

General Membership Meeting, September 9th



Summer is over
and
Fall is in the air
Wednesday, 9 Sep
11:30 social
Noon lunch

MENU

Beef and Sausage
Lasagna
Caesar Salad
Fruit Salad
Sauteed Vegetables
Garlic Bread
Cookies

GUEST SPEAKER

Chief Chris Skinner, Eugene Police Department

Will speak on Cameras, K-9s and Drones

Guests always welcome but must make a reservation: MOAAofEugene@gmail.com

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SEPTEMBER 2026

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September

07 Labor Day
09 MOAA Luncheon, 1130, Vets
10 Stand Down set up, 0900-1800
11 Lane County Stand Down, 0900-1400
12 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony
18 U.S. Air Force Birthday
23 Board Meeting, 1200, Vets

October

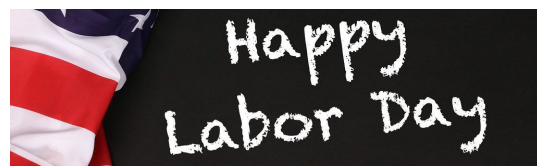
03 NOAA Birthday
13 U.S. Navy Birthday
14 MOAA Luncheon, 1130, Vets

CALENDAR

MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2026 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Floyd Bard	688-4172
1st Vice Pres	Ken Evans	914-6235
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	290-0814
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336
Surviving Spouse	Michael Pace	636-3745
Liaison		



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THE VETERANS OF LANE COUNTY NEED YOUR HELP

Set-up is Thursday, 10 Sep from 10 am to 6 pm

We will be manning a MOAA table on Friday, 11 Sep from 9 am to 2 pm

If you can help, just show up on Thursday and find Floyd Bard, Ken Evans and Jonathan Landon at the MOAA table on Friday.



**We Are Inviting
All Veterans, National Guard,
Reservists, Active Duty Personnel,
and Military Family Members
To Be Our Guests**

Friday, September 11 * 7 am - 2 pm

Lane Events Center

796 W 13th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon

Lane County Stand Down

Enjoy Free Meals

Breakfast: 7 am - 10 am

Lunch: 11:30 am - 1 pm

Free On-Site Services

Haircuts

Chair Massage

Limited Dental Care

Some services may not be available on
the day of the Stand Down

Connect With Service Providers For Help With

Food * Housing

Health Care

Mental Health Care

Legal Issues

Child Support Issues

Domestic Violence

Senior & Disability Services

And more...

*A Hand Up.
Not A Handout.*



Learn more at
lanecountystanddown.org

**Free Transportation To
The Stand Down
Provided by LTD**

Tell the driver you are coming to
the Lane County Stand Down

***** Job Fair *****

Local Employers

Private Companies and
Government Agencies

Also Learn About

Training Opportunities
and

Military-to-Civilian
Job Transition Programs

Free Goods For Men, Women, and Children

Clothing, Shoes,
Accessories, Linens,
Personal Care Items,
Cold Weather Gear,
Pet Food & Supplies

**DOD Gear For
Homeless Veterans**

THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD

Greetings from 1st Vice President Ken Evans

Thank you for being a member of our Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA:

There are several duties of the 1st VP including oversight of health, welfare, surviving spouse, house committee, newsletter, webmaster and purchasing projects. I also work with the 2nd VP on Membership. Today's thoughts will focus on legislative and membership,



**Go to MOAA.org, then ADVOCACY, then
LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER**



First, thank you to those that have participated in the MOAA Call to Action whereby you have visited the national MOAA website and viewed the legislative priorities and sent in letters to our legislators showing your support for some, or all, of the highlighted areas of concern.

<https://takeaction.moaa.org/> We continue to need your help in support of MOAA Key Goals for this year's congress. To name a few are the Shutdown Fairness Act and the Military CARE Act (H.R. 6796). Of great concern is the Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 2102 and S. 1032), that will rectify the current prevention of disabled service members from receiving both the retirement pay they earned through service and the disability compensation they need from the VA. The Major Richard Star Act would fix this inequity by allowing combat-injured servicemembers medically retired with fewer than 20 years of service to receive both their retirement pay and VA disability compensation.

Remember to Check Out the Rest of MOAA's Take Action Center

Membership: the Emerald Empire chapter has experienced a drop in membership due to several factors. The chapter has been a wonderful place to meet and socialize and, through continued support, the chapter has remained active in supporting the U of O ROTC program and service members and veterans through our Veterans Special Projects fund. The growth of membership is crucial to maintaining or increasing our ability to participate with and support our local uniformed services members. Please keep your eyes and ears open to potential new members. Remember, potential new members receive a complimentary meal at the first meeting they attend. Please feel free to contact me or any board member with your prospects.

REMEMBER, the national MOAA is 364,000 members strong and is supporting past, present and future members of the United States Uniformed Services. Through your continued involvement and support, you become the embodiment of MOAA's commitment to Never Stop Serving.

MOAA... What We Do

We, and the national organization, are a non-partisan advocate on military personnel matters affecting the career force, the retired community and veterans of all the uniformed services. Our main areas of emphasis can be found at <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>. As a local chapter, we focus more on the local military and veteran community, e.g., supporting the programs of Habitat for Humanity and St. Vincent de Paul targeting the Lane County veteran population.

"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)(3) veterans organization that meets regularly at the Veterans' Memorial Building at 1626 Willamette Street. We have 83 regular and associate members made up of active, retired and former members of the nation's eight 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, 26 Aug 2026

Excerpts from the Board meeting minutes. Full minutes attached to the distribution email.

PRESENT: Officers: 1st Vice President Ken Evans, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Treasurer Elaine Calahan and Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Les Cunningham, Jonathan Landon, Michael Pace and Michael Kennedy. Former board members Joe Snyder was also in attendance. A quorum was established.

OPENING: 1st Vice President Evans called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jonathon Landon gave an opening prayer.

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER MOAA, TREASURER'S REPORT, JULY 22 – AUGUST 25, 2026

BALANCE ON HAND (August 25, 2026):

Chapter Operations	\$ 5759.32	
Veterans Services Fund	\$ 3322.05	
ROTC Scholarship Drive 2026	\$ 2200.00	
ROTC Scholarship Drive 2027	\$ 156.00	
ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$ 11310.84	
Cadet Dinner Fund	\$ 471.20	
COLUMBIA CHECKING BALANCE Aug 25, 2026	\$ 23219.41	\$ 23219.41

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Point of Sale Progress – Elaine, Ken.
 - A. Big news. Our Point Of Sale (POS) system will be ready for a “soft launch” at the 9 Sep luncheon, meaning you can now use credit cards for meals, dues and donations. Our Treasurer is requesting that for this meeting you be prepared to pay with an alternative method (cash or check) if we have problems on this initial trial.
 - B. NOTE: since we are charged for this service, we are charging \$21 for the luncheons since \$20 needs to go to the caterer. The chapter will cover those costs for dues and donations.
2. VMA Sep 11th Remembrance Event to be held 12 Sep, funding? Participation? – Floyd
 - A. Details of the Veterans Memorial Association 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony to be held at the Memorial Wall in Skinner Butte Park on 12 September, will be in our September newsletter.
 - B. Any remaining funds left from the \$500 we have already donated to help fund the event will be returned.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reimbursement for attendee(s) to Oregon Council of Presidents meeting in PDX 1 Sep.

MOTION: Pat Harris moved to allow \$300 to cover hotel, meals and mileage for Ken Evans to attend the Oregon Council meeting and the Portland Chapter 70th Anniversary Celebration in Portland on September 1st. Michael Kennedy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. List Veteran organizations to receive Veterans Service Funds donations - Elaine.
 - A. Please email your ideas of non-profit organizations that serve local Veterans to our email address: MOAAofEugene@gmail.com.
 - B. MOTION: Dick Kimbell moved to send \$250 to the Campbell Community Center to fund their Veterans Breakfast. Michael Pace seconded and plans to attend the event. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Lane County Stand Down participation.

Ken Evans and Jonathan Landon will man the table at the Stand Down. Dick Kimbell will help during set-up. Details of the event will be in the September newsletter.

BRIEFS AND BOOSTERS

President Bard Sends: September 2026 will be the 25th anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and the UAL 93 crash at Shanksville, PA. Our own Secretary was essential in the post attack of the Twin-towers on Manhattan as the Acting Commander of Coast Guard Activities New York, the Captain of the Port of New York and New Jersey and the Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection. Pat Harris was instrumental in the evacuation of over 500,000 people from Manhattan Island, as well as deploying the Coast Guard to provide patrols to prevent the possibility of more attacks from the two ports he was responsible for.

Our Chapter, with the coordination of Ken Evans, has joined VFW Post 293 and American Legion Post 3 with the "Remembrance Ceremony of 9/11" on Saturday, September 12th at 0830 at the Memorial Wall, Skinner Butte Park (see flyer on page 3). Attending this event is highly encouraged, but volunteering to help with the event would be very helpful and show a level of support from our Chapter. To volunteer, you can access the "Volunteer" link at <https://x.gldn.io/TVSYKAZDD4b>. If you plan on attending, VFW Post 293 is asking for an RSVP at link <https://forms.gle/ev648BBmhkB2YtSTA>. I hope to see as many members and families at this event as possible. Thank you so much.

This year is the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks AND the 250th celebration of the birth of our nation.

More than 1.3 million Americans have died to keep this nation secure. The nearly 3,000 people who died on 9/11 emphasizes the importance of our continued commitment.



Emerald Empire Chapter MOAA... Who We Are

We have 83 regular and surviving spouse members made up of active, retired and former members of the nation's eight uniformed services and their surviving spouses. An application to join our local chapter and/or the national MOAA organization can be downloaded from our website: www.emeraldempiremoaa.org/ABOUT-US.

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 2026 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2027 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2027 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)

Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)

Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)

Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)

Booster contact is Dick Kimbell (541) 915-0405. Checks may be given to the Treasurer at meetings or mailed to: Emerald Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0767.

MOAA, VFW and American Legion 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

9/11

25TH ANNIVERSARY

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 - 2026

WE WILL NEVER FORGET
HONORING THE HEROES.
COMFORTING THE FALLEN.



Hosted by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 293

Event partners:

- American Legion Post 3
- Military Officers Association of America, Emerald Empire Chapter

Date: September 12th, 2026

Time: 0830 (8:30 a.m.)

Location: Memorial Wall, Skinner Butte Park, Eugene

AN INVITATION TO HONOR AND REFLECT

- Remember the victims of the four crash sites
- Honor Blue & Gold Star Families
- Participant reflections & personal testimonies
- Proper respect for this anniversary

THIS EVENT IS NOT LIMITED TO VETERANS. We welcome Law Enforcement, Fire, Medical professionals, Blue/Gold Star Families, Civilians connected to the attack sites, AND the general public.

We have fought to preserve the many freedoms we have as Americans, please keep remarks politically neutral and respectful of the fallen and their families.



RSVP Appreciated

<https://forms.gle/ev648BBmhkB2YtSTA>

GUEST SPEAKER AND BRIEFS

September Guest Speaker—Eugene Police Chief Chris Skinner

Chris Skinner became Eugene's police chief on April 30, 2018. Chief Skinner had served as chief of police in Richland, Washington since 2011. He began his public safety career in Oregon with the Monmouth Police Department, where he served as a reserve officer from 1989 to 1991, until he was hired as a full-time patrol officer for Philomath Police Department. He worked for Benton County Sheriff's Office from 1993 to 2001, where he rose to the rank of sergeant and served throughout the county, including with Oregon State University.

During his tenure with the Hillsboro Police Department from 2001 to 2011, Chief Skinner moved up the ranks from police lieutenant, to commander, and then deputy chief. While there, he had the opportunity to work with diverse populations and initiated a Domestic Violence Response Team to better serve victims of domestic abuse in the community.

In Richland, Chief Skinner focused on growing the police department's communication and community policing efforts while implementing data-driven initiatives to reduce crime. He served as a co-chair of the Tri-City Coalition Against Trafficking and the Washington State Department of Commerce's Task force against the Trafficking of Humans. Within his department, he also created an Internet Crimes against Children task force.

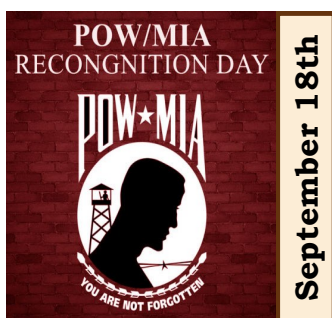
Chief Skinner is a founding co-chair of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chief's Public Trust Committee, which uses 21st Century Policing to guide work aimed at building trust between public safety agencies and communities across Washington. In March 2021, he received approval from Governor Kate Brown and the Senate to represent the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police on the Board of Public Safety Standards & Training. In 2022 he was president of Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. Chief Skinner earned a master's degree in business administration from George Fox University and a bachelor's degree in law enforcement and psychology from Western Oregon University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.



Constitution Day
17 September

Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution by thirty-nine brave men on September 17, 1787, recognizing all who are born in the U.S. or who by naturalization, have become citizens.

The links to the signers' biographies can be found at <https://www.constitutionday.com/>



The Defense Department remembers and honors those Americans who were prisoners of war and those who served and never returned home. DOD's POW/MIA Accounting Agency continues the search for the missing, fulfilling the nation's promise to leave no service member behind.

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Website:

www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

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. Other areas of emphasis can be found at <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>.

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. An application to join our local chapter or the national MOAA organization can be downloaded from our website's ABOUT US page.



Happy 78th Birthday Air Force

Unless you count the 40 years the Army spent preparing for the birth of the Air Force