



puget sound

NEWSLETTER



USO Insider, Volunteer Newsletter

Chairman of the Board News; Thomas Jaffa

Volume 03 Issue 12

August 2009



Greetings to all of the USOPSA family reading this Newsletter. Thank you to all who make this publication possible, including Tara-Lyn Poole, our volunteer Editor. This is a wonderful way to share our successes and news items with all of the readers. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU also to our other entire volunteer & staff team members who continue to approach serving and supporting our troops with excellence! I am so proud to be a part of this FIVE Star team that is a role model for others and who demonstrate each day why we are known as "top drawer" when it comes to "connecting those who care with those who serve" and to making sure that those who visit our centers or receive other services are taken care of with the most caring and best possible service.

possible service.

This has been an incredibly busy time. Special kudos to Tracie Kakely and her volunteers as they handle day to day operations and many additional deployments this summer at the McChord Center. Also, special thanks to Sylvia Key and the SeaTac team for their handling of numerous extra groups and unusual high volume of military guests at SeaTac. Both of these Center Managers and their teams are awesome ambassadors for USO and our efforts to take care of the troops. Thanks to you all!

The Mobile Canteen has been active during this time as well - we salute those who make it possible for us to take care of folks at ship homecomings and at various events such as the Seafair Fleet Arrival. This team deserves our acknowledgement as well. As Co-Chair of Fleet Week Events during Seafair, I have heard lots of favorable comments from visiting ships, Admirals and the public about the great job USO does to take care of those who serve.

As your Board Chair, I continue to see volunteers in action at various levels and I am truly humbled and proud about all you do. We have a very talented and committed Board - whose volunteer members actively work in many areas, including: The Executive Committee, Finance & Audit Committees, Community Relations/PR, Marketing, Board & Resource Development Committees, Outreach, and of course our Golf & Gala Committees.

This years Golf Tournament was stellar and the 5 STAR Gala is shaping up to be an amazing event. Thanks to all associated with these initiatives and events. YOUR efforts are greatly appreciated!

Finally - Congratulations to our Executive Director, Don Leingang who just celebrated his one year anniversary. We are thrilled to have him as our chief staff officer and are excited about the achievements that we have accomplished with him leading our super staff and volunteer team.

THANKS to all of you --- we are continuing a super 2009 and our success in all areas would not be possible without your caring attitudes and contributions of your time. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Volunteer Appreciation Lunch on 9/18/09 at the Coast Guard's Integrated Support Command Seattle facility on Pier 36 in Seattle. In the interim - please know how much I/we value you all. *Warm regards, Tom*

USO PUGET SOUND AREA - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- **Thomas E. Jaffa, CTP** - Chairman, President & CEO, The Jaffa Co.
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- **James Mendenhall** - Treasurer, Retired
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Special Days for McChord & Sea-Tac Volunteers!

USO Volunteer Birthdays

Terri Borgren	7/2	Scott Engstrom	7/21
Joice Bueling	7/2	Elizabeth Abbott	7/22
Roy Hager	7/2	Mel Knott	7/23
Chuck Dixon	7/3	Maureen Fehrenback	7/23
Debi Rice	7/4	Cathy Wangstad	7/24
Pree Carpenter	7/6	Pete Adler	7/26
Mary Roberts	7/9	Mike Gazarek	7/26
Vic Kaufman	7/10	Art Thompson	7/30
Annette Lowen	7/10	Elida Maduzia	8/1
Jimmi Lowen	7/11	Jannel Burke	8/3
Fannie Sumoang	7/12	Brian Hayward	8/5
Josie Sappington	7/12	LeAnn Dreier	8/6
Herb Schmeling	7/13	Kathryn Natsuhara	8/7
Terry Roy	7/16	Dave Tennent	8/11
Hildegard Gruber	7/16	Tara-Lyn Poole	8/11
Mike Mellen	7/16	Rosetta Knott	8/15
Larry Schloer	7/17	Lonny Thompson	8/16
Evalena Hatcher	7/17	Nels Enquist	8/22

Maybelle Brickley	8/23
David Jackson	8/24
Bill Brengman	8/24
Mark Aldous	8/27
Don Fehlings	8/29
Jon Randolph	8/31

USO New Volunteers

Laura Bioren	Diana Miller
Tanya Neilson	Daniel Neilson
Brooke Stegmeir	Gabrele Swe



*Wishing a very Happy Birthday to all
and a big Welcome
to all of our new volunteers!
I know you will all enjoy being a
volunteer with the USO.*

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*Until everyone
comes home....*

Upcoming Events & Info!

Attention all Volunteers ~ Now is the time to show off your USO Gear! On or about August 12th, our first order of volunteer polo shirts is going to be ordered through Branded Solutions by Edgar Martinez. All shirts will have the USO logo embroidered. By ordering through the website, you will pay only for the shirts. Any additional funds for shipping, etc, will be covered by the USO.



Thanks again for all you continue to do. Shirt information has been forwarded through your Center Managers or click on the following link: www.companycasuals.com/uso-volunteers/b.jsp?id=429&parentId=6370

Upcoming McChord USO Events

August 7th Fort Lewis Surviving Spouse at American Lake on Fort Lewis. We will have a table with USO information.

August 14th

McChord Sports Day/Match-Up Picnic on McChord AFB.



September 18th

Volunteer lunch and Tour @ Coast Guard Station, Seattle. RSVP by August 28th to Sylvia or Tracye

Community Events

USOPSA Mobile Canteen Supports SEAFAIR

From Thursday, 30 July through Sunday, 2 August, the USOPSA Mobile Canteen was the highlight attraction during SEAFAIR. Although it may not have been the largest display on Pier 30, the Mobile Canteen certainly was the busiest as thousands of visitors stopped by to say hello, retrieve information, grab a bite to eat or show their thankfulness to our volunteers.

On Saturday, 1 Aug, we held a bar-be-que in honor of the 5 visiting ships. United States and Canadian Sailors as well as the Guardians from our Coast Guard ate everything Sam and her volunteers could cook. As always, the USO could never support the military or their family members if it was not for the kind generosity of our sponsors.

A special "Thank You" must be given to Nathan's Hot Dog's and Franz's Bakery for supplying 2000 hot dogs and hot dog buns for the occasion.



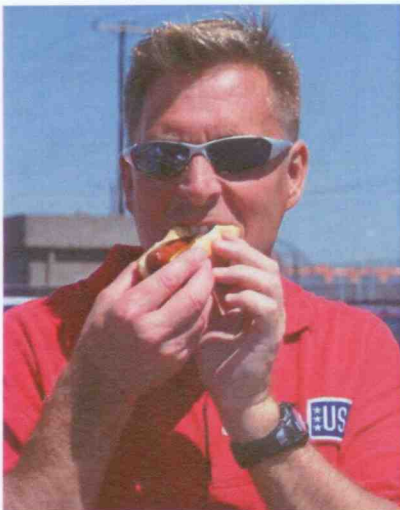
USO BACK-TO-SCHOOL

School Supply Drive
Aug 3rd - 21st

*BOXES WILL BE AT THE
McCHORD USO AND THE
CUSTOMER SERVICE MALL IN
THE SPONSORSHIP OFFICE*

Items Needed:

Backpacks	#2 Pencils
Ink Pens (blue or black)	3 ring binders
Subject dividers	Folders
Loose leaf paper (College Ruled)	Scissors
Colored Pencils	Colored fine tip markers
Glue sticks	Spiral Notebooks
Thin black sharpies	Erasers
Pencil pouches	Protractors
Graph Paper 3x5 index cards	
Calculators (inexpensive)	
12" rulers (metric & standard units)	
Highlighters (pink, yellow & green)	
Dictionary	
Thesaurus	



McChord USO News

McChord USO Center News and Updates

The renovations at the McChord USO have been successful! The new Gaming Room and Family Room are constantly being utilized. We are in the process of installing a flat screen television and more computers. We hope to have that done by the end of August.

Monthly Reminder



All McChord USO Volunteers must have their Food Handlers Permit by now. If you still do not have your Food Handlers Permit, you cannot work in the kitchen. The McChord Medical Clinic no longer offers the Food handlers Class. Once you take the Food Handlers class your local Department of Public Health, bring Tracie a copy of your Food handlers permit once you receive your card.

If you have not reviewed the USOPSA Volunteer Manual and signed the Statement of Understanding, contact Tracie for that paperwork.

For your safety and the safety of the customers that we serve, the high interest notable items are:

- that volunteers always wear gloves when handling consumables and change gloves between activities
- food items are stored, prepared, and served properly observing expiration dates, temperatures and labeling prepared foods with the date prepared (be aware of the date on the milk)
- All volunteers must wear either a hairnet or USO hat while working in the kitchen.

Volunteer Congratulations!



Congratulations to Angela Davis for her new job! We will miss you on the Thursday afternoon shift, but we are sure to see you often during deployments!

Congratulations to Herb Schmeling, McChord volunteer and former Command Sergeant Major at Fort Lewis for receiving the July 2009 Fort Lewis Volunteer of the Month. This was only one of several awards presented to Herb for his volunteer work. We are honored at the McChord USO to have him as a volunteer and supporter of the USOPSA.

Message From McChord

For the rest of 2009, my hopes are that every military member we serve comes home safely and that everyone in the USOPSA family-volunteers, board members, donors and staff-experience the satisfaction of jobs well done enriching the lives of our servicemen and women.

The SeaTac and McChord USO Centers have been significantly upgraded in the past year in their capacity to support our military members and their families. The USO Mobile Canteen has been fully integrated into the function of serving our many sailors as they deploy and for Welcome Homes.

We have been diligently working to inform the community of the functions of the USOPSA, the way we carry out our mission and our capabilities as a partner with the military, community and business groups to benefit the quality of life for our service members.

One way we have upgraded our standards is the update of our USOPSA Volunteer Manual. The new version of the USOPSA Volunteer Manual is important and helps align us with USOWHQ guidelines. Items on food handling, attire, etc are important aspects of the USOPSA Volunteer Manual.

Every USOPSA volunteer has a training orientation and must sign an USO Non-Binding Statement of Understanding and Release of Liability Form.

I know you all care deeply about our servicemen and women, as I do. Thank you for your gift of time and your talents to the USOPSA and I look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Tracie Kakely,

McChord USO Center Manager

McChord Highlights ~Annual Rodeo



The McChord USO was extremely busy these last two weeks as nearly 3,000 American and International Teams have been competing during RODEO 2009. ***What is RODEO, you may ask? It is a biannual, multinational readiness competition in core AMC capabilities.***

It is a competition that tests Airmen training, skills and education by testing tactics and techniques through demonstrations of skill and endurance. RODEO "umpires" were on hand to evaluate and document each team's performance for speed, accuracy, safety and efficiency. Competitions were not open for public observation, but commanders and distinguished visitors were invited to observe.



Teams starting arriving the week of July 13th and competitions started the week of July 20th. There were teams from Belgium, Germany, Malaysia, Israel,

Republic of Korea, Turkey and Spain, to name a few. The teams competed in events that tested their skills in air drops, air refueling, aero medical evacuation and cargo delivery operations. RODEO also focuses on ground operations, including: security forces, combat control, aerial port, and maintenance.

Other international military members observing the events included representatives from Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom and Vietnam. NATO also sent a representative to observe.

The McChord Airmen, better known as "wranglers," are the RODEO volunteer workforce. The wranglers do everything from setting up and breaking down tents at sites for competition, transporting USO food and beverages to the USO flight-line tent, to greeting visitors on Rainier Ranch for the evening events.



The McChord USO had the privilege again to host a hospitality tent on the flight-line and provide refreshments in Hangar 3. Our RODEO Teams look forward to having the USO tent open on the flight-line. The USO tent was open every day for two weeks from 7am-3pm serving breakfast, lunch, snack foods and beverages.

This was a wonderful opportunity with great responsibility for our USO volunteers. The McChord USO volunteers took this opportunity very seriously by ensuring that certain food preferences were accommodated and bonding with the international teams. Mac McDaniel, a McChord USO volunteer whipped up hummus for our international teams every other day for two weeks. With teamwork from our McChord USO volunteers, a memorable impression was made to all the RODEO Teams!

On Friday, July 24th, closing ceremonies were held with 74 awards including McChord's 62d Airlift Wing winning the coveted "Best of the Best" award. The McChord AFB combined duo active-duty and Air Force Reserve C-17 teams won many awards to



Sea-Tac USO News

"Young Marines" Landed at the SeaTac USO

A group of 8 Young Marines ranging in age from 8 – 13 years old visited the SeaTac USO Center. They donated pop, chips and playing cards for our troops. After a picture session, the Young Marines did push-ups for the military in the Center. A tour was conducted by Sylvia and they were then treated to our famous donuts and other cuisine. The Young Marines then paid a visit to the ROTC table located by Carousel 1 and had a good time conversing with those on duty. What a pleasure to have these Young Marines visit us. They promised to come back again at Christmas time! Thanks to their parents who accompanied them.



In Remembrance of Our Own

We at the USO Puget Sound Area would like to send our condolences to Dee Carlo, who recently lost her brother; Phil Bursett, whose wife recently passed and to Perry Christensen for the loss of his brother-in-law. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

We also join the Blue Bills in expressing our condolences on the passing of Bob Pitts, a long time USOPSA Volunteer. Robert (Bob) Pitts passed away July 12th at Swedish Hospital after a short illness. Bob served four years in the USAF as a crew chief and flight mechanic on a B36. After his discharge, he attended the U. of Colorado for two years and graduated from the University of South Dakota in 1959. The Boeing Company recruited Bob on campus and he worked in the aerospace division, including several years with General Dynamics in San Diego, for 35 years, before retiring from Boeing in 1994. Bob was married to Anita Harris from 1964 until her passing in 1994.

Those in the Hospital/Recovering from illness

We want to remember those who are recovering from illness or in the hospital:



Art Thompson is in the VA Hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery. Art celebrated his 85th Birthday on July 31. A party was held at the VA Hospital with several of the SeaTac volunteers attending. His room number is 171 and he is able to have visitors now.

Arlene Carter has been in and out of the hospital over the last several months.

McChord USO Highlights (Cont')

June 18th Center Manager spoke and participated in the McChord Heartlink Breakfast for our new Air Force Spouses.

June 19th The USOPSA provided USO Bears for the McChord Father/Daughter Dance. Many fathers and daughters had a wonderful "date night" together with dinner and dancing.

June 22nd Center Manager participated in the McChord Deployed Family Dinner at the McChord Chapel Support Center providing information to our spouses of deployed Airmen. The theme was "Get a Clue! The Search for the Pink Panther."

July 20th-24th-RODEO at McChord!

June 29th McChord USO volunteers Welcomed Home the sailors on the USS Stennis in Everett

July 10th McChord USO volunteers Welcomed Home the sailors on the USS Stennis in Bremerton

July 31st-Aug 2nd The USO Mobile Canteen will be at SEAFair again this year! USOPSA volunteers will be selling USO Bears, wristbands and Gummies.

Sea-Tac USO News (Cont')

St. Stephen's Church Sponsors

USO Cabaret Show

St. Stephen's Church of Spokane recently hosted an evening celebrating like our military used to at the USOs nationwide with an event which commemorated the USO cabaret shows of the 40's! Featured at the event was Ruth Dixon King, a former traveling USO performer during WWII. Ruth published her experiences in a book "Songs from the Girls Back Home" which were sold during the occasion. The tribute was a success and resulted in raising \$600 for the USO. We thank the efforts of St. Stephen's Church.



Our SEATAC Volunteers created a positive, lasting impression for these future Army officers and it is a guarantee that they all will remember their SEATAC USO experience forever.

Goodbye Northwest, Hello Baghdad!



Adrienne Sardelli, a volunteer at the SeaTac Center, will be leaving soon to work as the Center Manager of the USO at Sather Air Base at Baghdad International Airport. Her volunteer work here for the past 2 years has been appreciated and we know that she will be welcomed in her new job. Adrienne will first train at the USO Headquarters in Virginia before heading over. We wish Adrienne safe travels and THANK YOU for making a difference here.



Army ROTC Summer Camp:

The SEATAC USO Center flawlessly supported over 6000 Army ROTC Students again this year as Ft Lewis was the only Army ROTC summer camp in the nation. Arriving in waves of 1000 every 3-4 days, these Cadets were able to experience "a touch of home" before and after their training experience this summer.

Services provided at the Sea-Tac USO Center ~

With military members and their families traveling throughout a 24-hour day, the USO Sea-Tac Center provides the "comforts of home" and traveling assistance every day of the week. The Sea-Tac Center serves our military members and their families with a full nursery, children's games, books, and toys; sleeping facilities, showers, free snack bar, comprehensive travel information and assistance, and a lounge area that includes a big-screen TV, X-box games, Internet access, and library. In 2008, we remodeled the center thanks to a generous grant from **Harrah's**.

The Meaning of Flag Draped Coffin...

There are medals for heroism, bravery and distinguished service, but there are no medals for loneliness -- that's why USO is here! The meaning of flag draped coffin... All Americans should be given this lesson. Those who think that America is an arrogant nation should really reconsider that thought. Do you know that at military funerals, the 21-gun salute stands for the Sum of the numbers in the year 1776?

Have you ever noticed the honor guard pays attention to correctly folding The United States of America Flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something every day!

The 1st fold is a symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks, who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace.

The 4th fold is the weaker nature, for as American's trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as time of war for His divine Guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur , 'Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.'

The 6th fold is where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America , and The Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is the Armed Forces that protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they are found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The 11th fold is the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their nation's motto, 'In God We Trust.'

After the flag is completely folded and tucked, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today. There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why.

Share this with the children you love and all others who love what is referred to, the symbol of ' Liberty and Freedom.'

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.



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About the USO Puget Sound Area:

Nationally recognized, the USO Puget Sound Area has served more than 3 million of America's men and women in uniform and their families for over 40 years. The mission of USO Puget Sound Area is to provide a "home away from home," family support, and recreation opportunities to the members and families of our Armed Forces. We connect individuals, civic groups and businesses with the region's military community.

About the USO:

The USO (United Service Organizations) provides morale, welfare and recreational services to U.S. military personnel and their families. The USO is a nonprofit, charitable organization, relying on the generosity of the American people to support its programs and services. The USO is supported by Worldwide Strategic Partners AT&T Inc., BAE Systems, Blackwater Worldwide, Booz Allen Hamilton, Clear Channel Communications, The Coca-Cola Company, Gallery Furniture, S & K Sales Co. and TriWest Healthcare Alliance. Other corporate donors, including the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign (CFC-11381), have joined thousands of individual donors to support the USO.

For more information, please visit our Web site at www.uso.org.



*Always There,
Always Home to
America's Military*



Cockpit of the Executive Director; Don Leingang



It is August already! Where does the time go? I watch our USOPSA Volunteers and I think it is spent making hotdogs and tuna sandwiches at frantic paces! Since we last put out this newsletter on June 1st, both McChord and SeaTac have been extremely busy. McChord and her volunteers have said goodbye to many of our area's Military members each week and have done so at a staggering pace. Add in the additional requirements of supporting Air Force aircrews from all over the United States and the World during RODEO 2009, and you all can be very proud for what you all continue to accomplish on a daily basis.

SeaTac continues to have it usually daily loading of transient military passengers and family members, with the "minor" fluctuation of 1000 Army ROTC graduates every four days. Add 250 passengers leaving weekly on the flight to Japan and suddenly it is no wonder why there is scarcely a hot dog or chocolate chip cookie left at either center. Sylvia, Tracye and Sam are doing wonderful things both in front and behind the scenes to support our mission daily. These three ladies and our Army of Volunteers certainly are the main reason why the USO of the Puget Sound Area continues to perform at the 5 Star level.

Our USO Mobile Canteen has been very visible the last two months as well and I would be remiss if I did not thank all the Volunteers who continued to carry out our mission through the use of our Mobile. With the Canteen as a backdrop, we have served 1000's at Naval Base Bremerton in support of the return of the USS JOHN C. STENNIS CVN-74), at Pier 30 in support of the Canadian and U.S. Sailors visiting Seattle for SeaFair and on the McChord flight line in support of RODEO 2009. A special thanks to Loyd Case for getting the Mobile to and from each event safely – we certainly could not have done any of these events without you and your expert driving skills!

As I mentioned last newsletter, I hope all of you have a chance to order one of the USO polo shirts. I plan to place the first order by Wednesday 12 Aug so this letter will be one of the last reminders to all. I hope many of you can take advantage of this. Don't miss out – and show your USO spirit!

As I look ahead to September and October, I see them being exciting times. On September 3rd, the Tacoma Rainiers are going to recognize our organization with "USO Day at Cheney Stadium". See your Center Manager if you would like to attend. We will have a booth should anyone like to pass out USO information. Additionally, we will continue to say "goodbye" to thousands of military passing through our McChord Center. Fortunately, we will also have the opportunity to welcome back the 81st Brigade, our Washington National Guard who have been serving in Iraq for the past year.

On October 9th, we will celebrate our annual USOPSA "5 Star Gala and Auction". This year's event will take place at the Museum of Flight and promises to be a memorable event. Again, if any of you have ideas for donations or auction items, please contact Sam or me. Many of you volunteered your time last year (again) and I thank you for that. This is our last major fund raiser for the year and will go a long way to raise the capital necessary for every USOPSA program. Having just gone over one year as your Executive Director, I can honestly say that I am proud to serve with each and every one of our 24 dedicated Board Members, 275 caring Volunteers and three exceptional staff members. USOPSA would not exist without the collective efforts of each one of you. **Cheers, Your Executive Director... Don**

USO PUGET SOUND AREA – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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