



**HEADS UP: BIG CHANGE
17 APRIL LUNCHEON**

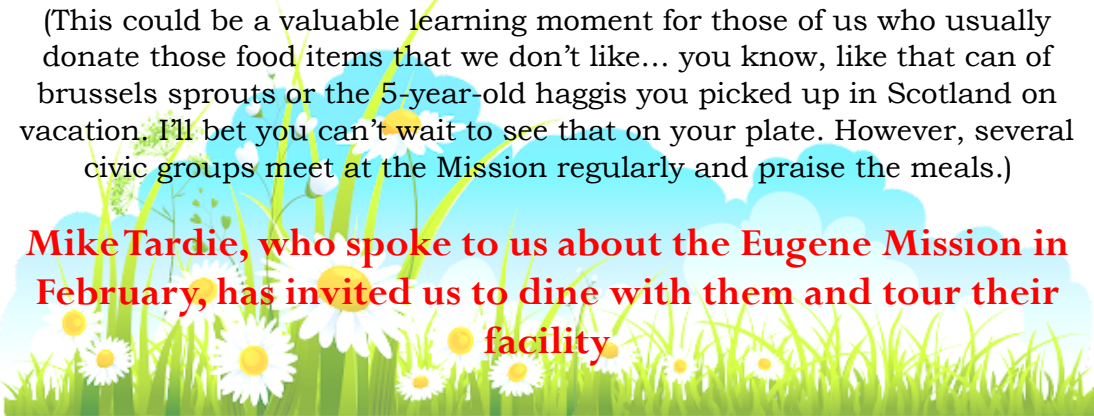
Eugene Mission Conference Center
1536 W. 1st Avenue, Eugene
11:30—12:00 Social / 12:00 Lunch

\$10.00
 DONATION

It's a little early to tell what's going to be on the menu since the meals the Mission prepares are based on the donations that have come in... usually from places like Trader Joe's and the like.

(This could be a valuable learning moment for those of us who usually donate those food items that we don't like... you know, like that can of brussels sprouts or the 5-year-old haggis you picked up in Scotland on vacation. I'll bet you can't wait to see that on your plate. However, several civic groups meet at the Mission regularly and praise the meals.)

Mike Tardie, who spoke to us about the Eugene Mission in February, has invited us to dine with them and tour their facility.



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APRIL 2024

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Come out to the U of O Ducks' Spring Football Game on April 27th AND help celebrate COL Dick Heyman's 100th birthday
Details to follow

MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2024 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Michael Kennedy	463-7951
1st Vice Pres	Floyd Bard	688-4172
2nd Vice Pres	Dick Kimbell	915-0405
Secretary	Pat Harris	942-5274
Treasurer	Elaine Callahan	968-1746
Chaplain	Jonathan Landon	946-3888
Membership	Ken Evans	914-6235
Newsletter	Pat Harris	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336
Surviving Spouse	Michael Pace	636-3745
Liaison		

Don't forget the ROTC Recognition Dinner on May 8th

Printing graciously provided by

541-762-8000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 27 MARCH 2024

PRESENT: Officers: President Michael Kennedy, 1st Vice President Floyd Bard, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, and Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Frank Balazs, Jonathan Landon, Tom Kulick, Scott Sandgathe and Michael Pace. Members John Toensing and Dick Norton were also present. A quorum was established.

OPENING: President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 1200 hours, led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 28 Feb 24 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: 28 February to 25 March 2024 was approved.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP 2024 DRIVE

Umpqua Account ROTC Scholarship Fund	\$ 2396.00
Benton Community Foundation ROTC Endowment Fund	\$ 2000.00
CONTRIBUTION TOTAL JUNE 1, 2023 – MARCH 25, 2024	\$ 4396.00

UMPQUA ACCOUNT

Chapter Operations:

Beginning balance as of Feb. 29, 2024	\$ 6956.96
Deposits: to Chapter Operations	\$ 761.00
Expenses include luncheon, door prizes, tax filing	\$ -763.70
Chapter Operations as of March 25, 2024	\$ 6954.26

Special Projects Fund: added \$50 from Christmas tree drive	\$ 4357.05
ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund: added \$132 in donation	\$ 2396.00
ROTC Funds transferred from closed OCCU Account	\$ 2022.84
Cadet Dinner Fund: added \$31 in donations, \$53.70 in costs	\$ 922.30
UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT Grand Total as of Mar25,2024	\$ 16652.45

OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND (includes \$5 in savings)

Balance Forward (Feb 27, 2024)	\$ 2020.52
Dividend Credit: (Yield Earned 0.20%)	\$ 2.32
Account closure, transfer to Umpqua ROTC Fund	\$ -2022.84

OCCU TOTAL BALANCE (CLOSED Mar 14, 2024) \$ 0.00

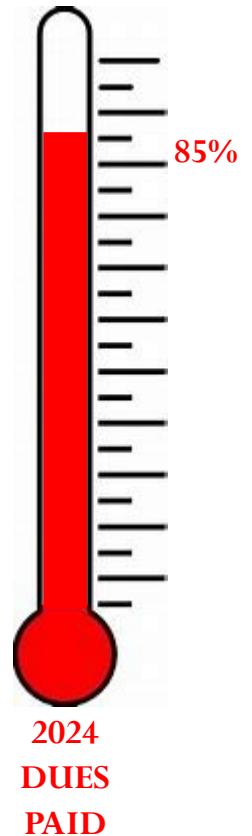
BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance Forward (Jan 31, 2024)	\$ 53626.33
Change in Value of Investments	\$ 1467.39
Administrative Cost	\$ -87.22
BCF Balance (Feb 29, 2024)	\$ 55006.50

NOTES:

The OCCU ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund has been closed. Initially, this account was opened to allow some profit in a money market account. However, with the opening of the Benton Community Fund, the funds in this bank were kept at about \$2000, as a guarantee for enough



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (continued)

funds to cover the scholarships. This generated very little income in interest, but inconvenience in accounting practices, and so is now closed.

The ROTC Scholarship fund will remain a part of the Umpqua Bank Account. The Annual Contributions will be detailed separately.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ROTC update - LTC Joe Snyder: None
2. Dues and luncheon payment status are all caught up, per Elaine Callahan.
3. The 2024 "Thoughts from the Board" openings for December only
4. ROTC Scholarship update: Benton Community Foundation (BCF) stated their fund grew 13.5 percent last year.
5. Dick Heyman's 100th birthday events.
 - LTC Joe Snyder has invited Dick and Barbara to be his guests at the U of O Spring Football Game on April 27th. Joe will meet them with a golf cart and take them through the tunnel to be introduced to the crowd. A flyover has been requested. Joe will try to reserve a seating section for MOAA members.
 - The chapter will purchase a cake for Dick's 100th birthday to be presented at the 8 May ROTC Recognition Dinner.
6. Guest Speaker Report:
 - Other than John Simmons making a brief presentation at the 17 April luncheon at the Eugene Mission, the next speaker engagement will be at the September general membership meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion on focusing our donations and updating the term "special projects."
 - The board discussed and decided to have the Treasurer rename the budget term "Special Projects" to "Veteran Service Fund" as it better indicates our use of the fund and helps donors understand where their donations go.
2. Exploring the option of opening a second foundation fund with lower administrative fees.
 - BCF administrative fees are 1.95 percent, taking out more from our scholarship fund than we prefer. 2nd VP Dick Kimbell explored several funds and found fees ranging between, 0.5 and 1.5 percent, saving us over \$700 per year.
 - Since starting capital needed to open a new fund ranges from \$5,000-\$10,000, Dick suggested not sending any more donations to BCF, but building scholarship funds in our treasury until we can start a foundation of our choosing.
 - Dick further noted that all fund choices need us to become 501(c)3 tax exempt organizations as their funds would come back to the chapter rather than directly to the students, so the board decided to have Eric Watkins and Ken Evans proceed with that process.
3. 17 April luncheon at the Mission – donation?

"The Emerald Voice"

is published monthly by Emerald Empire Chapter, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA),
PO Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0767
Email: EmeraldEmpireMOAA@gmail.com
Copy of newsletter available upon email request.

The Emerald Empire Chapter of MOAA is a Eugene-based 501(c)(19) veterans organization that meets regularly at the Veterans' Memorial Building at 1626 Willamette Street. We have 141 regular and associate members made up of active, retired and former members of the nation's seven uniformed services and their surviving spouses. We, and the national organization, are a non-partisan advocate on military personnel matters, especially proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community and veterans of the uniformed services. As a local chapter, we focus more on the local military community, e.g., gathering clothing and personal care items for the patients in the VA Hospital in Roseburg. Other areas of emphasis can be found at <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>. An application to join our local chapter or the national MOAA organization can be downloaded from our website's ABOUT US page.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (continued)

- Though the meal will be provided gratis by the Eugene Mission, the board decided to collect \$10 per reservation with the funds going back to the Mission.
4. Consider establishing a finance committee.
 - The board felt a finance committee would be helpful and decided to seek volunteers from the general membership to staff the committee.
 5. We are losing members faster than we are replacing them. How do we add new members to our chapter? John Toensing had several suggestions.
 - John has enlisted seven members so far and suggests all members identify at least one person to recruit. He suggests wearing service-identifiable clothing in public (caps or T-shirts) to help start conversations.
 - John further suggests setting up a station with a MOAA banner to talk to people at the Boat Show, the RV Show and the spring and fall Home and Garden Shows. Ask MOAA for brochures.
 - A suggestion was made to make new members more welcome by providing them with a mentor and then issue name tags and MOAA/service pins. Dick Kimbell made a motion to buy new members their first chapter name tag with their name and service on it. Floyd Bard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
 6. AMBA group liability insurance expires 5 May. The delay was caused by a change of carrier. AMBA has been asked to review the application expeditiously.

1st Vice President Report: Personal Affairs and Surviving Spouse Liaison, House Committee, Newsletter, Website:

- The website had 258 visits last month, but only 48 so far this month. Floyd Bard said he would talk to our webmaster about exploring ways to increase our searchability and to place a “pop-up” on the first page with a link to our application.
- The Newsletter goes out on Monday, 1 April.

2nd Vice President Report: Membership, Awards, Legislative, Benton Community Fund (BFC): Nothing not previously discussed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Frank Balazs reported member Tom Stewart’s wife Susan broke her hip two weeks ago. Dick Norton will send a card from the chapter.
- John Toensing says he “knows a guy” who has a PBY, two jets and several classic cars in a building out near the airport. He suggests we make a field trip. Floyd Bard and Michael Pace will work with John to set up an event sometime this summer.
- Floyd is headed to the Doolittle Raid Anniversary at Pendleton on April 18th. He still has a couple of seats in his car for anyone else who may want to go. Call him at 541-688-4172 if interested. Wear your uniform if possible.

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 17 Apr 2024, 1130 hours, Eugene Mission Conference Center, 1536 W 1st Ave, Eugene.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 24 Apr 2024, 1200 hours, Vet’s Building

Meeting Adjourned: 1300 Hours

Patrick Harris, Secretary

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD

Submitted by LTC Joseph Snyder, ARNG, Board Member and Professor of Military Science at U of O

It is with great pleasure and pride that I address the Emerald Empire Chapter, providing updates and insights into the ongoing endeavors of our esteemed ROTC program here at the University of Oregon. As we navigate through the challenges and triumphs of military training and leadership development, your unwavering support remains a cornerstone of our success.

Duty, Honor, Country: The Bedrock of Army Values

At the heart of our ROTC program lies a steadfast commitment to the core principles of duty, honor, and country. These values serve as guiding beacons, illuminating the path towards excellence and selfless service. It is through the embodiment of these values that our Cadets distinguish themselves as leaders of character and integrity. In every challenge they face and every decision they make, they are guided by the solemn oath they have taken to defend the freedoms and ideals we hold dear. As they embark on their journey towards commissioning as officers in the United States Army, they carry with them the weight of this sacred trust, fully aware of the responsibilities it entails.

Training Update

Winter FTX. Winter Term is always full of great training weather and high expectations. The Winter Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Camp Najaf, OR proved to be a resounding success, a testament to the dedication and resilience of our Cadets. Despite the biting cold, relentless rain and unforgiving terrain, they demonstrated exceptional adaptability and teamwork. Through a series of challenging scenarios and simulated missions, our Cadets honed their tactical proficiency and leadership skills. The Winter FTX not only tested their physical endurance but also fortified their mental fortitude, preparing them for the rigors of future deployments and operations.

Bataan Memorial Death March. Participation in the Bataan Memorial Death March in White Sands Missile Range, NM was a poignant and humbling experience for our Cadets. As they traversed the arduous course, carrying the weight of history on their shoulders, they paid tribute to the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. The march served as a solemn reminder of the valor and resilience exhibited by our predecessors in the face of adversity. Our Cadets emerged from this event with a profound sense of reverence for those who came before them and a renewed commitment to upholding their legacy of service and sacrifice.

A Heartfelt Appreciation

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the members of the Emerald Empire Chapter for your unwavering support and dedication to our mission. Your generosity and commitment have played an instrumental role in shaping the future leaders of our armed forces. As we continue to strive for excellence in all that we do, please know that your contributions are deeply valued and deeply appreciated.

I am confident that with your continued support, our Cadets will rise to meet the challenges of tomorrow with courage, honor, and distinction. Together, we will continue to uphold the proud tradition of service and sacrifice that defines our Nation's finest.



BRIEFS

ROTC DINNER RAFFLE PRIZES: Every year we gather as many raffle prizes as possible for the ROTC dinner in May... concentrating on the types of prizes that students seem most interested in, like gift certificates from restaurants and grocery stores. This year is no different, but with the pro, Bert Toepel, in semi-retirement, we need your help gathering the prizes. If you have the verbal skills to talk someone into donating a gift certificate or two, call Pat Harris at 541-942-5274. He will either add your prize to the pile or take your idea or contact info and go after the prize for you. As an option, some of our members have donated gift cards they bought themselves.



SAVE THESE DATES, TOO

Sunday, 9 June: This is the date of our Annual Membership Picnic this year. Remember, we decided to move it from September after we got smoked out a couple of times. The annual weather patterns (at least, according to The Farmer's Almanac) are the same for June and September, so we are betting that this will be a successful event. More details to follow in the June newsletter, but put the picnic date on your calendar for 9 June.

Thursday, 5 December: We had a conflict with the Veterans Association Building calendar, so we are moving our Christmas Party to Thursday, 5 December. This should make more parking available and minimize the noise level from the Ballroom upstairs. So, put it on your calendar: plated dinner, poinsettias, holiday entertainment, joyous conviviality.

UNIVERSITY
OF OREGON

ROTC Report:

The University of Oregon cadre and cadets will be hosting the April 27th University of Oregon Ducks' Spring Game. They will take that opportunity to celebrate the 100th birthday of "The World's Best Fighter Pilot"... Colonel Dick Heyman, former USAAC and retired USAF. All MOAA members are encouraged to attend. The admission is free and they will try to reserve a "MOAA Section" for easy access (details to follow).

Upcoming Events:

- UO Spring Game: 27 April 2024
- UO Dining Out: 30 May 2024
- UO MOAA Senior Dinner: 8 May 2024
- UO Spring FTX: 16-19 May 2024
- UO Commissioning Ceremony: 18 June 2024



BRIEFS AND BOOSTERS

YES, we are still collecting recyclable cans and bottles. We have added more than \$600 to our Veteran Service Fund so far. Participation from the general membership is very light but is beginning to pick up. While the board members have all brought in their cans and bottles, only a small number of members have. This is easy money. Rather than throwing your recyclables in the trash, bag 'em and bring 'em to a meeting. Help us do good things. Remember to pick up your BLUE recycling bags from John Toensing at our general membership meetings.



Our **ROTC Recognition Dinner** is scheduled for Wednesday, 8 May at the Veterans Memorial Building. The social starts at 6:00 PM and the dinner at 7:00 PM. There will be hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and bar service will be available. The buffet dinner entrée could very well be Mac's flavorful pot roast again. We will be presenting our scholarships to three MS III cadets and medallions to the MS IV graduates.

ROTC Boosters The Emerald Empire Chapter ROTC Boosters provide the scholarship monies normally awarded at the annual Cadet Dinner during the May General Meeting. We have zeroed out the 2023 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2024 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2024 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret) | Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret) | Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret) |
| Cabot Clark, LTC, USA (Ret) | Frank Balazs, 1stLt, USMC (Fmr) | Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret) |
| William Kellogg, Maj, USMC (Ret) | Helen Cook, Surviving Spouse | Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret) |
| John Ingman, LTC, USA (Ret) | Joelle Goodwin, MAJ, USA (Ret) | Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret) |
| John Abele, Capt, USMC (Ret) | Edward Gear, COL, USA (Ret) | Jonathan Landon, Chaplain (MAJ), USA (Ret) |
| Raymond Byrne, BG, USA (Ret) | James Miller, CPT, USA (Ret) | Lynnette Campbell, MAJ, USA (Ret) |
| James Koch, MAJ, USA (Ret) | Michael Lee, COL, USA (Ret) | Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC), USN (Ret) |
| Michele Mort, CPT, USA (Fmr) | Jackie Patterson, Surviving Spouse | Wilson Muhlheim, CPT, USA (Fmr) |
| Mary Ann Roos, Surviving Spouse | Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret) | John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) |
| Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret) | Darlene Tomasec, LTC, USA (Ret) | Dick Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) |
| Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) and | donations in honor of LTC Patrick Simpson and LTC Edward "Mike" Reuter, USA | |
| James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret) | Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) | Robert Barnes, CAPT, USN (Ret) |
| Helen Cook, Surviving Spouse | Richard Edwards, COL, USA (Ret) | Norman Hoffman, BG, USA (Ret) |
| Joseph Snyder, LTC, ARNG (Act) | Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret) | |

Booster contact is John Toensing (541) 345-7535. Checks may be given to the Treasurer at meetings or mailed to: Emerald Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0767.

DIRECTIONS TO LUNCH

Are you wondering how to find the Eugene Mission Conference Center for our luncheon meeting on April 17th?

If you have a navigator in your car, all you have to do is put 1536 West 1st Avenue, Eugene, into the “Where to” block and the navigator will take you right there.



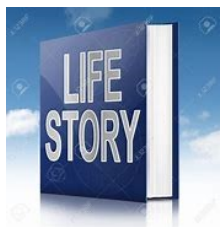
OR



If your navigator is a living, breathing human being in the other seat (or if you are using the old “map-in-the-lap” system), then here are a few simple directions to get you to the meeting:

Starting from 7th and Chambers, head east on 7th (toward downtown). Turn left on Blair Blvd (the street after Van Buren) and follow that road until about 50 feet from the very end, then turn left on West 1st Avenue. Drive 892 feet to the entrance of the parking lot on the left. The Conference Center building is on the right as you enter the parking lot.

If you are starting from 6th and Jefferson (or the off ramp from I-105), go four blocks (the last block is a short one) to Blair Blvd and turn right. Follow that road until about 50 feet from the very end, then turn left on West 1st Avenue. Drive 892 feet to the entrance of the parking lot on the left. The Conference Center building is on the right as you enter the parking lot.



WE REALLY DO WANT YOUR STORY: We would still like to put together the story of our members’ military exploits. To do that we need your input. I guess we could just make up stuff... and that could be fun... but think what your grandkids would say when told that grandpa and Klinger shared the same wardrobe.

We’re not trying to write a book here. We’d like to be able to share an outline of your career with your fellow members, maybe put a line or two in a fleshed-out Directory along with your picture or just give us all an opportunity to learn what we really have in common. I’ve attached the “suggested” bio form to the distribution email. You can print it and write on it (I will type it up later) or type into it. Then all we ask is that you get it back to us by email, snail mail, or just handing it in at your next meeting.

SHARE A LITTLE. It could be fun to get a little insight into that member sitting next to you.

**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

Emerald Empire Chapter
P.O. Box 767
Eugene, OR. 97440

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Website:

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E-mail:

MOAAofEugene@gmail.com



*Thank You for
supporting MOAA
with your
membership.*

**It's
never
too late
to
become
a MOAA
Life
Member**



Service, loyalty,
honesty and
integrity

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MOAA is the largest veterans' organization for military officers in the United States, with approximately 364,000 members. The organization represents those on active duty, former officers, members of the National Guard, Reserve, Retirees and their surviving spouses.

Chapter Mission Statement:

The mission of the Emerald Empire Chapter of MOAA is to advocate for our military community and connect it to the nation we serve.

