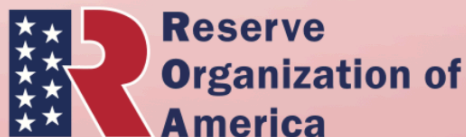


NORTHWEST



Reporter

President's Message by LTC Peter Halver

GREETINGS TO ALL! We've been busy...



The Walla Walla Chapter (NW-021) hosted our **95th annual meeting of Department of Northwest** 26-28 March 2025. **A big thanks to MAJ Lonnie Mettler and CSM Terry Atchison** for their key and invaluable help coordinating our stay at the the Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, arranging for sponsors, and inviting our guest speaker.

We started Wednesday evening with an informal and fun Hawaiian theme get-together in my suite at the hotel. On Thursday we conducted the business of the Department of Northwest. We elected new officers and reviewed and approved our Constitution & Bylaws plus discussed the ROA International programs and the plans for addressing the 119th Congress. Another topic of discussion was the white paper of Voting Eligibility and Process, presented by **CSM Atchison**. Please find the minutes of our meeting and additional handouts at the end of this newsletter!

At our luncheon on Thursday we had the privilege of having **Sergeant First Class Mark Mebes** share his insights into the distinguished history of the Walla Walla High School (WaHi) Army JROTC Program. The program began in 1898 and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2018, a decade before the ROA was formed. The program stands as one of the oldest JROTC programs in the United States. In 1918 WaHi was accredited as one of six inaugural JROTC programs for high schools in the nation.

During our live auction Thursday night, we raised **\$1,008.00** for the USO and the balance of the proceeds was placed into our general fund. **Thanks to all** for their auction donations! Generously, many also gave to support printing costs for this award-winning newsletter, almost \$500!

We closed our conference Friday morning with our 1st Council Meeting. Our 2nd Council Meeting will be held via Zoom on Friday August 15, 2025 starting at 1000 hours (10 AM) and our 3rd Council Meeting will be held at Wandering Creek in Bothell on December 6th starting at 1000 hours.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer - and a special thanks to all those that took/are taking the time to deliver ROA medals and certificates to those deserving cadets at all of the ROTC and JROTC programs that we support!

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING **ALL** UNIFORMED SERVICES RANKS

Army - Marine Corps - Navy - Air Force - Space Force - Coast Guard - Public Health Service - National Guard - NOAA

Department of Northwest: proudly serving ROA members in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming!

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EXCOM REPORT

Lt Col Judy Ford

We are now confirmed that upcoming **2025 Elections and Resolutions** will be done by **electronic ballot!** This is **your opportunity** to participate in the organization!

- o Everyone with a current email on file with ROA will receive notification of when the ballot is ready.
- o **Members who do not have a current email** with ROA National can request a ballot from **Diane Markham**, ROA headquarters, at DMarkham@roa.org or **(202) 646-7728**. That ballot must arrive at the ROA office *before 30 September 2025* to be counted.
- o The final process will be published in the *Reserve Voice Magazine*, released in the May-June timeframe, from ROA National.
- o **Voting for resolutions and elected officials will take place 1-30 September 2025.**
- o Townhalls will be held via Zoom to discuss the Resolutions and meet the candidates running for office. Each Service Section will have a townhall Section meeting (time to be announced later):
 - Army Section meets on 6 August 2025
 - Naval Section meets 7 August 2025
 - Air Force Section meets 8 August 2025

The Townhall to discuss Resolutions will be 13 August 2025.

By 3 June 2025 Department Presidents are expected to receive both the Resolutions and the Constitution & Bylaw changes (to be presented either by ballot *or* at the Annual Meeting). Information may be disseminated by Presidents to their respective chapters. Please review and bring this information for discussion to our 15 August Zoom Council Meeting (10:00 AM - link will follow closer to the date).

The ROA Annual Meeting will October 17-19, 2025, in Washington DC at the ROA Minute Man Memorial Building.

National ROA is also consolidating its four existing 501(c)(3) entities into a single entity under the **STARS Foundation**, with guidance from a Washington DC attorney. This will streamline the organization's fundraising efforts and consolidate bank accounts. For more information on the STARS Foundation: <https://roastars.org/>.



The 95th Department of Northwest Meeting

Walla Walla WA | March 26 - 28, 2025



Bring on the luau! LTC Sarah (L) and SSG Chad Bro., dressed in tropical duds for the Hawaiian theme reception Wednesday night. SSG Bro, born in Hawaii, won the costume contest hands down!

Luncheon Speaker!



SFC Mark Mebes, our guest luncheon speaker on Thursday, shared the history of the Walla Walla High School JROTC Program. **LTC Peter Halver** presented a certificate of appreciation and coin.



L - Department members enjoying lunch together on Thursday.

R - LTC Halver presents CSM Terry Atchison with a certificate of appreciation for his efforts to make the conference a reality in Walla Walla!



Live Auction Thursday Night!
Left - LTC Halver showcases a unique cutting board for an auction bid. **Center -** Layout of donations from generous members! **Right - SSG Bro** admires the beautiful homemade quilt donated by the **Atchison** family!

New Officers Sworn In!

Left to Right:

CAPT Rick Thomas, Treasurer and Historian
CDR Ed Brock, President-elect and Legislative
LTC Dave Foley, JAG
Lt Col Judy Ford, Secretary
CPT Deborah Halver-Hanson (not pictured), Chaplain

THANKS for stepping up, all!



Chapter Updates - Across the Department

VIRTUAL (NW-01)

LTC Milton D. Houghton | LTCMilt@gmail.com

No report available at this time.

BREMERTON WA (NW-02)

CPT Deborah K. Halver-Hanson | heloaviatrix23@gmail.com

No report available at this time.

SEATTLE WA (NW-015)

CAPT Rickey D. Thomas | (360) 581-9383 | randstthomascomcast.net

Although the Seattle WA Chapter is not actively holding member meetings, luncheons, or dinners, we are definitely alive, well, and kicking! The EXCOM (along with a few members) meet monthly to discuss pertinent issues for our chapter. If you wish to join us, we welcome you on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am at Scotts Bar and Grill, 8115 NE 205th St., Edmonds WA. Please contact me with your email address and I'll put your name on the attendance list.

We very much want to revive membership gatherings during a lunch timeframe, so folks don't have to worry about driving home in the dark of night. As of this writing, alas, I still have received no responses to a preference survey regarding luncheon meetings, sent out by email to our members. We do have a potential location to meet with a catering service that would provide luncheons, if we could get enough folks together to make it work. Please join us if you can! Bring a fellow veteran who could be our next member. If you have any concerns or issues, I look forward to hearing from you. Thank You!

SPOKANE WA (NW-018)

COL Larry J. Neil | lsneil1964@gmail.com

CDR Ed Brock (our newest member, transferred over from the Seattle chapter) and I identified a subset of existing members we felt were located close enough to Spokane to set up an initial meeting, to review the Spokane Chapter status. Forty members were in this group. We split up the contacts between us. We will meet May 31 to discuss our results and decide the next course of action. Please stand by with us!

124th ARCOM (NW-030)

LTC Peter L. Halver | (209) 676-0583 | halver21@aol.com

No report available at this time.

The **next edition of THE REPORTER** will be **November 2025!**

Be sure to send your photos and updates to the editor LTC Sarah L. Bro at roa21pr@gmail.com!

Keep us informed of your chapter's status and activities!

Chapter Updates - Across the Department

WALLA WALLA WA (NW-021)

LTC Sarah L. Bro | (360) 951-7680 | roa21pr@gmail.com

Our monthly speaker programs continue to be a great addition to our member meetings!



In February **Ms. Kathy Merritt Harries (L)** provided displays honoring veterans from key 19th and 20th century wars and conflicts. Newspapers and captivating photo layouts featured a poignant celebration of courage and sacrifice, honoring our veterans and their remarkable contributions from the American Civil War to World War II. Along with Kathy's presentations, member **CSM Terry Atchison** provided insights into the history of the **Sweetheart Pillowcase from World War II (R)**. His beautiful display aimed to honor and remember the mothers, wives, girlfriends, and other significant figures for our service members.



In March **Ms. Lonna Leno (L)**, administrator for the Walla Walla Veterans Home here in Walla Walla, presented an update on the facility, sharing some insight into the veterans living there. She highlighted the latest developments and shared a glimpse into upcoming events and innovative programs to enhance the lives of our valued veterans.. **Mr. Marcus S. King**, PGA, CCM, CCE, was our impromptu speaker at our April luncheon. Recently appointed as the General Manager and Chief Operating Officer of the Walla Walla Country Club, Mr. King shared his deep passion for coaching golf and his involvement with the PGA HOPE program (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere).



In May **Dr. Pam Murray (above, R)**, our newest NW-021 chapter member, presented a talk entitled "History In My Hands," describing a fascinating experience on an archeological dig uncovering the remains of "Old Bones" (born Waughaski), a Cayuse-born Indian and the last of the Palouse Indian tribal chiefs. Artifacts from this enlightening dig also connected explorers Lewis & Clark with Walla Walla county.

We are ramping up to kick off our annual fundraiser via **Wreaths Across America**. In conjunction with our friends, the Twin W Composite Squadron (Walla Walla) - Civil Air Patrol, we plan to canvas our area with weekend displays and discussions at local markets and venues, encouraging people to sponsor wreaths. On **December 13, 2025**, our community at large will help us lay the wreaths over three cemeteries: Mountain View Cemetery, Fort Walla Walla Post Cemetery, and Blue Mountain Memorial Gardens. Each site will have a presentation prior to the laying of the wreaths. As an approved sponsoring group for Wreaths Across America, we also earn money for our efforts, which goes into our chapter operational funds.

We are now **community partners with our local VFW Post #992**, who have worked the last ten months to reboot a nearly defunct post into an active organization for all veterans. We are investing time to make ourselves more visible as an organization in our community. As local events and markets kick off for the summer, we plan to be there with our display table and brochures. Give us a shout when you get to Walla Walla - **we want to welcome you!**

Membership Report

Lt Col Judy Ford

Bring In More Members!

After a deep “scrub” of our membership roster, seventy-four (74) members that were listed as **At-Large** have now been reassigned to existing chapters, based on address. Since we have a Virtual Chapter, we no longer have At-Large members!

If any member wants to change to a different chapter, they can notify Tracey Ware at tware@ROA.org or notify the membership chairperson at LTCJudyFord@gmail.com.



2025 ROA Children's Writing Contest!

Enter the ROA Children's Writing Contest! Deadline for submission: July 4, 2025



As part of a Reserve or National Guard family, celebrate and share your one-of-a-kind experience as a proud Reserve or National Guard child!

Your story should showcase either:

- your personal story as a patriotic child in a military family, or
- share your story based on your association with a family member who is currently serving, or has served, in the military.

Contest Eligibility

- Must be a child or grandchild of either an ROA member OR an individual eligible to join ROA and currently serving or having served in the military, including Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and NOAA.
- Participants or contestants must be **between 10-14 years old** (on date of submission). Prizes are divided into two age categories: Category 1 = 10 - 11 and Category 2 = 12 - 14)
- By participating in the contest, entrants agree to public display of their entry materials and the terms and conditions outlined below.

Follow these submission requirements here: <https://www.roa.org/page/ChildWriting?&hhsearchterms=%22childrens+and+writing+and+contest%22>

The first-place awardee will receive \$500. The second-place awardee will receive \$300. The third-place awardee will receive \$200.



Please note: if you have a blue military ID card you must update to the new **white** card **NLT 2027**. Just go to the ID Card Office Online at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>



TREASURER’S REPORT

Department Northwest - 2025 Interim (Jan - May)

This report is a short synopsis of the Department of Northwest current treasury, covering the first five months of year 2025.

- Currently, the Department’s "operational" account with Chase Bank has \$11,639 in assets.
- Our two CDs with Pentagon Federal (PenFed) Credit Union will mature in June and will be reinvested at the best earning rate possible.
 - At maturity in June, these CDs will have yielded approximately \$3100 earned interest, which will be placed in a separate savings account at PenFed.
 - The balance currently in this savings account is \$2,065.
- Total department assets at the end of May are projected as \$87,818. This figure represents a \$3,660 increase over this time last year.
- The Department just received a 2024 dues rebate check from ROA National in the amount of \$1,273.81. Checks will be issued to chapters per Department of Northwest Constitution ARTICLE A-10.
- For the first five months of this year, our intake is ahead of expenditures. With upcoming expected expenditures, we are on track to finish the year in the black. Remaining large expenditures will be published the REPORTER and ROTC billings, which has been forecasted into the operating account.

If there are concerns or questions on this report, please contact me!
Respectfully submitted,
Rickey D. Thomas, Treasurer

\$10/Year Ongoing Fundraiser
To help offset printing costs of the REPORTER for those that don’t have email!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

DATE	NAME	TOTAL
2025 Donations		
3/28	Lt. Col. Judith P. Larson	US\$10.00
3/28	SSG Roberta Brockliss	US\$20.00
3/28	COL Peter Halver	US\$400.00
3/28	CDR Ed Brock & Pat	US\$50.00
4/7	COL Bill Barnsdale	US\$25.00
4/7	COL Joy Barnsdale	US\$25.00
NA	Virtual Chapter	US\$162.00
TOTAL		US\$692.00

Members are still encouraged to make donations to this fund, which helps offset the printing costs of the newsletter. Print newsletters still go to our members who do not have email addresses and want to stay connected! Please contact **Rickey Thomas at (360) 581-9383** to make a donation!



Department of Northwest

The purpose of the Reserve Organization of America is to support and promote the development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security

--ROA Congressional Charter, 1950

Opinions expressed in the Northwest Reporter are those of the editor, columnist(s), and/or contributor(s), and are not necessarily those of the Department of the Northwest OR the ROA. Publication of advertisements do not imply endorsement by the Department of the Northwest OR the ROA.

To change address or report the death of a member, go to Customer Services at one of the following:

- ROA, One Constitution Ave NE,
Washington, D.C. 20002-5628
- Email: roainf@roa.org
- (202) 279-2200 or (800) 809-9448

Additional attachments follow:

- Minutes of the 95th Department of Northwest Annual Meeting
- Minutes of the First 2025 Council Meeting
- Department of Northwest Constitution and Bylaws
- Reserve Organization of America 119th Congress Defense Policy Portfolio



Department of Northwest

ANNUAL MEETING 26-28 Mar 2025

Meeting called to order at 0911

Present: 001 Virtual, 002 Bremerton, 015 Seattle, 018 Spokane, 021 Walla Walla, 030 124th ARCOM, Peter L. Halver, Rickey D, Thomas, Gary Ausman, Margaret Cope, Linda Sowler, Judy Larson, David V. Foley, Ed Brock, Roberta Brockliss, Sarah Bro, Chad Bro, Terry R. Atchison, Allen Alass, Bob McCoy, Judy Ford.

Pete Halver, Dept. President, commented on the nice reception last night. Chad Bro was the winner of the costume contest.

Dave Foley gave the invocation.

The minutes from the 94th Annual Meeting were presented. Terry Atchison made motion to approve as written was made and seconded Margaret Cope. Minutes approved by voice vote.

Annual meeting rules: Copies available for review. No recommended changes presented by the body.

Credentials: Everyone present was a current member of ROA.

Audit: Not available

Nominations: The current positions on the ballot JAG, Chaplain, Historian, Legislative, Newsletter Editor, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership

There was discussion on the incorporation of the department and name change. National changed constitution to allow ROA to do business as Reserve Organization of America in 2018 and permanently changed the name to Reserve Organization of America in 2021.

Report of Officers:

ARMY-No report was available.

NAVAL SERVICES -Rickey Thomas reported the Coast Guard has confiscated one billion dollars in illegal drugs in last 3 months. Ed Brock: Navy is discussing whether the F-47 will be carrier based. Navy Reserve met its recruitment goals.

AIR & SPACE FORCE-Margaret Cope: Sounds like the AF F-47 awarded to Boeing is a done deal. AF support has been used with immigration situation but airlift is expensive and up in the air. The Chief of Staff was fired. Looking at developing more with ROTC and JROTC in recognizing outstanding cadets.

NATIONAL COUNCIL: Jeff gave a stable finance report for the organization. Layne talked about the ad hoc committee on Governance, Restructure, Optimization Workgroup he appointed. A DC attorney will be consulted to merge the 501c3 accounts under STARS. Many C&B revisions will be based on this committee. He also stated that Ballot voting will occur for elections and resolutions only this year so it is important to make sure there are delegates for the Annual Meeting October 17-19 in Washington DC to discuss C&B proposed changes. Layne wants a hill day on the 16th. Matt reviewed legislative priorities for 119th Congress. He has two fellows, Jake and Peter and Hannah Mill will start in June. One new resolution was passed on funding for TriService Nursing Research Program.

TREASURER REPORT-Rickey Thomas: Chase bank has the daily operating funds.

Checking: \$ 883

Savings: \$10,408

Sub-Total \$11,291.

PenFed has 2 CDs that will mature in 15 June 2025.

\$16,000 CD now \$16,466

\$56,000 CD now \$17,649

Total assets of \$85,406.

The Budget and Finance Committee will review and make recommendations to confirm best decisions made regarding CD. They will also research the opening of an investment account and report back at the next annual meeting.

Sarah wants to make sure we are not missing moving money out of deficit for operations since the newsletter to non-email folks costs about \$1100 an issue.

There was also discussion on what happens to the money if we go inactive. We have an opportunity to fund some things and possibly build the money.

Ed Brock made a motion to take interest from CDs and reinvest the base amount. Bob McCoy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report attached to the original minutes.

NATIONAL EXCOM: Judy Ford – We received an update from the GROW committee. ROA will be combining the 501(c)3s under STARS in consultation with a DC attorney. The EXCOM is looking at the size of this meeting. The current proposal decreases the board from 17 to 10 members. C&B changes will be discussed at the next annual meeting, so ensure all departments are represented. Elections and Resolutions will be done by electronic ballot. There may be a recommendation to change the national council to be the department presidents. The GROW Committee will make recommended C&B changes.

There was discussion about whether the president set direction or if staff was telling us what direction we were going. The president and EXCOM sets the direction of the organization. The staff supports the organization. The GROW

Report of Standing Committees

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS: The Constitution and Bylaws Committee has recommended changes following last year's discussion. The Bylaws change requires a majority vote for approval.

MEMBERSHIP: Lt Col Ford has been reaching out to the ROA members that live in one of our states but don't belong to our Department. She used the postcards left from last years' effort to increase participation at the Annual Meeting. She sent out 268 postcards (68% of the list) and had 9 members transfer (4% those sent) to the department. There were also 5 with bad addresses that were reported to National. All members had updated addresses at National and moved out of the state.

ANNUAL MEETING: Bremerton Chapter is hosting. Location will be decided by the Dept. VPs and treasurer. Easter is 5 April. Will look at the week of 19-25 April. Looking at all options to include VFW or Elks or other service organizations.

FAMILY READINESS: School kit management moved to Family Readiness committee. No change in school kit ordering or distribution. Yellow Ribbon is happy with them. Working with legal on Military Children Education Coalition (MCEC) to support student identifier. Whole education involved with this. Dept of Education federal as well as State is in the Nation Defense Authorization Act which included Reserve children. Reserve has been neglected through the process. Not effectively implemented when the law passed and the Education Department did not put it in the code, so it is not legal. The committee requested Gen Phillips send a letter to get it into code. MCEC offers weekly webinars. Opportunities to support families.

The writing contest will launch on April 1st for 11-14 year olds. The award is \$500, \$300, and \$100. Essay <500 words how being connected to the military has impacted your life.

AWARDS COORDINATOR: We are a large department and could use presenters. Gary is good with the U of W. Currently ROTC receive three medals; Seniors -Gold, Juniors-Silver, Sophomore-Bronze. JROTC gets a ribbon and would like to also give medal. Judy made a motion to give medals again to JROTC. Terry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Sisle continues to do the long-timer awards. Pete received several letters of appreciation back from those who received them.

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Lonnie stepped down as chairman the last quarter of last year. Adopted 2025 budget for this year. First quarter into the year, a little in the red. Annual meeting budget passed \$2500 income, got \$3380. Regular Reported donations down. Only \$75 last month. May have overestimated this conference income. A rough guess at this point is we will be \$4,000 short for expenses over income. B&F needs to meet and have a look at CDs to see if they need to be rolled back to what they originally were. Ed Brock made a motion to have B&F look at this and have a report to the presented by 15 May 2025. Allen Aplass seconded it. Motion passed

Chapter Reports:

- VIRTUAL-Milt Houghton: Working on next meeting New members assigned. Virtual world without original face-to-face is a difficult process. Accepting of whoever shows up. Milt's focus right now is on Bev.
- BREMERTON-Judy Ford: There was a meeting in February and Waiting on meeting dates for the rest of the year.
- SEATTLE-Rickey Thomas: Inactive as far as chapter meetings but once a month, 5 or 6 get together at lunch and take care fo business. Have not been able to get majority to come back from COVID.
- SPOKANE- Larry Neil: Chapter has not had a president for years. Ed Brock has moved to Spokane area and will work with Larry to get it going again.
- WALLA WALLA-Sarah Bro: Chapter has Facebook and Web page. Their mission is "Never Forget a Veteran". We advertise at "4th of July in the Park," Wreths Across America" at local grocery stores Since we last met in 2024
 - Our membership totals stand at 106 members.
 - We continue to have monthly Executive Committee meetings, December and July excepted
 - We continue to have monthly member meetings on the first Friday of each month, January and July excepted. These take place at the Walla Walla Country Club
 - Speakers are part of our monthly luncheon meetings. Members serve as sponsors to find speakers, who talk on many topics, mostly related to the military or military history. This past year we've heard about:
 - Veterans telling their stories on the stage of a local non-profit theater under the Red Badge Project
 - US Air Force military experiences in Operation Southern Watch
 - A presentation from the WA state Army Reserve Ambassador Beau Ruff
 - Two presentations on the Second Walla Walla Treaty Council and Stevens Skirmish of 1856, one from the indigenous people's records and one from Governor Isaac Stevens, as reenacted by Ron Klicker
 - Stories about the Women Airforce Service Pilots
 - A display of newspapers and photos highlighting veterans from yesteryear - from the CW to World War II • An update on the Washington State Veterans Home here in Walla Walla
 - We proudly recognized graduating cadets at several JROTC and ROTC programs at Wa-Hi, Kennewick High School, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho.
 - We maintain a Facebook page as well as a website, and we have an award winning newsletter that is released 3 times a year We have a primary initiative to never forget a veteran:
 - In September we were very pleased to join with the Camp 3 for the Sons of Union Veterans, our local American Legion post, and others to replace and re-dedicate two Civil War headstones in our local cemetery. The headstones had degraded to beyond recognition
 - With the Sweet Freedom Quilters, we acknowledged ten veterans touched by war with a Quilt of Valor, a visible and tactile acknowledgment for their service

- In December, in conjunction with the Civil Air Patrol, we served as a sponsorship group with Wreaths Across America (WAA) and placed nearly 1500 wreaths at three local cemeteries on Wreaths Across America day. For our efforts in 2024 WAA paid us ~\$2100.
 - With the City of Walla Walla we are moving forward with the next phase of replacing 270 headstones for our World War I veterans.
 - We continue to get out into our community to “advertise” ourselves, joining public events such as Fourth of July in the Park, sponsorship canvassing at local outlets, and this year we will be setting up our “booth” at a summer market for four dates. We have printed two brochures to share about ourselves and our initiatives.
- 124th ARCOM-Pete Halver: Only 3 active members. The chapter has 17 flag officers and don’t respond back. There have been multiple mergers 124th to 70th RSC which merged with 63rd.

Service Section Meetings:

ARMY: met and approved other nominations to address.

NAVY: Submitted a changed effective immediately. Ed Brock is Navy VP and President-Elect. Rickey will remain as Treasurer.

AIR & SPACE FORCE: Need ways to get message out to family. ROTC program beneficial to all. AF Reserve/ANG have been fighting fires.

All sections approved slate of officers.

VP Naval Services: Ed Brock, Judge Advocate: David Foley, Chaplain: Deborah Halver-Hanson, Historian Rickey Thomas, Legislative Chairman: Ed Brock, Newsletter Editor: Sarah Bro, Awards/ROC: Margaret Cope/Lonnie Mettler, Secretary: Judy Ford, Treasurer: Rickey Thomas, Membership: Judy Ford
Sarah Bro made motion to close slate of officer, Rickey Thomas Seconded. Motion Passed.
Pete Halver made a statement that he would support Judy Ford for National Air & Space Force Committeeman

Unfinished Business

ROA REPORTER: Some members do not receive emails generated from the ROA website. There were only 2 issues last year with Dudley being ill. Sarah plans to have one in February, June, and November. The Reporter has moved into two forms. The modified 4-page version is mailed. The 8-page electronic version is sent to the Chapter Presidents for distribution to its members. It can also be accessed via the National Reserve Voice or website. The newsletter is currently on the Walla Walla website link. Cost for 2 newsletters being sent out is \$2500. Trey Criner uses the Walla Walla link to post on the ROA site due to restricted space.

NATIONAL ELECTIONS: MG Peggy Wilmoth has been working with Layne this last year to ensure a smooth transition. National seats available; AF VP, 2 AF committeemen, Army VP, Naval VP, 2 Naval Services Committeemen. The department endorsed Judy Ford to run for the AF Committeeman

ELECTRONIC VOTING: Elections and approval of Resolutions will occur by electronic ballot this year. The ballot process has strict deadlines. July 18 all election position endorsements due to Diane. VPs will appoint the Nominating Committee. Each service section will have a town hall to allow members to meet the candidates and ask questions. Army section town hall is Aug 5, Navy Aug 6, AF Aug 7. Aug 25 section VP’s will submit the names for the ballots following the Service Section Elections. The entire process will be published in the Reserve Magazine and have instructions for paper ballot options when published in April or May. Terry handed out a White Paper summarizing the process.

New Business

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS: 39 votes for Majority; Gary Ausman indicated the Committee recommended clarification changes to the bylaws based on last year’s meeting. It defines chapter merger and dissolution of chapters. Motion made by Margaret Cope and seconded by Gary Ausman. Motion passed.

ANNUAL MEETING: Vice Presidents will be on the Annual Meeting Committee Deborah Halver-Hanson has been working on sponsorship for the Annual Meeting. It was decided it would be held East of Puget Sound to

avoid any need for ferries. It was mentioned that LaQuinda in Tacoma had worked out well. Committee will look at all options.

DEPARTMENT WEBSITE: There will be no dept. website feature in the National website update. We will lose that capability. While I was at the Leadership Conference, I spoke with NC and they have a nice website. I had a conversation with a developer, and this is what he can offer. Setup fee is \$150, Decision and construction set up \$750, annual maintenance hosting \$180 a year. First year would be \$1,80.00. Domain registration is wrapped into the price. The domain would belong to the organization. He uses the con-slate platform which is easier and more customizable than word press. There's a back room to log in to upload to the site. Sarah Bro will have their webmaster, Scott Kelly look at options

ROA STRATEGIC PLAN: A copy of the Strategic Plan overview was included in the packet. I am hoping to have Vision29 and Mission replace the Purpose that is in the Reporter. Judy briefly went over the pillars and explained although it may seem more National oriented, it will require Department involvement. The available graphs will allow us to see progress toward the goals. Terry also handed out information on the International Programs which is part of the goals.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Pete received a Thank You from Fisher Hous of NW for the donation. There are 4 Fisher houses at JBLM and Vancourver. He also mentioned that Past ROA President, Curley Holtman died at the age of 99.

Sarah reminded everyone to get the new ID card by 2027 or they will be denied access to Military facilities.

Allen Alass recommended the Budget & Finance Committee investigate the need for an investment account such as Schwab or Fidelity Exchange Traded Funds. Sarah Bro made a motion which was seconded by Allen for the department to look into a brokerage Investment Account and report back to the membership at the 2026 Annual Meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Slate of officers was approved and elected unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1612

Submitted by Judy Ford Department of Northwest Secretary



Department of Northwest

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING 28 MARCH 2025

Meeting was called to order at 0902 hours by President Peter Halver.

Roll call of chapter was taken by secretary.

Present: Bremerton, Seattle, Walla Walla, 124th ARCOM, Peter Halver, Chad Bro, Margaret Cope, Ed Brock, Linda Sowler, Judy Larson, Rickey Thomas, Judy Ford. Gary Ausman, Sarah Bro

Absent: Virtual, Spokane.

Quorum present

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter Halver.

Copy of Minutes from the last Council Meeting in your packet. Motion by Gary Ausman seconded by Chad Bro to approve. Minutes approved.

Report of Officers: No new information since yesterday.

Committee Reports:

MEMBERSHIP: Nothing new

ANNUAL MEETING: Department VPs will be this committee. Bremerton Chapter to host.

FAMILY READINES: Nothing new

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Margaret Cope reported moving into full bloom.

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Will meet to discuss items from Annual Meeting.

TREASURER REPORT: Rickey reported

1. Auction yielded \$2015. Half will go to USO, half to General Fund. Will round up USO amount to \$1,008.00.
2. The Reporter fund received \$490.00.
3. Total accounting of the Annual Meeting will sent out after the bill is paid.

Old Business

None

New Business

Council Meetings:

- 2nd Council meeting will be held Friday August 15, 2025 at 10am PDT
- 3rd Council meeting will be held Saturday December 6, 2025 at Wandering Creek, Bothel, WA at 10am PDT

Meeting adjourned at 0931

Submitted by Judy Ford Department of Northwest Secretary



Constitution

ARTICLE A-1: NAME

- ◇ Section 1: Full Name — The name of this organization shall be the Reserve Organization of America (ROA) Department of Northwest.
- ◇ Section 2: Short Reference — The Reserve Organization of America, Department of Northwest may be referred to in this Constitution or in the Bylaws as the Department.

ARTICLE A-2: PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be as set forth in the National Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE A-3: MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Membership shall be set forth in the National Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE A-4: ORGANIZATION

The Department shall be organized into Chapters. The membership, location, and territorial limits of Chapters shall be determined by the Department.

ARTICLE A-5: DEPARTMENT ANNUAL MEETING

- ◇ Section 1: Time and Place — The legislative body of this Department shall be the Department Annual Meeting, which shall be held annually as set forth in the National Bylaws. The Department Council shall determine the time of the Annual Meeting, and, in case of emergency, may change the time or place of this meeting.
- ◇ Section 2: Delegates — The basis of representation for the Department Annual Meeting shall be: one delegate at large, and one delegate for each service section for which it shows membership for each chapter, and one additional delegate for each twenty-five (25) members or major fractions thereof, of the Chapter. Where no chapter exists, department at large members may be a delegate when attending an Annual Meeting in person with one vote for 100 department at large. The maximum number of at large delegates will be based on one delegate for each 100 or major fraction thereof, at large members. Should more members attend than at large delegates allowed, the registration date will determine the delegates. No service section delegates will be awarded to department at large members.
 - (a) *Membership Statistics* — For the purpose of this Article, the membership figures furnished by the National ROA showing membership as of the preceding March 1st shall apply.
 - (b) *Past Presidents* — Each Department of Northwest/Department of Washington Past President in attendance at any Department Annual Meeting shall be a delegate at large.
 - (c) *Delegates and Delegates at Large* — Each delegate and each delegate at large shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate, except a delegate at large, may be cast by

an alternate. Alternates may be elected or appointed by the same body that elected the delegate and shall be a member of the same Chapter as the delegate.

(d) *Alternates* — Each Chapter is entitled to one alternate for each delegate allowed its membership.

- ◇ Section 3: Annual Meeting — Sections may have individual meetings at Department Annual Meetings, provided, however, that any action taken by a Section that affects the Department as a whole, to have any force or effect must be approved by a general session of the Annual Meeting.
- ◇ Section 4: Quorum — A quorum shall exist at a Department Annual Meeting, whenever ten percent (10%) or more of the total votes entitled to be cast in the Annual Meeting, are represented by accredited delegates or alternates.
- ◇ Section 5: Department Affairs — The affairs of this Department between Annual Meetings shall be administered by the Department Council and the Department Executive Committee.

ARTICLE A-6: DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

- ◇ Section 1: Elected Officers — The Department Annual Meeting shall elect a Department President (unless previously designated as President-elect); a Department President-elect; a Department Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, and a Department Committeeman for Army; a Department Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, and a Department Committeeman for Naval Services, whose jurisdiction shall include Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Public Health Service, and NOAA; a Department Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, and a Department Committeeman for Air Force; a Department Secretary; a Department Treasurer; a Department Judge Advocate; a Department Chaplain; a Department Historian; a Department National Councilman; and such other officers as any Annual Meeting may determine.
- ◇ Section 2: Election of Officers — The nomination and election of Department Officers shall be provided for in the Bylaws. Elected officers will hold office until their successors are qualified and duly elected.
- ◇ Section 3: Presidential Rotation — The offices of Department President and President-elect shall be rotated in the following order: (1) Army; (2) Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Public Health Service, NOAA; and (3) Air Force, unless the Annual Meeting, upon nomination from the floor and by a three-fourths (3/4) vote, shall elect a Department President-elect other than the one recommended by the Section concerned, in which event the rotation of the Department Presidency shall be suspended for one year.
- ◇ Section 4: Trustees — The legal Trustees of the Corporation shall be the President, the President-elect, and the Service Section Vice-Presidents, except as provided by Article A-9.

ARTICLE A-7: DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- ◇ Section 1: Authority — The Department Executive Committee is the governing body of the Department.
- ◇ Section 2: Department Council — The Department Executive Committee shall act for the Department Council between meetings of that body.
- ◇ Section 3: Composition — The Department Executive Committee shall be composed of the Department President, the Department President-elect, the Department Vice-Presidents for

each Section of the Department (Army, Air Force, and Naval Services), the Department Secretary, the Department Treasurer (Secretary and Treasurer without vote), and three (3) members of the Department Council elected by the Council, one from each Section. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be five (5) of its members.

- ◇ Section 4: Vacancies — In the event of the death, inability to serve or resignation of any member of the Department Executive Committee, other than the immediate Past-President or the President, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the voting members of the Department Executive Committee and for the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE A-8: DEPARTMENT COUNCIL

- ◇ Section 1: Authority — Department Council authority shall be set forth in the Department Constitution and Bylaws.
- ◇ Section 2: Composition — The Department Council shall be composed of the President plus the Officers elected pursuant to Article A-6, Section 1, of this Constitution, the two immediate past Presidents, an elected National Councilperson and a representative from each Chapter.
- ◇ Section 3: Meetings — The Department Council shall meet within 24 hours following adjournment of the Department Annual Meeting and shall transact such business as may properly come before it. The Department Council may meet at other times at the call of the Department President or on petition addressed to the Department President signed by not less than thirty percent (30%) of the members of the Council. All meetings, except meetings immediately following the adjournment of the Annual Meeting, shall be held only after fourteen (14) days following the mailing of written notice thereof to each member of the Council. A quorum for a Council meeting shall be nine (9) of its members.

ARTICLE A-9: EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION

- ◇ Section 1: Circumstances — In the event of a national emergency whereby such large numbers of the members of the Department are called to active duty and as a result thereof are unable to attend Department Annual Meetings in sufficient numbers to make said Annual Meetings practicable, the Department Executive Committee by a majority affirmative vote of all existing and available members may declare that an emergency exists within the Department and appoint a Board of three (3) Trustees, one each from the Army, Air, and Naval components, who shall become the exclusive governing body of the Department. The Trustees shall not have any authority to dissolve this Department.
 - (a) *Trustee Duties* — The Trustees shall endeavor, if economically possible, to have the Department continue functioning. The Trustees shall continue to be the sole governing body and provide an accounting of their administration as provided in Bylaws.
 - (b) *Termination* — When the Executive Committee determines that an emergency no longer exists, they shall terminate the emergency.

ARTICLE A-10: FINANCE

- ◇ Section 1: Remittance of Income — The Department shall remit to the various Chapters of the Department forty percent (40%) of the income received from ROA National to be distributed to Chapters on a per-capita basis.
- ◇ Section 2: Additional Remittance — In addition to the remittances to the various Chapters as provided in Section 1, the Department shall remit to the various Chapters any funds held by the Department in excess of Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000.00) for such purposes

consistent with organization objectives and in such amounts, on a per capita basis or otherwise, as may be authorized at any regular Department Annual Meeting by majority affirmative vote of those voting members present.

- ◇ Section 3: Fund Raising Activities — The Department may establish and sponsor special fund-raising activities for specific purposes. Initial start-up funding may be provided from the Departmental treasury on a loan basis, to be repaid from the special fund proceeds. Net proceeds realized by the fund-raising activity shall be exempt from the fund distribution requirements of Section 1 and shall be expended only for the particular purpose to which the activity promotion is addressed. The purpose of such special fund activities shall be limited to membership and recruitment enhancements, ROTC scholarships, increased Annual Meeting and conference participation by Department members, particularly junior members, and any similar activity which has as its primary objective the promotion of public relations and the growth of the ROA, Department of Northwest.

ARTICLE A-11: BYLAWS

Appropriate Bylaws to carry out the provisions of this Constitution may be adopted.

ARTICLE A-12: AMENDMENTS

- ◇ Section 1: Constitution — This Constitution may be amended at any regular Department Annual Meeting by a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of those voting members present.
- ◇ Section 2: Bylaws — Bylaws may be amended at any Department Annual Meeting by a majority vote.

ARTICLE A-13: RATIFICATION

All acts performed under any former Constitution are hereby ratified and confirmed.

ARTICLE A-14: REVOCATION

All Prior constitution and amendments thereto are hereby revoked and shall become null and void immediately upon adoption of this Constitution.

Adopted April 26, 1980
by the 1980 Convention, Department of Washington,
Reserve Officers Association
of the United States (ROA)

1. as amended September 20, 2014
2. as amended May 21, 2022
by Department of Northwest, Reserve Organization of
America (ROA)

Bylaws

ARTICLE B-1: MEMBERSHIP

- ◇ Section 1: Eligibility — Membership requirements shall be as set forth in the National Constitution and Bylaws.
- ◇ Section 2: Affiliation — The Department of Northwest encompasses those members in the following states: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and Reserve Organization of America (ROA) members residing outside these states who wish to be members of the Department.
 - (a) *New Members* — New members will become a member of the chapter as specified in the application for membership. If not specified, a chapter shall be designated by the Department.
 - (b) *Members-at-Large* — When no chapter exists within the area of address stated on the application, the member will not be assigned a chapter and will be designated as a member at large.

ARTICLE B-2: CHAPTER AND OTHER STRUCTURAL ENTITIES

- ◇ Section 1: Chapter Charters — Each Chapter shall be organized and operated under a charter issued by the Organization. Petitions for issuance of Chapter Charters shall be addressed to the Department, and such petitions shall be signed by not less than ten (10) persons eligible to become active members. The Department will forward the petition to National Headquarters with its approval or disapproval. Such petition shall be accompanied by the application for membership in the Organization. Charters shall be issued, or denied, by National Headquarters.
 - (a) The Charter of a Chapter shall be automatically suspended when the number of its members is less than ten (10) and be reinstated on request when its membership again reaches the minimum of ten (10) active members. Virtual Chapters may also be recognized.
 - (b) Any group of Department members may form a Chapter with ten (10) or more members submitting their intent to form a chapter to the Department EXCOM along with proposed Constitution & Bylaws. If approved, the department president will request a charter form National.
 - (c) Chapters may consider merging when participation or other reasons necessitate this. Both chapters must agree to a merger. The funds from the chapter merging with another chapter will transfer their funds to the gaining chapter.
- ◇ Section 2: Department Authority

- (a) *Supervision* — All Chapters within the jurisdiction of this Department shall be subject to the supervision of this Department. No new Chapter shall be organized within the jurisdiction of this Department without the approval of this Department
- (b) *Suspension* — This Department may suspend the Charter of any Chapter for violation of the National or Department Constitution and/or Bylaws, for violation of any provisions of the Charter granted to the Chapter, or any failure to function properly; provided, however, that before the suspension of any Charter, due notice in writing, clearly setting forth the alleged violation, shall be sent to the Secretary of the offending Chapter at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed suspension. Such notices shall provide an opportunity for the offending Chapter to correct the situation leading to suspension and appeal to the succeeding Department Annual Meeting. If their appeal is adversely acted upon the Chapter shall have the right of final appeal to the succeeding National Annual Meeting.
- (c) *Books, Records, Funds; Surrender* — Upon the suspension of any Chapter under the provision of Article B-1 Membership, or Article B-2 Chapter and Structure Section 1 or Section 2 of these Bylaws, the Department Council shall be authorized to demand, recover or receive such funds from the last known officers of said Chapter or from any bank or other depository known to have Chapter funds in its possession.
 - i. Escrow — The funds so recovered by the Department of Northwest shall be held for the benefit of such Chapter if reactivated for a period of five (5) years, in a savings bank trust fund, the interest therefrom to be immediately available for use by the Department of Northwest.
 - ii. Surrender — After five (5) years, if the Chapter has not been reactivated, the funds shall revert to the Department of Northwest general funds.
- (d) *Merger* — Chapters may voluntarily combine with another chapter for the benefit of both chapters. Both chapters and the department will agree to the merger.
 - i. Records — The Chapter secretary's records will be forwarded to the Department Secretary and sent to National, if requested.
 - ii. Funds — The funds from the merging chapter will be transferred to the chapter to which it is merging.
- (e) *Dissolution* — A chapter may voluntarily choose to close for a variety of reasons. If the chapter decides to close.
 - i. Records — The Chapter secretary's records will be forwarded to the Department Secretary and sent to National, if requested.
 - ii. Funds — The funds from the closing Chapter will be transferred to the department and held for the benefit of such Chapter if reactivated for a period of five (5) years, in a savings bank trust fund, the interest therefrom to be immediately available for use by the Department of Northwest. After five (5) years, if the Chapter has not been reactivated, the funds shall revert to the Department of Northwest general funds.

❖ Section 3: Restrictions

- (a) *Violation of Department/National Governance* — No Chapter shall take any action in violation of the National Constitution and Bylaws, or of the Department Constitution and Bylaws, nor take any public action inconsistent with the announced policy of the Organization.

- (b) *Access* — No provisions of these Bylaws shall deny nor be construed as denying to any Chapter, prospective Chapter the privilege of retaining or establishing its individuality as a separate Army, Navy or Air Force Chapter or as a Chapter composed solely of members of a Corps or Division of one of those components, nor the right of direct access to the National Headquarters Staff.
- ❖ Section 4: Location of Department Headquarters — The location of Department Headquarters shall be designated by the Department President.
- ❖ Section 5: Chapter Officers — Chapter officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as the Chapter Bylaws may provide. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person. Chapter officers shall be elected and installed annually prior to 31 January.
- ❖ Section 6: Reports — Each Chapter shall report to the Department Secretary and Treasurer the results of each election or change of its President, Secretary, and/or Treasurer.
 - (a) *Addresses* — Such Reports shall include the post office addresses of the newly elected officers.
 - (b) *Financial Statement* — A current financial statement including the name of the bank where the Chapter funds are deposited, and the signature(s) authorized for each account.
 - i. using ROA Chapter Financial Form
 - ii. the filing information report with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
 - iii. completed forms will also be sent to the Department/Chapter Support area at ROA Headquarters.
 - (c) *Appointments* — Changes in Chapter officers by appointment shall be subject to the same requirements as for elected officers.
- ❖ Section 7: Chapter Dues — Chapters may levy and collect dues from active members apart from, and in addition to dues provided in the National Constitution.

ARTICLE B-3: OFFICERS

- ❖ Section 1: Duties
 - (a) *President* — Department President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Department, with authority to contract obligations within the approved budget, represent the Department in all matters pertaining to its affairs, and shall be a trustee of the Corporation,
 - i. Presides at the general sessions of the Department Annual Meeting, all meetings of the Department Executive Committee and the Department Council and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.
 - ii. Enforces the provision of the Department Constitution and Bylaws and carries out the mandate(s) of the Department Annual Meeting
 - iii. Appoints all necessary committees and is responsible for the proper functioning of the Committees as required by Article B-5 of these Bylaws to ensure furtherance of the aims of the Organization.
 - iv. Term of office is two (2) years, elected in even years.

- (b) *President-Elect* — The Department President-elect shall be a trustee of the Department during his/her term of office and shall act at the representative of the Department President on all matters assigned by the President.
- i. Shall act for, and on behalf of, the President at such meetings, functions and conferences as the President may be unable to attend.
 - ii. On completion of the term of the Department President, the President-elect shall, without further action of election, be inducted into office and serve as Department President until his/her successor shall have been duly qualified for such office by election and by service as President-elect.
 - iii. Term of office is two (2) years, elected in even years.
- (c) *Vice Presidents* — The three (3) Department Vice-Presidents shall be Trustees of the Department Corporation for a period of two (2) years following their election and qualification, and shall act as representatives of the Department President on all matters referred to them by him/her and at his/her request shall preside over the Department Annual Meeting, the Department Executive Committee meeting, or the Department Council meeting, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.
- i. Each Department Vice-President shall preside over meetings of the respective sections and shall advise the Department President on matters of policy and procedure concerning the respective service of such Vice-President.
 - ii. The Department Vice-President of the same service as the President shall be designated the First Vice-President and the seniority of the other two (2) shall be in the same sequence as established by the policy of rotation of Presidents.
 - v. The First Vice-President shall assume the duties and the powers of the Department President, in the event the President's death, inability to serve, or resignation.
 - vi. Term of office is two (2) years, elected in even years.
- (d) *Committeemen and Junior Vice Presidents* — The three Department Committeemen and the three Junior Vice-Presidents provided for in the Constitution shall have such duties as shall be assigned to them by the Department President. Term of office is two (2) years, elected in even years.
- (e) *Secretary* — The Department Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Department Annual Meeting, the Department Executive Committee, and the Department Council, conduct the correspondence, keep files of membership, and advise the Treasurer as to the collection and disbursement of all monies received as Department share of the National dues.
- i. Minutes of all meetings will be sent to the President, Department Vice-Presidents, Chapter Presidents, and Secretaries within 30 days after the end of each Department meeting.
 - ii. Minutes shall include resolutions, actions, and motions adopted during the Department meeting and since the last meeting.
 - iii. The Department President may forward minutes to the Department web master to be posted on the website.
 - iv. Maintain a copy of Department Committees membership.
 - v. Send a copy of chapter officers to Department Committee chairpersons and Chapter Presidents.
 - vi. Meet National Requirements.

- vii. Term of office is three (3) years, following election at the annual meeting.
- (f) *Treasurer* — The Department Treasurer shall maintain all records of receipts and disbursements of all monies of the Department.
- i. Shall disburse such monies as are properly authorized for disbursement by the Secretary's voucher and approved by the President.
 - ii. Ensure Department and all Chapters comply with IRS requirements.
 - iii. Send quarterly reports, as required, to Department President to include any discrepancies in reporting requirements.
 - iv. Meet National requirements.
 - v. Term of office is three (3) years, following election at the annual meeting.
- (g) *Judge Advocate* — The Department Judge Advocate shall be the legal advisor to the Department Officers, the Department, the Department Executive Committee, and the Department Council.
- i. Shall review proposed amendments to the Department Constitution and Bylaws.
 - ii. Shall bring to the attention of a Chapter any discrepancies in its existing Constitution and Bylaws.
 - iii. Edit as to styling and for making changes to conform to the rest of the documents to amendments made per Constitution Article A-12, Section 2.
- (h) *Historian* — The Department Historian shall compile annually from the archives of this Department and other authentic sources a narrative history of this Department, its activities, and accomplishments.
- (i) *Chaplain* — The Department Chaplain shall perform such divine and non-sectarian services at any meeting of this Department as directed by the Department President and shall conduct such ceremonies as may be required.
- (j) *National Councilman* — The Department National Councilman shall, when practicable, represent the Department at all meetings of the National Council of the ROA and shall immediately after attending said National Council meeting furnish to the President and through the President to all members of the Department a report of the items of business transacted at the National Council meeting together with a report as to how the National Councilman voted on each item of business on which there was a vote taken at the National Council meeting. Term of office is three (3) years, following election at the annual meeting.
- ❖ Section 2: Term of Office — The term of office for the President and the other elected officers of the Department shall commence immediately following the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which they were elected.
- ❖ Section 3: Nominations — The nominations of the Department President-elect, the three (3) Vice-Presidents, the three (3) Department Committeemen, and the three (3) Junior Vice-Presidents shall be on the recommendation of the particular Section concerned, at meetings of the Sections, from which the nominees are to be selected, held during the department Annual Meeting. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for nominations in a Section meeting.

- (a) The officers nominated in Section meetings, together with such nominees for other offices as may be named by the Nominating Committee and with such other nominees as may be named from the floor of the general assembly, shall constitute the list from which selection of Officers for the Department shall be made by the general assembly at the Department Annual Meeting.
- (b) The Department Vice-President for the services next in order of rotation for election to the office of Department President in accordance with Article VI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Department of Northwest shall be designated as the President-elect and shall be ex-officio nominee of that service for Department President at the ensuing Department Annual Meeting.
- (c) All Chapters with a total membership of one hundred (100) or more members, where two or more services are represented, shall be provided in their Constitution or Bylaws for compliance with the provisions of this section.
- (d) The President is directed to place members serving as National Officers on the Department Council (as non-voting members) to serve concurrently thereon with their National terms of Office.
- (f) Section 4: Elections — The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.
- (g) Section 5: Vacancies — A vacancy in any Department office, except President and President-elect, may be filled for the unexpired term thereof by an appointment thereto by the Department President, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. A vacancy in the Office of President shall be filled by the First Vice-President. A vacancy in the office of the President-elect shall not be filled, but both a President and President-elect shall then be elected at the next department Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE B-4: FUNDS

- ❖ Section 1: Department and Chapter Dues — Chapters may levy and collect dues from members, apart from and in addition to the official annual dues as provided by the National Constitution. The Department may levy and collect dues from non-life members.
 - (a) *Remittance* — The Department shall remit to chapters in good standing the income received per the Department Constitution Article 10.
 - (b) *Life Members* — Life Members shall be liable for that part only of Chapter dues in excess of that portion of Annual National dues remitted to the Chapter and shall not be liable for any Department dues whatsoever.
 - (c) Receipts of interest from Life memberships will be considered as receipts of dues from other membership and proportionately divided between the Department and the Chapter to which such members belong.
- ❖ Section 2: President's Expenses — Fifty percent (50%) of all dues collected and retained by the Department, but not to exceed \$1,800.00 during one President's term, shall be budgeted each year to finance the Department President's expenses. The limitation herein provided may be increased in an emergency by action of the Department Council.
- ❖ Section 3: Non-Affiliated Member Funds — That dues or interest received from National for members who are not affiliated with any Chapter shall become Department general funds.

ARTICLE B-5: COMMITTEES

- ❖ Section 1: Standing Committees — Shall act as an advisory capacity to the Executive Committee and the President. The President shall appoint members as deemed appropriate and instruct them in writing as to their duties.
 - (a) *Constitution and Bylaws Committee* — Make continuing study of the Constitution and Bylaws and shall draft amendments(s) proposing changes that may require action at the Annual Meeting.
 - (b) *Resolutions and Legislative Committee* — Act in an advisory capacity that may require actions relating to both State legislation and/or National legislation that pertains to or affects the Reserve Forces.
 - (c) *Membership Committee* — Act in an advisory capacity to all matters relating to membership in the Department.
 - (d) *Annual Meeting Committee* — Consist of members as described in Article B-8 of these bylaws.
 - (e) *Budget Advisory Committee* — The members of this committee shall be the Vice-Presidents of each service section and others appointed at the discretion of the President. The Treasurer is an ex-officio member. The committee shall recommend an annual budget with respect to each fund from which funds are proposed to be appropriated. The committee shall review the annual audit report and make recommendations, if necessary.
 - (f) *Family Readiness Committee* — Shall act in an advisory capacity on all matters of policy and procedures relating to family matters. Will conduct program(s) in support of reservists' families.
- ❖ Section 2: General Committees
 - (a) *Service Section Committees* (Army, Air Force, Naval (including Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Public Health Service and NOAA) — Each Vice-President may establish and appoint committee members to the needs of the service section. The Service Section Vice-Presidents act in an advisory capacity on all matters relating to that service section.
 - (b) *Award Committee* — Shall identify and coordinate Department Awards.
 - i. ROTC/JROTC Awards — Coordinate the ordering and distribution of the ROTC/JROTC awards
 - ii. Long Timer Certificates — Issue Long Time Certificates to members with 50 years membership in ROA and to those at 5-year increments beyond 50 years.
- ❖ Section 3: Ad Hoc Committees — The President may appoint ad hoc committees as needed. These may include:
 - (a) Public relations and National Security Committee
 - (b) Publications Committee
- ❖ Section 4: Annual Meeting Committee — The President shall annually appoint two members to the Annual Meeting Committee for three-year terms and shall designate the chairman thereof from the members of the Committee.

- ❖ Section 5: Committee Duties — The President shall prescribe the duties of all committees, consistent with the Department Constitution and Bylaws and the National Constitution. The President may, by appointment, fill any vacancy that may occur on any committee. The President shall be an ex-officio member of any committee and has the power to designate the President-elect or any Vice-President as an ex-officio member of any committee in his/her place.

ARTICLE B-6: RULES OF PROCEDURE

- ❖ Section 1: Rules of Parliamentary Practices — The proceedings and deliberations of the Organization, including the Department Annual Meeting, the Department Executive Committee, the Department Council, and Section Meetings, shall be according to the Rules of Parliamentary Practices established by Roberts Revised Rules of Order (the most current version).
- ❖ Section 2: Voting — Voting shall be by a roll call of Chapters when demanded by any delegate and each Chapter shall have one vote for each delegate allowed. Election of Officers and election of the Annual Meeting location shall be determined by roll call. Voting by proxy is not authorized.
- ❖ Section 3: Notification — The Department Secretary shall, not less than 30 days prior to each Annual Meeting notify each Chapter of the number of votes to which it is entitled in each Section meeting, based on one vote for each twenty-five (25) members, or major portion thereof, belonging to that section, and one vote for the Section.
- ❖ Section 4: Representation
 - (a) *Chapters* — Any Chapter not represented at the Annual Meeting by a member of that particular chapter shall have no vote.
 - (b) *Service Sections* — Any Section from any Chapter not represented at the Annual Meeting by a member of that Section shall have no vote at Section meetings, but its vote may be cast at the general assembly sessions of the Annual Meeting by Chapter representatives present at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE B-7: ORDER OF BUSINESS

- ❖ Section 1: Order of Business — The order of business at Department Annual Meetings of the Organization shall be insofar as is practicable, as follows:
 - (a) Invocation
 - (b) Roll Call of Chapter
 - (c) Addresses
 - (d) Reading of minutes of previous meeting
 - (e) Reports of Officers
 - (f) Report of Standing Committees
 - (g) Announcement of Annual Meeting Committees
 - (h) Committee Conferences
 - (i) Section Meetings
 - (j) Reports of Committees
 - (k) Unfinished Business
 - (l) New Business
 - (m) Election of Officers
 - (n) Adjournment

- ❖ Section 2: Schedule — The Annual Meeting business sessions shall begin at 0900 hours Saturday and the preceding Friday shall be confined to committee meetings and social functions.

ARTICLE B-8: ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEES

- ❖ Section 1: Required Committees — There shall be the following Annual Meeting Committees appointed by the Department President:
 - (a) *Credential Committee* — Ensures all delegates present are current Department members in good standing.
 - (b) *Rules Committee* — Reviews current Annual Meeting rules and provides recommendations to accept or amend.
 - (c) *Audit Committee* — Reviews financial records and provides the results of the financial audits that were completed.
 - (d) *Nominations Committee* — Provides recommended nominations of Department officers to the Annual Meeting.
- ❖ Section 2: Other Committees — Other committees as the Department President shall deem necessary.

ARTICLE B-9 AWARDS

- ❖ Section 1: Program — The Department encourages an awards program. Awards are available for purchase and presentation by Department, Chapters, and Service sections as applicable.
- ❖ Section 2: Establishment — National awards of the Organization are established by the National Executive Committee. The Department and its affiliated Chapters may establish local awards consistent with the National Awards Policy as approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE B-11: REVOCATION OF PRIOR BYLAWS

All prior bylaws and amendments thereof are hereby revoked and shall become null and void immediately upon adoption of these Bylaws.

Adopted April 26, 1980
by the 1980 Convention, Department of Washington,
Reserve Officers Association
(ROA) of the United States

1. As amended April 30, 1988
2. As amended April 29, 1989
3. As amended May 16, 1992
4. As amended September 20, 2014
5. As amended May 31, 2022, by Department of Northwest,
Reserve Organization of America (ROA)
6. As amended 22 April 2023
7. As amended 27 March 2025

Reserve Organization of America 119th Congress defense policy portfolio

The Commission on the National Defense Strategy, an independent body charged with assessing the 2022 National Defense Strategy (NDS), found that:

- "In many ways, China is outpacing the United States and has largely negated the U.S. military advantage in the Western Pacific through two decades of focused military investment."
- "The U.S. military lacks both the capabilities and the capacity required to be confident it can deter and prevail in combat."
- "The U.S. defense industrial base (DIB) is unable to meet the equipment, technology, and munitions needs of the United States and its allies and partners."
- "The consequences of an all-out war with a peer or near peer would be devastating."
- "The U.S. public are largely unaware of the dangers the United States faces or the costs required to adequately prepare."
- "The U.S. must engage globally with a presence – military, diplomatic, and economic – to maintain stability and preserve influence worldwide, including across the Global South, where China and Russia are extending their reach."

ROA's 119th Congress policy portfolio, crafted in accordance with the Association's resolutions process, addresses these findings through a sole and exclusive focus on Reserve Component readiness.

Reserve Component funding, organization, and equipment

- **Resolution No. 24-11:** More clearly define the role of the reserve components in the NDS.
- **Resolution No. 23-14:** Strengthen and enhance Total Force policy to ensure reserve component assets and capabilities remain an integral element of the Total Force.
- **Resolution No. 23-13:** Ensure DoD's funding is at no less than 5 percent of GDP.
- **Resolution No. 24-12:** Budget for required and modernized equipment in the reserve components.
- **Resolution No. 22-07:** Oppose Continuing Resolutions; ensure full and partial government shutdowns *does not* prevent the U.S. Coast Guard from receiving mission-essential funding and its members from receiving their pay.
- **Resolution No. 23-19:** Fund the Individual Mobilization Augmentee programs to fully meet the strength and training levels of 100 percent of the validated authorized positions.

- **Resolution No. 24-18:** Provide enough paid training days to maintain proficiency for members of the Individual Ready Reserve with critical wartime specialties.
- **Resolution No. 24-05:** Pay for all authorized reserve component full-time support and exempt reserve component military technicians from future furloughs.
- **Resolution No. 23-12:** Ensure proper federal reserve representation within the Department of Defense and its senior joint and service staffs; mandate a representative from one of the federal reserve forces be appointed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Joint Requirements Oversight Council; appropriate senior staff positions on the joint staff and services' senior staffs, with rank commensurate with each position as if they were held by an active component service member.
- **Resolution No. 22-11:** Increase the position of Assistant to the Chairman for National Guard Reserve Matters to the rank of Lt. Gen. or Vice Admiral.
- Implement Duty Status Reform.

Reserve Component personnel, employer, and family support

- **Resolution No. 22-28:** Provide continuity of TRICARE medical and dental coverage to reserve component members regardless of duty status.
- **Resolution No. 23-07:** Grant exception(s) to policy as required by the services for military technicians to be eligible for incentives and develop incentives that are comparable to the civilian maintenance technician sector.
- **Resolution No. 23-15:** Ensure programs such as the Transition Assistance Program and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program are structured, funded, and staffed to meet the unique needs of reserve component service members and their families.
- **Resolution No. 24-04:** Require the uniformed services' reserve components to report on the effectiveness of their child care programs and provide recommendations for improving child care access.
- **Resolution No. 23-01:** Modernize the USCGR to optimize mobilization strength.
- **Resolution No. 23-02:** Empower the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to recruit, retain, train, and mobilize an elite and sufficient force of uniformed USPHS Ready Reserve officers.
- **Resolution No. 23-09:** Ensure the implementation of DoD Instruction 1336.01, *Certificate of Uniformed Service (DD Form 214/5 Series)*, through the issuance of the DD Form 214-1.
- **Resolution No. 24-01:** Ensure NOAA is adequately manned, trained, and equipped to execute its mission and jointly-operate with the other uniformed services to ensure military readiness.
- **Resolution No. 24-17:** Increase the differential wage payment tax credit in alignment with the economy and national security environment.
- Modernize the Joint Travel Regulations.