we need to remain connected. Your board continues to meet via the Zoom platform and we have managed to successfully enjoy our annual August Heritage Hill picnic – see the following picnic summary. I encourage all chapter members to remain connected both professionally and socially. Look for chapter messages via the newsletter, Facebook, and the website along with national offerings. MOAA is apolitical and there is a host of valuable information available that affects us all as we ease into the campaign season. Socially, your board is continuing to seek venues allowing members to gather in a non-threatening familiar family environment. See the upcoming schedule. Stay safe and check on your neighbor.

Jerry Jackson, President, Mt. Rainier Chapter

Events Update

In keeping with the President's message, we are endeavoring to stay socially connected. Building on the success of the picnic, the chapter is following with a warm-up for Oktoberfest at Bruno's European Restaurant. We all know Bruno and Krystyna who will welcome us back for a face to face business lunch in a family atmosphere commencing at noon on September 20. Look for an invitation along with a luncheon menu and program the first weekend in September. Compliance with the Governors proclamations will be in place. The business calendar remains a work in progress. The following schedule is current:

2020

20 September – Bruno's for a typical business/social meeting

18 October – Oktoberfest at Bruno's

8 November – TBD

4 December – Christmas Gala

2021

17 January – TBD

20 February – Washington State Patriotic Day

Contacts of Interest

USO JBLM: 253-982-1100

Veterans Hospital Seattle: 1-800-827-1000

Veterans Assistance American Lake 253-583-1079



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Heritage Hill – check that sign! (and the hump in the background)

And the beat goes on! The chapter finally had a social event that all could enjoy in the real world when 32 chapter members gathered for our annual picnic at Heritage Hill. See the following picture. Warthog Barbeque catered individual meals for social distancing with bring your own refreshments. A change from previous years but it worked! All had a good time with Pat Champion's direction with Ellen helping along with daughter, Rachel, a new member. Others assisting in the frivolity included: Doug Kotrba's lunch delivery service, Bob and Karen Schwartz' ping-pong, Gail Porter and Penny Jackson set-up, Bob and Judy Lawrence for a difficult trivia game, and Lonnie Lai who was instrumental in clean-up.



From National

Go to page 16 of the September *Military Officer Magazine* for an article on our dependence on offshore sources for drugs. Send a letter, see: www.moaa.org/drug-supply.

Budget Delays – Understanding the Impact:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/advocacy/budget-delays-cost-billions-and-threaten-readiness.-make-your-voice-heard/>

Understanding the FY2021 NDAA:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/advocacy/pay-raise,-military-medical-reform,-and-more-whats-at-stake-as-the-ndaa-conference-nears/?ite>

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



Surviving Spouse Liaison Corner Cheryl Toland

As members & spouses this may be helpful to know in advance.
SURVIVOR & CASUALTY ASSISTANCE

As the survivor of a service member, it doesn't mean you have lost your ties to your military community. As a family member, you qualify for beneficial services that can help you cope, steer you through the legal and financial maze of probate, and support you in rebuilding your life and finding your new normal. Your military network provides immediate and long-term assistance with everything from understanding your benefits and connecting with a grief counselor to planning your financial future. You are not alone. There are 3 web connections that would be helpful to be viewed before they are actually needed:

https://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-relationships/survivor-casualty-assistance?content_id=271828

<https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-resources/>

<https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/newsevents/newsletter/Make-the-Payment-of-Your-Final-Paycheck-Easier-for-Your-Loved-Ones/>

Make the Payment of Your Final Paycheck Easier for Your Loved Ones

Chaplain's Corner – Gail Porter

As iron sharpens iron so one man sharpens another - Proverbs 27:17

The picnic at Heritage Hill certainly served to sharpen me in several ways with the many conversations and much laughter. The social distancing made it a little “different” but the fellowship was ever so sweet. Thanks to the ones who made it all come together!

Did You Know That?

- The “average” male recruit in 1940 was 5'- 8” and weighed 144 pounds.
- It is estimated that there are only 465,000 Americans eligible for military service on an annual basis.

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