



COLUMBIA VOYAGER

<http://www.TriCitiesMOAA.org>

MOAA.TriCities@charter.net

March 2024

Fighting Crime

After missing last month because too many key players were out of town, we'll resume in March. The meeting will be on March 19, returning to Clover Island Inn.



For the speaker, we'll try a new theme, "There I was . . ." Some tales of active duty. Our chapter secretary, Bob Allen, will recall 3 criminal cases from half a century ago in Turkey and San Antonio. Bob spent his entire career as a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, OSI.

OSI was founded Aug. 1, 1948, at the suggestion of Congress to consolidate investigative activities in the U.S. Air Force. Secretary of the Air Force W. Stuart Symington created OSI and patterned it after the FBI. He appointed Special Agent Joseph Carroll, an assistant to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, as the first OSI commander and charged him with providing independent, unbiased and centrally directed investigations of criminal activity in the Air Force.

Counterintelligence was added as a major mission area, making OSI look more and more like the FBI.

In addition to the main criminal and counterintelligence functions, OSI has several specialties; one of these is Technical Services, which performs electronic and photographic surveillance, along with some "other skills." Bob was a tech agent, and his talk will be about technical support to three criminal investigations.

Dues

It's time renew memberships. Dues are \$25, unchanged since 2014, what a deal! Send your dues to

Paul Seipt
381 Clovernook St
Richland WA 99352

Make your check out to "L&C Chapter." Better yet, bring it to the March meeting.

Gudrun Stotz Hospitalized

George sent this update: Gudrun has been in Kadlec since Feb 8th and in the ICU since Feb 9th and intubated since the 9th. She was diagnosed with Lymphoma and Adenovirus and her condition was serious. She has been on dialysis and she is very weak. She has no strength in her upper body, has lost weight and muscle mass. She has a mass in her right lung. After she received her first session of chemotherapy, the mass was reduced almost 90%. Her swollen lymph nodes responded well and are normal. As stated by the Oncology team, she responded extremely well to treatment and she's

Chapter Officers

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Richard Misener

in recovery. She will receive an additional 5 more sessions of chemotherapy. The kidneys are also a concern. Monday, March 4, they are going to perform a temporary tracheostomy and take her off of intubation. Although improving she has a long recovery road ahead requiring physical therapy and chemotherapy. Prayers are appreciated.

Virginia Iten Memorial Service

Virginia's service will be at 2 p.m. on March 8 at the Kennewick Presbyterian Church, 2001 W. Kennewick Ave. She is the widow of our long-time member Bob Iten.

Hq MOAA sends . . .

Air Force Seeking Retirees to Come Back to Active Duty

The service will reopen a recall program to fill as many as 1,000 mid-career commissioned and enlisted jobs, including pilots, combat systems officers, recruiters, air traffic controllers and more. The move comes as the Air Force looks to plug critical staffing holes, facing renewed tensions in the Middle East and possibility of conflict with China. Applications must be submitted by Jan. 31, 2026, to serve on active duty for no more than 48 months.

Skip the trip: More military ID cardholders can now renew online

Most USID cardholders — including military retirees, reservists, spouses and dependents of U.S. service members — can file their requests online and receive new IDs by mail. The move expands a pilot program that began in February 2023 to allow uniformed sponsors with a common access card to request online renewals of USID cards.

The IDs are used to enter Defense Department facilities and to access benefits like health care.

For now, online renewal is limited to those who live in the United States. People whose IDs have expired and those seeking their first ID card are ineligible for online services.

To request an online renewal, the sponsor must be able to log into the ID Card Office Online as a CAC holder or have a DOD Self-Service Logon username and password. Make sure to read the instructions on how to set up a DS Logon account when creating a new profile. Sponsors will request the renewal by clicking the "Family ID Cards" tab on the ID Card Office Online landing page.

According to DOD, other requirements include:

- The USID card being renewed must be active, not expired. Children are eligible for online USID renewal if they have an active USID card.

- The sponsor and the cardholder must have email addresses listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). You can check your data in DEERS to make sure it's up to date.

- The cardholder must have a photo saved in DEERS that was taken within the last 12 years.

- The cardholder must have a current U.S. address in DEERS. Cards can't be mailed to P.O. boxes.

Once the request is processed, a new card will be created and mailed to the card recipient at the address listed in DEERS. The sponsor and the cardholder will receive an email once the card is shipped, directing the sponsor to acknowledge when they've received the card. Once the sponsor acknowledges receipt, the new USID card will be activated and the old one will be deactivated. The deactivated card must be turned in.

Clover Island Inn
Kennewick

Social hour: 6:30
Dinner: 7:00
\$30 per person

*A reservation made
is a reservation paid*

March Meeting

Tuesday, March 19

Reservations by
Thursday, March 14 to
Bob Allen
(509) 554-6992
moaa.tricities@charter.net

Menu

Sliced Prime Rib in chaffer.
Baby Red Potatoes
Steamed Vegetable Medley
Tossed salad with assorted
toppings & dressings.
Pasta Salad
Warm rolls with butter
Chef choice dessert
Coffee, Decaf, Tea or Milk