THE EMERALD VOICE

MOAA®

A FIVE STAR CHAPTER

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

2026 Annual Meeting—Time to vote

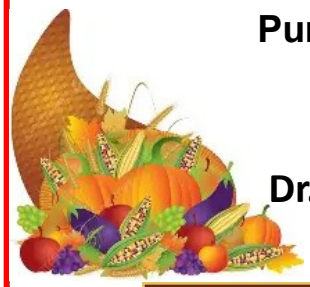
Wednesday, November 18th—1130 Social / 1200 Lunch

Vet's Building, 1626 Willamette

THANKSGIVING MENU



Roasted turkey breast served with cranberries
Mashed potatoes with turkey gravy
Seasoned stuffing
Green Beans and Onions with Bacon
Mac's Caesar salad
Grandma's rolls & butter
Pumpkin pie with whipped cream





PROGRAM

Dr. Nichole Ingalls, Former USAF
Trauma Director in Afghanistan

Election of Officers and Board Members

Remember: Guests are always invited, but must make a reservation.

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 2026

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CHRISTMAS PARTY, 9 DEC, 1:30 PM

CALENDAR

November
01 Daylight Saving Time Ends
03 Election Day
10 Marine Corps Birthday
11 Veterans Day
18 MOAA Luncheon, 1130, Vets
18 Board Meeting, 1330, Vets
26 Thanksgiving
December
09 MOAA Christmas Party, 1330, Vets
13 National Guard Birthday
16 Board Meeting, 1200, Vets
25 Christmas Day
31 New Year's Eve

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 Liaison	Michael Pace	636-3745

VETERANS DAY
November 11th

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EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER ELECTION FOR 2027

The 2027 Slate of Officers and Board of Directors Members

The Emerald Empire Chapter nominating committee has completed its selection of candidates for Officer and Board of Director positions for 2027. These names are submitted to you, the general membership, and will be voted on during the Annual Meeting on November 18th. Nominations will still be allowed from the floor during the meeting for any additional chapter members looking to compete and be voted on. You must be present at the meeting to vote.

CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE 1 JAN 2027, $35.00

OFFICERS

President	**Floyd Bard**
1ST Vice President	**Ken Evans**
2nd Vice President	**Les Cunningham**
Secretary	**Pat Harris**
Treasurer	**Elaine Callahan**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

U.S. Army	**Jonathan Landon**
U.S. Marine Corps	**Michael Kennedy**
U.S. Navy	**Scott Sandgathe**
U.S. Air Force	**Rich Cheney**
U.S. Coast Guard	**Michael Kennedy**
U.S. Public Health Service	**Ron Lechnyr**
University of Oregon ROTC	**LTC Ryon Skiles**
Surviving Spouse Liaison	**Michael Pace**
Legislative Affairs	**Ken Evans**
U.S. Space Force	**Vacant**
NOAA	**Vacant**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Personal Affairs	**Michael Pace**
Membership	**Ken Evans**
Programs	**Ken Evans**
Chaplain	**Jonathan Landon**
Newsletter	**Pat Harris**
Website	**Ginger Banks**
House and Calling Committee	**Pat Harris**
ROTC and Awards	**Eric Watkins**
Historian	**Eric Watkins**
Scholarship Fund	**Les Cunningham**
Veteran Service Fund	**Ken Evans**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 28 Oct 2026

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

PRESENT: Officers: President Floyd Bard, 1st Vice President Ken Evans, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Treasurer Elaine Callahan and Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Jonathan Landon, Michael Pace and Michael Kennedy. The new U of O ROTC PMS LTC Ryon Skiles and former board members John Toensing and Eric Watkins were also in attendance. A quorum was established.

O**PENING** President Bard called the meeting to order at 1203 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jonathan Landon gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 23 September 2026 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER MOAA, **TREASURER'S REPORT**, SEP 23-OCT 27, 2026

BALANCE ON HAND (October 27, 2026):

Chapter Operations	$ 5977.05
Veterans Services Fund	$ 3122.05
ROTC Scholarship Drive 2027	$ 340.00
ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund	$ 11310.84
Cadet Dinner Fund	$ 471.20
COLUMBIA CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	$ 21221.14

Email invoices for dues will go out around 15 Nov, just in time to pay at the 18 Nov annual meeting. Our Treasurer will be able to take luncheon fees, dues and donations at the meeting.

ROTC REPORT:

President Bard appointed LTC Skiles to our Board of Directors as the Professor of Military Science at the University of Oregon..

OLD BUSINESS

Ideas for Veterans Service Fund (VSF) – Floyd.

A general discussion was held to list possible recipients for donations from our VSF. To vet the organizations, Ken Evans will chair a VSF Committee with John Toensing and make recommendations to the board before the 18 Nov meeting. The Board will then decide on amounts to be awarded to the selected recipients.

John Toensing suggested we find new sources for the VSF since we are no longer selling flags or Christmas trees.

NEW BUSINESS

Payment of Dues for new members – Pat, Floyd.

MOTION: Pat Harris moved that new members who join and pay their dues at or after the September general membership meeting will pay only $15 for the remainder of the year. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Landon and approved with only one dissention.

Veteran's Day Events – Floyd, Pat.

VFW 293 to host a Veterans Day program on 11/11 at 1100 in the Ballroom of the VMA.

Elks will hold an evening affair that will be listed in our newsletter.

Campbell Community Center Veterans' Breakfast on 12 November.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Member John Toensing announced that the VA is now able to prescribe Ozempic, a GLP-1 drug, for diabetes control. John says it works better than what they used to prescribe.

THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD

Greetings from the desk of Michael Pace, the Personal Affairs Officer.

The origin of this story is unknown and what I can't remember I will "improvise."

It was advertised that the devil was going to put his tools up for sale. On the date of the sale the tools were placed out for inspection by the public. Each was clearly marked with the sale price. There were a treacherous lot of nasty looking tools: Guilt. Envy. Jealousy. Doubt. Pride. Complacency. Hate. Unresolved love. Refusal to forgive, and more. Set apart from the others was a harmless looking tool, well worn and priced very high.

The name of the tool? Almost every passerby wanted to know.

The devil explained, That is discouragement.

Why was it priced so outrageously high?

Because to the devil, it is more useful than all the others. It is used to pry open and get into a person's heart when the other tools are inadequate. And once he gets inside he can make the person do what he chooses. It is so badly worn because it has been used on almost everyone since few people know who it belongs to.

At the end of the sale the tool was never sold because the price was so high. It is still his favorite tool and he still uses it on people today.

A very odd lesson from the personal affairs officer, but I hope it grabbed your attention. If you need help we are here for you. If discouragement and pride keep you from letting us take on a burden if we are able, you may be stuck with results you didn't count on.

Submitted by: Michael Pace, Personal Affairs Officer and Surviving Spouse Liaison

Update Your Directory Listing… Please

We plan to publish an all new Chapter Member Directory on 1 Jan 2027. To make this as accurate as possible, we ask that everyone look at the last edition and make sure your information is complete and accurate. New members who have changed address, any phone numbers, spousal status or email address since joining should also respond. If anything needs to be added or corrected, please contact Pat Harris, at MOAAofEugene@gmail.com or call at 541-290-0814.

If you do not have access to an old directory and have changed any contact info in the last couple of years, please send that info to Pat.

Anyone changing their Directory information within one month of publishing will be given a new address in Newark, New Jersey.



Don't forget… bring TOYS FOR TOTS to the party 9 December



Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

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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 86 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.

GUEST SPEAKER, NOTICES AND BOOSTERS

NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER: Surgeon Nichole Ingalls, MD, MPH



She joined PeaceHealth Surgical Specialties at Northwest Specialty Clinics in 2023. She is skilled in treating breast cancer and a range of other conditions including diseases of the gallbladder, colon and thyroid, and hernias. Dr. Ingalls earned her medical degree at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She completed her residency at Michigan State University in Grand Rapids and a trauma and critical care fellowship at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio. She was an active-duty Air Force trauma surgeon at the University Medical Center in Las Vegas. In 2012, she served as the trauma director at Craig Joint Theater Hospital in Afghanistan. During her service, she was active in research and taught medical students, residents and fellows. Describing her approach to medicine, she says, “I develop deep relationships with my patients. They are very important to me, and I take care of them like family members.” She has a heart for global surgical care, earned a master’s in public health in international surgery and volunteers with and financially supports surgeons working overseas. Dr. Ingalls, her husband and their three children enjoy hiking, camping, trail running and mountaineering.

Eugene Elks Veterans Ceremony & Dinner

Wednesday, November 11th



Join us in celebrating our Military Personnel and Veterans.
Ceremony begins at 5:30pm, and Dinner will follow at 6:00pm.
Menu: Beef Pot Roast or Cordon Bleu:
***Please RSVP** by: November 6th at: 541-345-8416*
Military Personnel & Veterans will eat for FREE
$18.00 Adults; $10.00 Children (under 10)
2470 W. 11th Ave., Eugene
GUEST SPEAKERS and HONORED GUESTS
Guest Speaker: Floyd Bard, CW5, USA (Ret), Command Chief Warrant Officer
Chaplain: Michael Kennedy, CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret)
Military/Patriotic Music Performed by: Barry Barreau and Sandy Mitchell

Save $5

Save $5.00 by paying your annual chapter dues BEFORE 1 January 2027. After that date the dues goes back to $35.00.

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) — Frank Balazs, 1stLT, USMC (Fmr) — Howard Watkins, Jr., LTC, USA (Ret)
Jonathan Landon, Chaplain (MAJ), USA (Ret) — Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC) 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

SAVE THE DATE



The MOAA Christmas Holiday Party is now on a Wednesday, December 9th. Social hour starts at 1:30 pm with bar service available. Dinner is at 2:30 pm.

Open Season for 2027 dental and vision insurance through FEDVIP is November 9th through December 7th. Go to benefeds.com and choose Shop FEDVIP Plans near the top of the page, then select Dental or Vision and follow the prompts to get to the Plan Compare Tool. If you don't want to make any changes, you don't have to do a thing.

By the way, Medicare's open enrollment period runs Oct 15 to Dec 7 annually.

FEDVIP



2027 MEETING DATES

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER CALENDAR FOR 2027

January:	13th Luncheon, Remembrance	July:	28th Board Meeting
	27th Board Meeting		
February:	10th Luncheon	August:	25th Board Meeting
	24th Board Meeting		
March:	10th Luncheon	September:	8th Luncheon
	24th Board Meeting		22nd Board Meeting
April:	14th Luncheon	October:	13th Luncheon
	28th Board Meeting		27th Board Meeting
May:	5th ROTC Recognition Dinner	November:	10th Luncheon
	26th Board Meeting		17th Board Meeting
June:	12th Chapter Picnic	December:	8th Christmas Dinner
	23rd Board Meeting		15th Board Meeting

Unless otherwise arranged, luncheons and dinners will be held in the Colonial Room and Board Meetings will be held in the Veterans' (Board) Room.

Unless otherwise arranged, luncheons will start at 11:30 am (serving at noon) and end by 2:00 pm. Dinners will start at 6:00 pm (serving at 7:00 pm) and end by 9:00 pm. The Christmas Party will start at 3:30 pm this year. Board meetings will start at noon until 2:00 pm.

You are invited to CadetsGiving (Thanksgiving for Cadets): Member LTC Ryon Skiles, PMS of the U of O ROTC, is continuing the program for cadets who are staying on campus during the short Thanksgiving break. Ryon, his staff and the stranded cadets get together on Wednesday the 25th, the day before Thanksgiving, at the Agate Auditorium and share a potluck of traditional family dishes. If any MOAA member would like to bring their Grandma's and Grandpa's world famous family dish and join the Cadets for the meal, be there at 1300.

PUT YOUR RMD TO GOOD USE !

It's that time of the year for Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your retirement account. This year please consider making a contribution to the MOAA Chapter ROTC scholarship foundation or the Chapter Veteran Service Fund. Your gift eliminates the federal tax on your distribution and helps support the ROTC cadets with the Chapter's annual scholarship awards. The Chapter is a 501(C)3 nonprofit. Your financial advisor will assist you with the donation. All they need is: EIN #99-4901005 for Emerald Empire Chapter MOAA Foundation. Please indicate in the "memo" line your preference: Scholarship, or Vet Svc Fund. We suggest you have your advisor send the check to your address so you can make a copy, then mail it to our treasurer. Thank you for your support of the ROTC and the Veteran Service organizations.

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 Honor Flight and Housing Our Veterans targeting the Lane County veteran population.

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

Veterans Day
NOV 11th

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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES
NOVEMBER 10TH