

# The USO Insider

15 September 2006

## Message from the President

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### Message from the President

I am writing this after one week at my desk at SeaTac. What a joy and inspiration to start meeting our volunteers serving the troops and their families at the USO Center here. We are a family of couples and friends, new recruits and those with a long record of commitment to the USO mission plus a dedicated staff that works hard to assure our success.

So far I have only visited the USO Center at McChord once to meet Tracye, our new Center Manager, and to get a quick tour. Our annual September Board meeting at McChord AFB is scheduled for September 12th. This will give some new Directors an introduction to the facility and allow us to show off the Mobile Canteen. We are fortunate to have a supportive Board focused on helping us do our job effectively and providing the resources we need to carry out our Charter.

So who is this guy, Tom Hinman?? He is a Navy brat who both grew up and served largely in the Pacific. I am a Vietnam Era vet with two reconnaissance squadron assignments first flying EC-121 Super Connies from Japan and DaNang and a later flying EP-3 Orions from Guam and the Indian Ocean. I have had a carrier tour in the Pacific and staff assignments in the Pentagon. Before coming to the USO I served in several non-profit management and community development positions. My current heroes are those with boots on the ground going in harm's way daily.

As the new guy on the block, I encourage our seasoned corps of volunteers to send along any comments or ideas on how we can keep the USO Puget Sound Area among the finest in the nation and provide the best service to our troops and their families.

With greatest respect for your dedication to the USO,

Tom Hinman  
 CDR/USN/Ret  
[tom@usopsa.org](mailto:tom@usopsa.org)

PS - I look forward to meeting many of you at our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on September 26 in Ft Lewis.



## USO Volunteer Luncheon Reminder

**The USO Volunteer Luncheon** is right around the corner, on Tuesday, 26 September. This year the luncheon is hosted by the Army and will be held at Ft. Lewis. The Luncheon begins at 10am and lasts thru 2pm. The program will offer tours of Ft Lewis, a catered lunch, a military briefing, and ceremonious recognition of your service to the USO.

Directions to the church will be in your blue binders at the USO Center if you are riding on the buses to Ft. Lewis. Please be at the church by 8:30 am, the buses will be leaving at 9 am.

Those driving themselves need to be at the Cascade Community Club, on Ft Lewis, by 9:30 am, with the events starting promptly at 10 am.

***If you wish to attend the luncheon, please call Sylvia ASAP at 206-246-1908 ext 2.***



***Congratulations to all of our  
Volunteers!  
Thanks for all that you do!***

***"They stand on the wall for our freedom, we must honor them."***

## McChord USO Center News

We have been very blessed with the amount of sponsors we have had lately. AA Meats donated deli meat for one of our deployments. Lakewood United took up a collection and did some "grocery shopping" for us. Albertsons has donated their fabulous chocolate chip cookies for our deployments. Harry Schreiber has donated plastic gloves, napkins, mayonnaise, hot/cold cups, and books. Village Missions has donated an assortment of food. VFW #318 has continued to donate every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Gary Wilson is our new water sponsor. Herb Schmeling continues to be a valued donor and supporter.

**Our New Volunteers:** Don Booth; Mary Neilson; Robert and Sinobu Prow; Floyd "Mac" McDaniel; Dale Long; Tiffany Orr; Warren Robbins; Anna Shatlin; and Mary Seher.

**Volunteers Moving On:** Dave Cason, Rachel Giunta, and Paul Conrad.

McChord USO continues to have an abundance of soldiers deploying through its USO. We are averaging about 800 or more people a week, depending on how many deployments we have.

Tracye Kakely

McChord USO Manager

## September Birthdays

Wendy Stansbury	Sept. 3
Marcia McCraw	Sept. 4
Carol Michaels	Sept. 6
Jim Tryer	Sept. 9
Mary Lou Call	Sept. 10
Anita Shore	Sept. 10
Robert Junk	Sept. 14
Doris Carruthers	Sept. 16
Robert Prow	Sept. 17
Perry Christensen	Sept. 22
Pamela O'Brien	Sept. 25
Mark Stenson	Sept. 27

## October Birthdays



Diana Livingston	Oct. 1
Richard Booth	Oct. 5
Diana Davis	Oct. 5
Edith Maffeo	Oct. 6
Betty Ryan	Oct. 9
Ingrid Dunton	Oct. 12
Karen Madison	Oct. 12
David Lester	Oct. 13
Todd Stansbury	Oct. 13
Anne Erickson	Oct. 15
Janet Haskin	Oct. 15
Anton Riksem	Oct. 20
Helene Pedrazzini	Oct. 26
Katherine Weitz	Oct. 26
Diana Stewart	Oct. 26
Franklin Green	Oct. 27

## Welcome New Volunteers At SeaTac USO Center

Salley Anderson	Richard Roschke
Lloyd Case	Robert &
Perry Christensen	Shinobu Prow
Polly Johnson	Anita & Alan Shore
Debra Newman	David Tennent
Carol Nyseth	Nicole Weinbauer
	Kelly West



Thank you to Doris Spence and Art Thompson for taking over for me so I could enjoy a much needed vacation. You did a wonderful job and I very much appreciate what you did for me.

Thank you to Doris Carruthers for her many trips to Top Foods for pastry items this summer. She not only did her pick ups but she took over for Rosie Knott who was on leave for three months. Doris and Mike Ballard also take care of picking up and delivering our laundry once a week. Thank you so much.

## ROTC – Bravo Zulu!

I am proud to say that ROTC went off without a hitch this year. We served 4,337 cadets. I cannot thank the volunteers enough for all the extra work they did in making this happen. The sack lunches were a big hit. Thanks to the volunteers on the 4:00 am to 8:00 am shifts for their help in preparing sandwiches and coffee so we were ready to start at 8:30.

To Leoyce Broadbent, Kathryn Reagh, Doris Spence, Frank and Solveig Steenson, Art Thompson, Liz Tubbs, Kathy Weitz, who were always ready to help at a moments notice. To all the other volunteers who helped - a **BIG** thank you.

Sylvia Key  
SeaTac Center Manager

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 26 September – **USO Volunteer Luncheon**, Ft. Lewis

Saturday, 28 October – **USO Gala**, Fairmont Olympic Hotel

## USO Puget Sound Area Names Tom Hinman New President

Seattle, WA (September 1, 2006) – The USO Puget Sound Area today announced the hiring of Tom Hinman as its President effective immediately. Hinman is a retired Navy Commander and non-profit executive who is also serving as President of the Military Officers Association of America's Seattle Chapter.

"Tom has a rare blend of talent combining leadership in both business and community service organizations, a distinguished military career and contemporary knowledge of veterans' affairs in our region," said Marcia McCraw, Board Chair of the USO Puget Sound Area. "He has a track record of successful partnerships that will be invaluable to the USO as we grow our programs to further assist service members around the Puget Sound."

Commander Hinman is a retired Naval Flight Officer with operational experience throughout the Pacific and program management background gained on Pentagon staff assignments. After a stint in electronics marketing, Hinman spent 12 years in the San Francisco Bay Area developing military base reuse plans, regional economic strategies and business policy. He served as Vice President of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce before relocating to Redmond in 2004.

"I am extremely proud to be a part of such a respected organization; one that has focused on supporting our troops and their families for so many years," Hinman said. "The USO was there for me when I needed them and it is a pleasure to help carry on their tradition of service to the military."

The SeaTac USO Center was established at SeaTac International Airport in July, 1966 and the USO at McChord Air Force Base opened in November, 1984. For 40 years, USO Puget Sound Area's dedicated volunteers, working around the clock, have assisted over three million members of America's traveling military and their families. Administrative Offices of the USO are located adjacent to the SeaTac USO Center.

*The USO's mission is to enhance the quality of life of the U.S. Armed forces personnel and their families worldwide and to create a cooperative relationship between U.S. military communities and those involved with or supporting civilian communities.*

## COMMENTS FROM OUR CLIENTS

Thank you for all that you've done. We aren't the most popular people in the nation, but you stand by us. By the way, the sandwiches were great!

FC Hernandez, USMC

Heiwa (Peace in Japanese)

That's the atmosphere here at the USO! I came here for the first time almost two years ago, so I knew there was somewhere I could go anytime thereafter where I would be safe and welcomed. I am a young Airman and going on leave (well-deserved, by the way!) and am so grateful to all of the volunteers/staff. I will always come back.

Heiwa & Love,

A1C Marlene Bailey  
Misawa AB, Japan

It's always refreshing and secure to see those three letters whenever I travel! Many, many thanks!

Derrick Hodges, USNR  
NAS Carswell, Ft Worth

Thanks for everything. My overnight layover felt like I was already home. I deeply appreciate everything done by all of the employees here. Thanks, again.

AMAN Gonzales (HSL 47)

