

CHRISTMAS PARTY, 4 DECEMBER 2025

Thursday, December 4, 2025 – 6:00 Social / 7:00 Dinner

Veterans Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette

A No-Host Bar Will Be Available

Dinner - \$38.00 per person

MENU

First Course

Mixed Greens with Candied Walnuts, Feta Cheese, Dried Cranberries and Balsamic Vinaigrette

Grandma's Rolls and Butter

Second Course (Choice of one entree)

Chicken Cordon Bleu with a Light Dijon Cream Sauce

OR

Beef Shoulder Tender with Mushroom Hunter Sauce

Twice Baked Potatoes and Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Third Course

Dark Chocolate Mousse Flavored with

Myers Dark Rum

Beverages

No-Host Bar Service Available

Program

The Dublinaires

Installation of 2026 Officers

Holiday Raffle

Business Dress; Uniforms Encouraged

As always, guests are invited, but they must have a reservation.

DECEMBER 2025, VOLUME 61, ISSUE 12

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Christmas dinner
reservations
and entrée selection
must be received by
**Monday, December
1st**

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	942-9992
Membership	Ken Evans	914-6235
Newsletter	Pat Harris	290-0814
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336
Surviving Spouse	Michael Pace	326-2840
Liaison		



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 19 NOV 2025

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

PRESENT: Officers: President Floyd Bard, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Treasurer Elaine Callahan and Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Frank Balazs, Michael Pace, LTC Joe Snyder, Michael Kennedy, Scott Sandgathe, Ken Evans and Tom Kulick. New board member, Les Cunningham, was also in attendance. A quorum was established.

OPENING: President Bard called the meeting to order at 1202 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Michael Kennedy gave an opening prayer.

REPORTS: Minutes of the previous board meeting were reviewed and approved.

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER MOAA, TREASURER'S REPORT, OCT 20 – NOV 18, 2025

BALANCE ON HAND (November 18, 2025):

Chapter Operations	\$ 5693.65
Veterans Services Fund	\$ 4969.05
ROTC Scholarship Drive 2026	\$ 975.00
ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$ 7829.84
Cadet Dinner Fund	\$ 267.40

COLUMBIA CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE November 18, 2025 \$ 19734.94

BUSINESS:

1. Donation to Veteran-Centric Non-Profit Organizations.

A general discussion was held about the organizations we should support. It was determined that the chapter needed to donate approximately \$4125 no later than 31 Dec 2025. Floyd Bard made a motion to send the following donations in addition to the \$1200 for Honor Flight. It was seconded by Michael Pace and passed unanimously:

Housing Our Vets	\$1000	Cahoots	500
Quilts of Valor	500	Veterans' Treatment Court	250
Dogs of Valor	750	TOTAL	\$3,000

2. Christmas Holiday Party (Thursday, December 4th) agenda – Floyd, Pat.

A. A motion was made to donate \$200 to the program that provides the entertainment for the Holiday Party, e.g., the Sheldon High Dublinaires this year. Motion seconded and passed.

B. House Committee requested to plan our 2026 Holiday Party later in the month. Pat Harris will coordinate with VMA. While discussing dates with VMA, it was suggested our ROTC dinner and November 11th meeting would face some conflicts. New dates will be published in the next newsletter. See December newsletter for update meeting schedule.

3. ROTC Scholarship conflicts with our Endowed Scholarship and BCF - Elaine.

Considering the SNAFU of Benton Community Foundation (BCF) paying the wrong scholarship winner, all the proper cadets have now received their funds. Dick Kimbell plans to have a face-to-face with the BCF staff to assure MOAA, BCF and the ROTC leadership have a clear process that all will follow.

4. Director Frank Balazs has resigned due to health reasons. Floyd Bard will discuss with our only other Marines, Bill Kellogg and John Abele, to gauge their interest and availability. Michael Pace will take over Frank's responsibility to work with Delp's Trophies for speaker gifts and name tags.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1319 hours

PAST PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I would like to draw your attention to a very interesting two-page article in the October issue of the Military Officer magazine. At the end of our luncheon on the eighth of October, I quickly shared the article, but now I would like to reflect with you on that article.

The article is about Chaplain Emil Kapaun who was in Korea in 1950 and 1951. He was active, helping the wounded and those who were overwhelmed being in a heavy combat area. At the Battle of Unsan, Chaplain Kapaun was captured when he stayed behind during the withdrawal to assist the wounded soldiers.

It was noted in the article that the chaplain appeared to be more pirate than a man of the cloth. "He had a shaggy beard ...and a stocking cap made from a sock." He would steal food to give to the more seriously injured troops. "He defied rules banning religion, praying with soldiers and holding an Easter service...he just continued to give them hope, and that made a huge difference."

In May 1951, Chaplain Kapaun died after "seven months of protest, prayer, and pilferage for fellow soldiers. He was 35." After the war his body was returned to his hometown in Kansas. Studies of the survival rate of soldiers showed that the troops Chaplain Kapaun tended "had a significantly higher survival rate than other surrounding camps."

Chaplain Kapaun received a posthumous Medal of Honor, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart for his service in Korea.

As members of the military, we know the significance of a Medal of Honor. Some of us have even been able to talk with those who received that highest medal. The interesting part of this story of Chaplain Kapaun is that earlier this year the Roman Catholic Church declared him "venerable", which is the first step to becoming a saint. This recognition of his ministry and sacrifice is in keeping with the highest tradition of the military in the awarding of the Medal of Honor. In the same way, his religious tradition, in being of service to his fellow soldiers, is leading him to sainthood.

Submitted by Past President Michael Kennedy

Chapter Dues for 2026: Dues of \$35.00 are due on 1 January 2026 (separate from national MOAA dues). A few members have already paid for next year; **early payments will be graciously received and will receive a \$5.00 discount.**

CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE. 1 JAN 2026, \$35

"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 109 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.

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING

12 November 2025

The meeting was called to order at 1203 on 12 Nov 2025, by President Floyd Bard who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Michael Kennedy gave the invocation.

President Bard introduced the slate of 2026 officers and board members and opened the floor for further nominations. None were received and the nominations were closed. A motion was made by Norm Hoffman and seconded by Tom Stewart to accept the slate and voted on by the general membership. The following members were elected to the following positions:

OFFICERS: President, Floyd Bard; 1st Vice-President, Ken Evans; 2nd Vice-President, Dick Kimbell; Secretary, Pat Harris; Treasurer, Elaine Callahan.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, representing: Jonathan Landon, USA; Frank Balazs, USMC; Ken Evans, USPHS; Les Cunningham, USAF; Tom Kulick, USCG; Scott Sandgathe, USN. No representatives of NOAA or USSF were nominated.

The new officers and board members were congratulated, and the meeting was adjourned at 1214.

Patrick Harris, Secretary

2026 CALENDAR OF MOAA CHAPTER MEETINGS

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER CALENDAR FOR 2026

January:	14th Luncheon 28th Board Meeting	July:	22nd Board Meeting
February:	11th Luncheon 25th Board Meeting	August:	26th Board Meeting
March:	11th Luncheon 25th Board Meeting	September:	9th Luncheon 23rd Board Meeting
April:	8th Luncheon 22nd Board Meeting	October:	14th Luncheon 28th Board Meeting
May:	6th ROTC Recognition Dinner 27th Board Meeting	November:	18th Luncheon (1100-1330) 18th Board Meeting (1330)
June:	13th Chapter Picnic 24th Board Meeting	December:	3rd Christmas Dinner 16th Board Meeting

Dates in RED have been changed.

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. Board meetings will start at noon until 2:00 pm.

BRIEFS

Briefs:

Be sure when making your reservation for the Christmas Dinner that you indicate which entree you want: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Beef Shoulder Tender.

Reservations must be received by the end of the day, Monday, 1 December. Reach out to your caller, or send an email to MOAAofEugene@gmail.com. If you commit to attend the Christmas Dinner you are expected to pay even if you cannot attend. The cost of a dinner is too much for the Chapter to absorb.

Don't forget... TOYS FOR TOTS



There are two ways to donate:

Bring new, unwrapped toys (**no bicycles or other large objects, please**) to the Christmas Dinner for the Marines' "Tots for Tots" drive, OR, make out a check to LANE COUNTY TOYS FOR TOTS, put it in an envelope and bring it to the party. We will have a specially marked place in the toy barrel for your checks.

Do you or your significant other need a name tag? Wouldn't this be an ideal Christmas present?

We can get you one for \$5.00. Just let Michael Pace know the name you want on the name tag and your service affiliation. You can use something like "Army Spouse" for that very significant other.

In case you're wondering, Michael's phone number is on the front page of this newsletter.



**MILITARY
OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

YOUR NAME

U.S.C.G./ARMY (RETIRED)

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER

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 2025 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2026 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2026 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)	Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)
Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)	Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)	Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC) USN (Ret)
Frank Balazs, 1stLt, USMC (Fmr)	Carole Applegate	Raymond Byrne, BG, USA (Ret)
Richard Heyman, Col, USAF (Ret)	John Ingman, LTC, USA (Ret)	Mary Ann Roos
Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)	Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret)	

Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) in memory of LTC Patrick Simpson and LTC Edward "Mike" Reuter
Bert Toepel, Jr., COL, USA (Ret) Barbara Gunn Dick Norton, Lt Col, USAF (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.

BRIEFS



EMPLOYEE STORE

Columbia Sportswear invites all Active, Retired, Reserves and Veterans to have year-round access to their Columbia Sportswear Employee Store. Your military ID gets you and 4 guests in the door.

Address: 14100 NW Science Park Drive, Portland, OR 97229.

Hours: M-F 10am to 8pm; Sat and Sun 9am to 8pm (Check Yelp for holiday hours). Questions? Email: PortlandEmployeeStore@columbia.com



Open Season for 2026

dental and vision insurance through FEDVIP is November 10th through December 8th. 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](#).



DATE CHANGE

MOAA Holiday Party

Thursday,

4 December

6:00 pm Social

7:00 pm Dinner

We Still Have a Recycling Program... and it makes money for the chapter



We are continuing to ask you to save your returnable bottles and cans, bring them to a general membership meeting, and help us raise money for the Special Projects Fund. Ken Evans has the special blue bags to keep your collection in until you can bring them to us. We won't be collecting at the Holiday Party (too much other stuff moving around, like Toys for Tots, raffle prizes, poinsettias, etc.), but we will be looking for them in January.

The Sheldon High Dublinaires, Our Christmas Party Entertainment

The Sheldon High School Dublinaires are an elite a cappella and vocal jazz choir from Sheldon High School in Eugene, Oregon. "The Dubs" help students build the skills and confidence to create, perform, and enjoy a wide range of music both on their own and as a team. The Dublinaires have performed both nationally and internationally, always committed to performing music with integrity while supporting their community and each singer's personal and musical growth.

Director: **Megan Perdue**

Dental and Vision Insurance Open Season Ends December 8th: Now is the time to sign up for or change your FEDVIP dental or vision insurance selections. Go to benefeds.com to check your eligibility, compare plans or make changes to your current plan selections. Don't delay.

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

**COME COMPETE
AT THE ROTC**

WEBFOOT WARRIOR BATTALION

CHILI COOKOFF

December 5th 2025

11:30AM-1PM

**FOOD AND DRINKS
PROVIDED**

**WHERE: 1787 AGATE STREET
AUDITORIUM**

WIN CASH PRIZES!

**ANYONE CAN ENTER
THE MORE THE MERRIER**

**TO ENTER YOUR CHILI RSVP TO:
JHARRI15@UOREGON.EDU**



**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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MOAAofEugene@gmail.com



*Thank You for
supporting MOAA
with your
membership.*

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



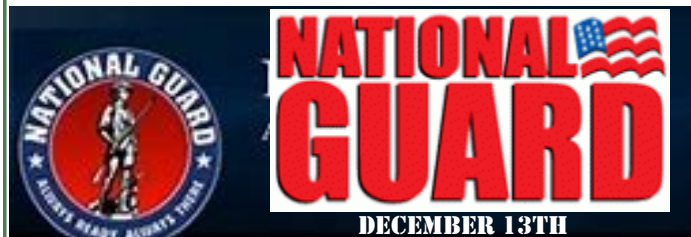
Service, loyalty,
honesty and
integrity

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.



DECEMBER 13TH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**United States Space Force
20 December 2019**

