

ROTC RECOGNITION DINNER

Wed, May 7th, 1800 Social, 1900 Dinner, \$32
Veterans' Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette

Appetizers

Barbecue Meatballs

Hummus Platter with Pita, Kalamata Olives, etc.

Main Course

Mac's Caesar Salad

Pot Roast of Beef

Roasted Rosemary Potatoes

Chef's Choice of Seasonal Vegetables

Grandma's Rolls and Butter

Cowboy Cookie Squares



Program

Presentation of Scholarships to U of O ROTC MSIII Cadets and

Presentation of Medallions to Graduating MSIV Cadets

DRESS: Business Casual, Uniforms are Encouraged

Reminder— If you make a reservation for lunch/dinner, you are expected to pay for the meal, even if you do not attend.

VOLUME 61, ISSUE 5

MAY 2025

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MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2025 CHAPTER OFFICERS (all 541-)

President	Floyd Bard	688-4172
1st Vice Pres	John Toensing	345-7535
2nd Vice Pres	Dick Kimbell	915-0405
Secretary	Pat Harris	290-0814
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		

**Our annual picnic is
Saturday, June 7th**

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THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD

FROM LTC JOE SNYDER

THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

University of Oregon Army ROTC

"Training Tomorrow's Leaders Today"

Greetings to the esteemed members of the Emerald Empire Chapter of MOAA,

As the Professor of Military Science at the University of Oregon, it is both an honor and a responsibility to share updates from the front lines of leadership development—our Army ROTC program. Despite a shifting national landscape and policy adjustments, I'm pleased to report that our enrollment numbers remain strong. Interest in military service among today's students continues to rise, particularly among those motivated by the call to serve their country in an increasingly complex world.

One of the most significant shifts we've seen this year is in the ROTC scholarship environment. The Department of the Army, responding to broader Department of Defense priorities and recent Executive Orders under President Trump's administration, has restructured scholarship offerings. These changes prioritize academic merit, physical fitness, and leadership potential, aligning with the broader national return to a military culture centered on **lethality, readiness, and performance-based advancement**. While the number and type of scholarships available have evolved, the quality of our Cadet Corps has not diminished. In fact, it continues to improve.

The renewed emphasis on **meritocracy** within the commissioning process is visible at every level of our program. Cadets are now more than ever aware that their performance—not only in the classroom but in the field, in physical training, and in leadership labs—directly impacts their future as Army officers. This clarity has sharpened their focus and deepened their commitment.

We've responded by ensuring our training is rigorous, realistic, and relevant. Our program has doubled down on developing Cadets who are not just college graduates in uniform, but **adaptive leaders** prepared for the modern battlefield. We are creating field training environments that challenge mental and physical limits. Our leadership labs are increasingly scenario-driven, pushing Cadets to make time-sensitive decisions in complex, ambiguous conditions—mirroring what they may face in their first units.

Additionally, new Executive Orders and Department of Defense policies have brought about changes in how we engage with university partners and administer program operations. From compliance requirements to eligibility criteria, our cadre has worked diligently to navigate these mandates while preserving the core mission: to develop smart, strong, ethical officers of character. We are proud to say that our Cadets remain mission-focused and resilient in the face of change.

As alumni, veterans, and lifelong supporters of military service, your continued mentorship and engagement play a vital role in this mission. Whether through speaking engagements, networking events, or quiet encouragement, your example fuels the drive of the next generation.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for your unwavering support of Army ROTC and the future leaders we are privileged to train. We stand at the crossroads of tradition and transformation—and thanks to partners like you, we're navigating that road with confidence and purpose.

Train to Lead!

"Webfoot Warriors!"



Our annual picnic is Saturday, June 7th

ROTC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Emerald Empire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America



**Recognize the outstanding MSII and MSIII achievers
and all the graduating MSIV class.**



AGENDA

1800: Social adjustment
Call to order—Dick Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)
Pledge of Allegiance
Star Spangled Banner
Invocation—Jonathan Landon, MAJ, USA (Ret)
Self-introductions (excluding Cadets)
1915: Dinner
1945: LTC Snyder speaks about the ROTC program
Military Science III awardees introduced
Presentation of three Cadet Scholarships
Introductions of Military Science IV Cadets
Presentation of Chapter Medallions by BG Norm Hoffman-ARNG (Ret)
2030: Raffle Drawing—Jim Koch, MAJ, USA (Ret)
2045: Adjourn



2025 ROTC Scholarship Recipients

Benton Community Foundation recipient

Eden Fisher is a ROTC cadet at the University of Oregon. She is currently a sophomore pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Her preferred branch is to become a Medical Services officer in the Army. Eden is from Henderson, Nevada, but spent most of her life growing up in the Bay Area, California. In her free time, she enjoys playing piano, cooking, and spending time with friends.

Benton Community Foundation recipient

Ivy Fleury is a MS3 Cadet studying Psychology at the University of Oregon. She is also currently enlisted in the Oregon Army National Guard. Ivy is an Oregon native and when she graduates and commissions, she hopes to branch Aviation to fly Blackhawks in the National Guard. She enjoys hike and skiing in her free time.

MOAA ROTC Scholarship recipient

Nicholas Walker is an MS2 Cadet at the University of Oregon. He is currently studying Business. Nicholas is from San Diego, CA and the son of an Australian immigrant. Upon graduation he hopes to branch Aviation and serve in the Ranger Battalion. In his free time, he focuses on bodybuilding and everything fitness related.

The following Military Science cadets will be graduating this year

Jackson Callahan
Lydia H Emory
Evan J Holland
Kevin E Hughes
Hailey Lewetag



Gisela J Rivera
Jamie S Spiegel
Khaner A Swanson
Jamie C Waldemar
Treben Webb

ROTC BOOSTERS AND SUPPORT

ROTC DINNER DOOR PRIZES:

Every year we gather as many door prizes as possible for the ROTC Recognition Dinner; 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.

Last year we scored almost \$600 worth of gifts from eight very generous members, but if more of you chip in we can ease the burden on those few special people,

If you want to donate a gift card or certificate, or any other type of prize, bring it to the ROTC dinner on 7 May and give it to Pat Harris. He will make a presentation envelope to help display the gift on the prize table.

HELP

WANTED

Needed, actually!

Last chance to donate toward the 2025 ROTC Booster fund and the Cadet Dinner Fund

The Booster fund, as you know, is the pot of money that built our foundation to fund two scholarships. The third scholarship is funded directly by your donations. The Cadet Dinner fund pays for the cadets' meals, their medals, certificates and medallions, and the gold bars we give them to prepare for their commissioning.

After June 1st, donations to the Booster and Dinner funds will be applied to the 2026 campaign.

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 2024 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2025 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2025 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Pat Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)
David Cooper, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Dick Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)	Frank Balazs, 1stLt, USMC (Fmr)
Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret)	Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret)	Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC) USN (Ret)
Judy Van Scholten, CIV	Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Dick Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Lynette Campbell, MAJ, USA (Ret)	Cabot Clark, LTC, USA (Ret)	John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Richard Edwards, COL, USA (Ret)	John Ingman, LTC, USA (Ret)	Jonathan Landon, Chaplain (MAJ) USA (Ret)
Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret)	Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)	Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret)
Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) in memory of Patrick Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) and "Mike" Reuter, LTC, USA (Ret)		
Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)	Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret)	Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret)
Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret)	Michael Lee, COL, USA (Ret)	Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret)
Dale Offet, CPT, USA (Ret)	Wilson "B" Muhlheim, CPT, USA (Fmr)	

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 17 APRIL 2025

PRESENT: President Floyd Bard, Secretary Pat Harris, and Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Michael Kennedy, Jonathan Landon, Ken Evans. Member Dick Norton was also present. A quorum was not established.

OPENING: President Bard called the meeting to order at 1204 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Michael Kennedy gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 26 March 25 board meeting were reviewed; no changes were suggested.

TREASURER'S REPORT for March 26 – April 16, 2025

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP 1 JUNE 2024 TO 16 APRIL 2025

Umpqua Account	\$ 3317.00
Benton Community Foundation Endowment Fund	\$ 1500.00
TOTAL FOR THE 2025 ROTC SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE	\$ 4817.00

UMPQUA ACCOUNT 501(c)19

Chapter Operations:

Beginning balance as of March 25, 2025	\$ 5012.34
Deposits: Chapter Operations	\$ +499.00
Expenses: include Mac's Catering, plaque, door prizes	\$ -654.43
Chapter Operations as of April 16, 2025	\$ 4856.91

Veterans Services Fund: added \$0 in donations	\$ 2534.05
ROTC Scholarship 2025 Drive: added \$375 in donations	\$ 3317.00
ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund	\$ 3478.84
Cadet Dinner Fund: added \$ in donations	\$ 712.30
UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT Grand Total as of Apr 16, 2025	\$ 14899.10

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF MOAA, a 501(c)3, UMPQUA ACCOUNT

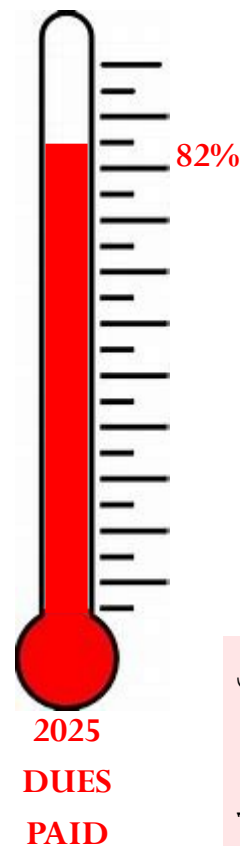
EIN 99-4901005 Opened March 12, 2025

Chapter Operations, funds added March 12, 2025	\$1035.00
Expenses: Checks	\$ -33.55
BALANCE ON HAND March 25, 2025	\$1001.45

BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance Forward January 31, 2025	\$ 59389.77
Change in Value of Investments	\$ 40.23
Administrative Cost	\$ -96.51
BCF Balance (February 28, 2025)	\$ 59333.49



"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 (cont.)

NOTES:

Business continues to be conducted on the 501(c)19 account as we await the IRS Letter of Determination on the 501(c)3 account.

The Bottle Drop Account remains at \$603.34 as of April 16, 2025. Cans are being held until the drive in late April that offers 20% extra for returns.

There is a large discrepancy from the April Luncheon, due to a mistaken overcharge. This has been addressed and will be corrected at the May ROTC Dinner.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Any new developments on the new non-profit organization? LOD received yet? Donors are asking.
 - A. The Letter of Determination (LOD) has not yet been received. IRS is working on applications filed on 1 Feb; ours was filed on 23 Mar.
 - B. Technically we can receive funds into the new 501(c)(3) account, but would have to return them if application not approved.
2. MOAA National visit
President Bard, Dick Kimbell and Michael Kennedy will be attending the appearance of Frank Michael, Senior Director, Affiliated Councils and Chapters for MOAA, at Willamette chapter on 23 April. We are comfortable that this will count as our visit from MOAA headquarters.
3. Preps for the ROTC dinner
 - A. All presentation material turned over to President Bard except the printed programs. Once the awardee bios are received, the secretary will forward the file to him.
 - B. The board decided that gold bars will be presented to the ROTC cadets at their tables by our members during the self-introductions.
4. Picnic: President Bard will assist John Toensing with the picnic this year with the hope of another member being able to take over next year.
5. Guest Speakers for Sep – Nov.
 - A. BG Hoffman will help to line up some military-themed speakers.
 - B. President Bard stated he could use his contacts with the U of O to get someone from there.
 - C. Jonathan Landon suggested he or a contact of his could make a presentation on service dogs.
6. “Thoughts from the Board” schedule.
Joe Snyder turned in the article for the May newsletter. Elaine Callahan is on deck for June.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Veterans Service (\$2,500) and Bottle Drop (\$600) fund. What can we do to support Vets?
President Bard charged all board members to look for ideas to visibly support our veterans and bring them to the next board meeting.
2. Bottle Drop Earth Week (4/15-26), earn extra 20% on deposits
Ken has a truckload of bottles and cans to return within the Earth Week period.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES (cont.)

MINUTES, continued from page 6

President Bard also has a lot of returnables and will meet with Ken to get more blue bags.

3. MOAA Database access on 24 April

Our chapter will get its first glimpse at the new MOAA database on April 24. Ken and Pat, the only authorized users, will go through the training video, update that database according to ours, and print out reports to get the names of all national MOAA members living in our catchment area who are not yet chapter members.

4. MOAA table at the UO Spring Football game, recruit new blood.

We need to get our name out there and the Spring Game would be a good place to do that. The ROTC will provide a place with table and chairs. We would bring our banner and a stack of applications. John Toensing and Ken Evans will be among those staffing the table.

5. Luncheon issues: Mac's Custom Catering needs a minimum order of 25 meals to be able to prepare the food and pay the required staff.

A. What are our options if not enough members make reservations for a luncheon?

- 1) Do we pay the difference?
- 2) Do we raise the price to build a fund to cover the minimum?
- 3) Do we bring in Subway?
- 4) Do we cancel the luncheon if we don't have enough participation?

B. Because we did not have a quorum, and considering that the next opportunity to witness a low count luncheon would not occur until September, the issue was tabled.

C. However, ideas such as doing a phone survey of all the members and having a drawing of attendees to give away a free lunch, were also floated.

1st VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: John Toensing - Personal Affairs (Health, Welfare, Surviving Spouse), House Committee, Newsletter, Webmaster, Purchasing Projects): No report.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: Dick Kimbell - Membership, Awards, Legislative, Benton Community Fund (BCF): No report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Upcoming events include:

1. Vet Café luncheon at the Eugene Elks on 17 May at 11:00am.
2. Eugene Elks Flag Day Ceremony, Saturday, June 14th, 11:00 to 2:30pm
3. Lawanda Manning Memorial Sickie Cell Blood drive at Eugene Elks on June 19th between 10:00 and 2:00pm.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Wed, 7 May 25, 1800 hours social, 1900 ROTC dinner; Vets Bldg.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wed, 28 May 2025, 1200 hours, Vets Bldg.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1303 hours

Patrick Harris, Secretary

TAPS

George "Wally" Johansen, CPT, USA (Fmr), 93, passed away March 23, 2025. He served from January 1958 through January 1964. He leaves behind his wife, Sue. Wally was an MD specializing in otolaryngology.

BRIEFS

Feedback from our April speaker from EWEB:

Clair Wray, Communications Specialist from EWEB, sent the following in response to a question from a member that went something like this: "How come whenever a repair/improvement is made to the water system, my electric bill seems to go up?"

Her response:

"EWEB follows governmental accounting standards and maintains separate financial books for the Electric and Water utilities. Each utility generates its own revenue, which is used to fund its operations, maintenance, and infrastructure improvements. EWEB prepares separate cost-of-service studies for Electricity and Water to set rates fairly and to safeguard that electric customers aren't paying for water infrastructure, and vice versa."

Our annual picnic is Saturday, June 7th

Chapter Dues for 2025: Dues for 2025 were due as of 1 Jan 2025. So far, about 88 percent of our members have paid their \$25 dues. If you have not already paid, please do so. Notices were sent out mid November. Send a check made out to Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA, (or just "MOAA") to P.O. Box 767, Eugene, OR 97440.

You have questions. VA has answers.

The number to call when you don't know who to call.

Call VA today. 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)

You only need to remember **one number** for information on **VA care, benefits, and services** or to speak to a **live agent** for assistance!

MOAA... Who We Are

We have 93 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.

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.

SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday, 7 June: This is the date of our Annual Membership Picnic. 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 7 June.

Thursday, 4 December: We had a conflict with the Veterans Association Building calendar, so we are moving our Christmas Party to Thursday, 4 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.

BRIEFS

HELP WANTED

The Annual picnic is 7 June... and the folks that put this on need a little help. There's shopping, set-up and meal prep, grilling and clean-up. We already have a couple of folks offering to help, but the more hands the merrier. If you can be at the park by 11:00 am on Saturday the 7th of June, let John Toensing know at (541) 345-7535.



Aviation Maintenance Technician Day May 25th

Aviation Maintenance Technician Day is a day of recognition, observed on May 24, that recognizes the efforts of aviation maintenance professionals as well as the achievements of Charles Edward Taylor, the man who built the engine used to power the airplane of the Wright Brothers.



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 still 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 Ken Evans at our general membership meetings. Ken says he will take your returnables no matter what they're in.

SAVE the date

Saturday June 14th will be the Eugene Elks Flag Day Ceremony and Father's Day combined. Veterans attend for free, except for the open bar.



**MAY
11th**

ShredFest 2025

The Oregon Community Credit Union (OCCU) is once again putting on their annual ShredFest, but instead of in May as usual, they have chosen to have it on Saturday, June 7th... the day of our annual picnic. However, since it runs from 9:00am to 2:00pm, you can stop by on your way to the picnic... it takes less than five minutes. Drive into the parking area at 2880 Chad Drive (next door to COSTCO). You can bring up to four banker-size boxes of stuff per person. OCCU recommends you shred old bank statements, tax records, receipts and files, bills or invoices, or any other documents containing personal information. There is no cost for this service, but OCCU is collecting non-perishable goods for Food for Lane County if you would like to donate.



**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

**CALLING ALL VETERANS & THE
PROVIDERS WHO SUPPORT THEM**



EUGENE VET CAFE

COMMONALITY-COMMUNITY-CAMARADERIE

We invite all veterans, their families, & the providers
who support them to gather and share a meal,
gain insight into post-military challenges, &
honor the sacrifices you've made.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Floyd Bard:

floydbard@gmail.com

MAY

17

2024

**Eugene Elks Lodge
2470 W. 11th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402**

SAT

11 AM-2 PM

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.



**Military Spouse Appreciation Day
May 9th**

**National
Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA)**



**Happy
Birthday,
May 22nd**