KEEPING CONNECTED

MAY 2021

USO WEST

ALASKA · ARIZONA · CALIFORNIA · IDAHO
MONTANA · NEVADA · OREGON · UTAH · WASHINGTON

Families participated in a Craft Night put together by USO Alaska.

USO Northwest joins the USO West team.

Star = USO Center

Bob Hope USO provided food for the 79th Infantry Brigade during their Change of Command event.

A message from Bob Kurkjian ...

PRESIDENT, USO WEST REGION

"We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of Americans play such a vital role in being the Force Behind the Forces."

Dear Friends of the USO:

I am thrilled to reach out to you with our first issue of USO West Keeping Connected – our quarterly newsletter. We've had a busy start to 2021! As we celebrate 80 years of delivering on our mission, we are adapting and growing, despite the impact of COVID-19. We aim to give you a glimpse of the impact, and share our successes.

The latest news as you read this is that for the first time since WWII, we have established a USO in Montana. Military Entrance Processing Station Butte, MT is now home to a USO. And in the coming months I look forward to sharing more about a future USO at Salt Lake City International Airport, in a state where we have not had a presence for at least five decades. And USO Northwest, which includes Washington State and parts of Oregon, officially merged with USO on April 1st, completing the integration of the West Region. We are happy to support expansion opportunities in underserved areas like Fairchild AFB near Spokane.

The USO is the American way to support our military and to kick-off our 80th anniversary, we launched the Give More than Thanks campaign. Support from the community allows us to deliver our mission and bring the USO to remote locations like Bridgeport, CA, home to the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center; distant and hard to reach installations in Alaska, like Shemya Island (Google it!) and to places in Arizona like Yuma Proving Grounds, where few facilities even enjoy potable water. While the USO isn't just a star on a map, we aim to add more stars to our map this year, AND hit the road with our USO Mobile units. Our innovative "USO Week" mobile program will bring the USO to the troops at places like Vandenberg AFB, Camp Roberts, Hill AFB, Malmstrom AFB, Naval Station San Diego and more!

SO much of what we do is powered by volunteers. They are a force multiplier, like USO Arizona volunteer Doreen, our USO West Volunteer of the Quarter. She's a dynamo and we are fortunate to have her and thousands of volunteers serving our troops. Thanks and congratulations Doreen!!

Be sure to check out our calendar events to learn how you can join us to make a difference. Sign up for the Four on the 4th virtual race, or learn more about how to join the 1941 Legacy Society.

Finally, as we approach Memorial Day, I'm reminded of those who made the ultimate sacrifice and of how important our mission is to those we serve. We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of Americans to play such a vital role in being the Force Behind the Forces. Thanks for all you do to support our troops and their brave families.

See you at the USO!

WEST VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

2,570
Volunteer Hours

DOREEN BYLLESBY, USO ARIZONA

Volunteers are the heart and soul of the USO. Our Volunteer of the Quarter – West, Doreen Byllesby, volunteer since 2013, is an incredible representation of our Force Behind the Forces.

She will gladly step up and fill in whatever need the USO has, no matter what.

She's gone above and beyond in our statewide logistics program that provides items for care packs and isolation kits across the state.

Doreen is also a key volunteer for the USO Arizona Families of the Fallen program. She has a critical and sobering role in numerous missions for dignified transfers and providing support and comfort to families who have experienced a loved one that has made the ultimate sacrifice.

A road warrior, she drove more than 4,000 miles in 2020 to volunteer at our Fort Huachuca location and racked up miles by personally delivering snacks around the state.

Thank you, Doreen!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

2021 USO T-shirt Campaign

This year's USO T-shirt campaign runs from May 1-31. USO supporters who donate $29+ during the campaign receive the shirt as a token of our appreciation and as the Official Uniform of the Military Supporter. Click HERE to make your donation and get your shirt!!

The USO 1941 Legacy Society

The USO 1941 Legacy Society recognizes those friends of the USO who make a gift through a will, trust or other estate plan to continue the USO's long tradition of connecting service members back to family, home and country.

The generosity, dedication and patriotism of our 1941 Legacy Society members allows the USO to continue its mission.

Find out how you can join by contacting Charissa Gonzales at cgonzales@uso.org or learn more here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Four on the 4th Virtual Race

Put your fitness efforts toward a good cause by registering to run, jog, walk, or bike with us. In addition to receiving a USO t-shirt, race medal, and race bib, your support will directly impact the service men, women and families that sacrifice so much for this great nation. To learn more about the event, please contact Kyle Aube at kaube@uso.org. If you are interested in event sponsorship opportunities, please contact Charissa Gonzales at cgonzales@uso.org.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
May 1-31	Military Appreciation Month	Nationwide
May 1-31	USO T-Shirt Campaign	Nationwide
May 17-20	National Guard Pop-Up Gaming Centers	Salem/Portland, OR
May 29	Bob Hope's Birthday	Nationwide
May 31	Memorial Day	Nationwide
June 11-17	USO Mobile Support Panther Strike	Draper/Camp Williams, UT
July 1	Give More than Thanks Golf Classic	San Diego, CA
July 1	Annual Bob Hope USO K-Earth 101 Radiothon	Los Angeles, CA
July 1-4	Four on the 4th Virtual Race	Nationwide
July 22	USO Virtual Poker Challenge	Nationwide
Aug. 19	Stars & Stripes Golf Tournament	Aurora, OR
Sept. 1-6	Los Angeles Fleet Week	Los Angeles, CA
Sept. 23	Red, White & Blue Golf Classic	Newcastle, WA
Sept. 25	SAVE THE DATE: San Diego Gala	San Diego, CA
Oct. 3-11	San Francisco Fleet Week	San Francisco, CA
Oct. 16	USO Northwest Five-Star Gala & Auction	Renton, WA
Nov. 12-15	USO Experience: Salute the Troops	Las Vegas, NV
Nov. 27	Trot for the Troops 5K	Nationwide
Dec. 3	Palm Springs Gala	Palm Springs, CA

**For more information on events, please contact Cliff Gibson, cgibson@uso.org.*

OUR MISSION IN ACTION

*TOTAL SERVICE INSTANCES: **157,338**
*TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS: **22,495**

Volunteers are the life blood of the USO Nevada operations across the state!

Care packages and volunteers go hand in hand at USO San Diego bringing cheer to our sailors.

USO Northwest team merged into the USO West family on April 1 and joined board member Cleveland Ward III and region staff for a tour of Alaska Airlines lounge at SeaTac.

USO Arizona hosted members of the Fort Huachuca military community for a Phoenix Suns watch party.

USO West Board Chair, Marilyn Cohen, joined volunteers and staff to distribute healthy snacks, water and coffee to National Guard members stationed at the Cal State Los Angeles COVID-19 Vaccine Site.

Taco Thursday at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson! USO Alaska served tacos to the Fox Company 2-377 PFAR group.

USO NorCal served Chick-fil-A for to the troops at Camp Parks Army Base in Dublin, CA.

OUR MISSION

For 80 years, the USO strengthens America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation.

USO ALASKA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Brett Banks
bbanks@uso.org

Visit
alaska.uso.org

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

13,811
Total Service Connections

1,311
Center Visits

12,500
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA
SQUARE MILES: 663,300+
ACTIVE DUTY: 22,000
GUARD/RESERVE: 4,700

LOCATIONS
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
Eielson Air Force Base
Fort Wainwright
Anchorage MEPS

THE TEAM
STAFF: 6
VOLUNTEERS: 257

TRANSPORTATION
MOBILE UNIT: 1
USO VEHICLE: 2
TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

On the road again is the motto of the team at USO Alaska as they aim to offer USO services to all military throughout the vast and remote bases and installations this year. By air, boat and even snow machine we want to reach all of our military with our USO programs.

USO ARIZONA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Carla Garcia
cgarcia@uso.org

Visit
arizona.uso.org

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

22,061
Total Service Connections

6,947
Center Visits

15,114
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA
SQUARE MILES: 113,600
ACTIVE DUTY: 36,000
GUARD/RESERVE: 8,000

LOCATIONS
Phoenix MEPS
Yuma Proving Ground
US. Army Fort Huachuca
Phoenix Sky Harbor Int'l Airport

THE TEAM
STAFF: 5
VOLUNTEERS: 265
BOARD: 10

TRANSPORTATION
MOBILE UNIT: 0
USO VEHICLE: 2
TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

A new center at MCAS Yuma, a premier aviation training base in a desert town with highs reaching 128 degree temperatures, will open to support 4,500 active-duty Marines and sailors and their families.

BOB HOPE USO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Yvette Kelley
ykelley@uso.org

Visit
bobhope.uso.org

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

24,389
Total Service Connections

13,800
Center Visits

10,589
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA

SQUARE MILES: 51,000
ACTIVE DUTY: 32,000
GUARD/RESERVE: 26,000

LOCATIONS

Los Angeles Int'l Airport
MEPS LA
Ontario Int'l Airport
March Air Reserve Base
John Wayne OC Airport
Palm Springs Int'l Airport
MCAGCC Twentynine Palms

THE TEAM

STAFF: 9
VOLUNTEERS: 479
BOARD: 5

TRANSPORTATION

MOBILE UNIT: 1
USO VEHICLE: 1
TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

Bob Hope USO will open a new center at Fort Irwin National Training Center and increase our programs to strengthen our military families at remote bases in Southern California and provide support to our National Guard.

USO NEVADA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: DJ Stanhope
dstanhope@uso.org

Visit
nevada.uso.org

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

20,277
Total Service Connections

8,912
Center Visits

11,365
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA

SQUARE MILES: 110,567
ACTIVE DUTY: 10,322
GUARD/RESERVE: 7,648

LOCATIONS

Creech AFB
Nellis AFB
Las Vegas Airport – T1
Las Vegas Airport – T3

THE TEAM

STAFF: 4
VOLUNTEERS: 211
BOARD: 6

TRANSPORTATION

MOBILE UNIT: 0
USO VEHICLE: 1
TRAILER: 1

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

USO Nevada will expand its footprint at Nellis Air Force Base this year with a new center focused on gaming and entertainment. We continue to bring new and expanded support to Northern Nevada and our critical National Guard and their families.

USO NOR CAL

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Monique August
maugust@uso.org

Visit *northerncalifornia.uso.org*

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

13,811
Total Service Connections

1,311
Center Visits

12,500
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA
SQUARE MILES: 100,447
ACTIVE DUTY: 55,000
GUARD/RESERVE: 18,000

LOCATIONS
San Jose MEPS
Sacramento MEPS
Travis AFB
San Francisco Int'l Airport

THE TEAM
STAFF: 9
VOLUNTEERS: 107
BOARD: 5

TRANSPORTATION
MOBILE UNIT: 1
USO VEHICLE: 2
TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

USO Northern California is excited to welcome guests to the new USO at San Francisco Airport that opened in 2020. Our efforts to support remote training locations, including Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport is a key focus to bring the USO those who need us most.

USO NORTHWEST

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Don Leingang
dleingang@uso.org

Visit *northwest.uso.org*

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

15,955
Total Service Connections

3,767
Center Visits

12,188
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA
SQUARE MILES: 164,000
ACTIVE DUTY: 46,915
GUARD/RESERVE: 31,754

LOCATIONS
Fort Lewis (JBLM)
McChord Field (JBLM)
Sea-Tac Int'l Airport
Portland Int'l Airport
USO Pathfinder Transitions

THE TEAM
STAFF: 11
VOLUNTEERS: 458
BOARD: 17

TRANSPORTATION
MOBILE UNIT: 1
USO VEHICLE: 1
TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

USO Northwest is expanding to Fairchild Air Force Base and increasing bandwidth to provide support to more remote installations. In 2021, we are adding more virtual programs and support for military families.

USO SAN DIEGO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Ashley Camac
acamac@uso.org

Visit
sandiego.uso.org

AT A GLANCE

QTR 1

46,733
Total Service Connections

9,285
Center Visits

37,448
Program Participants

SERVICE AREA

SQUARE MILES: 4,526

ACTIVE DUTY: 142,000

GUARD/RESERVE: 23,500

LOCATIONS

Liberty Station

Neil Ash Airport

SD Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS)

Camp Pendleton

USO Pathfinder® Transitions

THE TEAM

STAFF: 20

VOLUNTEERS: 445

BOARD: 13

TRANSPORTATION

MOBILE UNIT: 1

USO VEHICLE: 3

TRAILER: 0

2021 GROWTH STRATEGY

USO San Diego will continue to expand their efforts to reach the growing number of military families in the San Diego County in 2021.

USO WEST REGION BOARD

Marilyn Cohen, West Region Chair
Envision Capital Management, Inc.

Joe Craver, USO San Diego Chair
American Red Cross

Paul Estrada, Bob Hope USO Chair
Ernst & Young

Patrick Fitzhugh, USO Arizona Chair
USAA

John Flynn
MGM Resorts

Doug Graham, USO Northern California Chair
Lockheed Martin Space

Wade Pope, USO Nevada Chair
Martin-Harris Construction Company

Scott Santoro
Delta Air Lines

Bill Sasser
The Management Trust

Pam Valdez, USO Northwest Chair
The Boeing Company, Retired

Bob Kurkjian
USO West President
bkurkjian@uso.org
562.999.7731

Charissa Gonzales
USO West Vice President
cgonzales@uso.org

David Thorson
USO West Director of Operations
dthorson@uso.org

@theUSO

@the_USO

youtube.com/theuso

linkedin.com/company/theuso

west.uso.org

The USO is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization (EIN/Tax ID: 13-1610451), and not part of the Department of Defense (DoD). For USO's State Disclosures, visit: https://www.uso.org/state-disclosures. For USO's Privacy Policy, visit: https://www.uso.org/privacy.