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12 APRIL LUNCHEON

Veterans' Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette 11:30—12:00 Social / 12:00 Lunch \$18.00

Fresh Green Salad with 3 Dressings
Southern Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes and Chicken Gravy
Green Beans with Onions and Bacon
Grandma's Rolls and Butter
Peanut Butter Bars

Program

Speaker Geoff Cannon, Operations Manager of the Oregon Coast Military Museum in Florence

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

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, but please, make a reservation

Easter is April

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2023

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Don't forget the ROTC Recognition Dinner on May 10th

(Details on page 7)



MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2023 CHAPTER OFFICERS

2023 CHAFTER OFFICERS		
President	Michael Kennedy	463-7951
1st Vice Pres	John Toensing	345-7535
2nd Vice Pres	Dick Kimbell	915-0405
Secretary	Jim Koch 719-	440-9036
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		

Luncheon reservations must be received by Sunday, April 9th

Printing graciously provided by



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 22 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Officers: President Michael Kennedy, 1st Vice President John Toensing, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Secretary Jim Koch, and Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Ken Evans, Eric Watkins, Michael Pace, Frank Balazs, Ginger Banks, and Tom Kulick. Pat Harris and Dick Norton were also present. A quorum was established.

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

MINUTES: Minutes of the 22 Feb 2023 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT for 22 February -21 March 2023 was reviewed and approved.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP

Umpqua Account ROTC Scholarship Fund	\$ 3197.00
Benton Community Foundation ROTC Endowment Fund	\$ 850.00
CONTRIBUTION TOTAL 1 JUNE 2022 –21 MARCH 2023	\$ 4047.00
UMPQUA ACCOUNT	
Chapter Operations:	
Beginning balance as of 21 February 2023	\$ 5865.74
Deposits: to Club Operations	\$ +959.00
Expenses included supplies, luncheon, plaque, door prize, web-	
site fees, liability insurance and tax filing	\$ -1318.07
Chapter Operations as of 21 March 2023	\$ 5506.67
Special Projects Fund: added \$455.45 in donations	\$ 3814.00
ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund: added \$106 in donations	\$ 3197.00
Cadet Dinner Fund: added \$ 0.00 in donations	\$ 997.00
UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT Grand Total as of 22 Mar 2023	\$ 13514.67
OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND	
Balance Forward (21 February 2023)	\$ 2020.80
Donations:	\$ 0.00
Dividend Credit: (Yield Earned 0.20%)	\$ 1.5 <u>5</u>
OCCU TOTAL BALANCE (21 March 2023)	\$ 2022.35
BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)	
EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND	
Balance Forward (21 February 2023)	\$48568.55
Change in Value of Investments	\$ -1175.95
Administrative Cost	\$ -79.20
BCF Balance (21 March 2023)	\$ 47313.40

"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)

NOTES: \$250.00 was received in kind donations to the Special Projects Fund in memory of John Van Scholten. An additional \$155.45 was generated in bottle and can donations by our members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. ROTC Report: Winter FTX was completed at Camp Najaf. Ten Cadets and two Cadre participated in the 26.2 mile Bataan Memorial Death March. Several Cadre members have departed for new assignments or retirement. A retirement celebration will be held for the Recruiting Ops Officer, Darren McMahon, on April 29th. Details to follow for MOAA members who know him.
- 2. ROTC Dinner: More raffle gifts are needed for the raffle. Thirteen cadets (ten graduating) will attend. Guest speaker is State Senator Manning. Medallions with red/white/blue ribbons will be awarded to cadets.
- 3. VMA Update: Eric Watkins attended the VMA Board meeting. The Board is willing to allow the placing of a Perpetual Plaque in the building as long as we sign a letter of agreement to remove it if our Chapter leaves. The MOAA Board discussed and approved \$ 90 to purchase a Solid Walnut Perpetual Plaque with 24 tags.
- 4. Organizational Chart Duties (OCD): Pat Harris presented an updated OCD for EEMOAA Officers and Board Members which was accepted and approved by the Board.
- 5. Dues Status: Seventy-two members have paid and eleven have yet to submit payment. 2nd invoices will be sent to them.
- 6. Nominating Committee for 2024 nominations: Dick Norton is asking for volunteers to join him on the committee. The new OCD will be used to encourage potential nominees to accept nomination.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. After discussion a motion was made by John Toensing, seconded by Ginger Banks, and approved the Chapter will pay for up to one additional person to attend our luncheons with the guest speaker.
- 2. A public hearing for Senate Bill 178 is scheduled for 28 March. Pat Harris submitted some suggested topics to use if anyone would care to speak. For more information you can check the State Senate webpage.
- 3. Due to a conflict with the Vet's Bldg. calendar our Christmas dinner will be on 7 Dec 2023.

1st Vice President Report:

Personal Affairs and Surviving Spouse Liaison, House Committee, Newsletter, Website: The shelter at Jasper Park has been reserved for our Chapter picnic on Sunday, 11 June 2023. The bottle and can drive brought in over \$150, please continue to bring more. There is a Veterans Advocacy Office at the VA Clinic in Eugene.

2nd Vice President Report:

Membership, Awards (General and Levels of Excellence), Legislative, Benton Community Fund (BFC): The Level Of Excellence Award submission form will be ready in the next two weeks.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

A small group will be going to Pendleton on 18 April for the Doolittle ceremony.

CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING: 12 April 2023, 12:00 Hours; Vet's Building **NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 26 April 2023, 12:00 Hours; Vet's Building

Meeting Adjourned: 13:45 Hours

James Koch, Secretary

BRIEFS AND TAPS

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



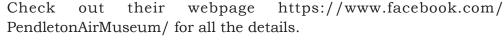
add your prize to the pile or take your idea or contact info and go after the prize for you. As an option, some of our members have donated gift cards they bought themselves.



Patricia Flake, 94, passed away on February 27th. She was the surviving spouse of LTC Vernon Flake, USA (Ret), who passed away October 1, 1991

SAVE THE DATE: The Jimmy Doolittle print will be presented to the Pendleton Air Museum on the 81st anniversary of the Doolittle Raid, 18 Apr. Several members plan to attend the event in Pendleton.

NEW INFO: The Air Museum has provided motel rooms for those traveling from Eugene, and there is still one available. If you are interested, call Floyd Bard at 541-688-4172 He also has a seat available if you are looking for a ride.





WANT

SAVE THESE DATES, TOO

Sunday, 11 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 on your calendar for 11 June.

Thursday, 7 December: We had a conflict with the Veterans Association Building calendar, so we are moving our Christmas Party to 7 December. This should make more parking available and minimize the noise level from the Ballroom upstairs. So, put it on your calendar: plat-

ble and minimize the noise level from the Ballroom upstairs. So, put it on your calendar: plated dinner, poinsettias, holiday entertainment, joyous conviviality.



YES, we are still collecting recyclable cans and bottles. We have added more than \$200 to the treasury so far. Participation from the general membership is very light. While the board members have all brought in their cans and bottles, only three other 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.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I greatly enjoyed our guest speaker, Daniel Simmons, at our luncheon on March 8. He told us about the exploits of a real, true hero, Lieutenant Colonel John C. "Red" Morgan, Medal of Honor recipient. It is always exciting to hear about someone who succeeds in ways that we can only dream about. Even though some war movies are based on true events and people, they are often modified to fit the story line. To hear about real people performing real actions is truly captivating.

One thing that I have found out about myself in the last several years is how much I enjoy reading biographies. Usually, I read mysteries or science fiction. But a biography tells a true story about a real person. I am also enjoying Dan's book about "Red" Morgan as a biography of an outstanding individual.

WITH
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Chapter President Michael Kennedy with author Danial Simmons

Recently I have also been reading the biography of Vice Admiral Willis A. Lee, Jr., written by Paul Stillwell. The fact that

I have served on the battleship New Jersey (BB 62), caused me to react positively to a new book entitled "Battleship Commander." What caught my attention was the first chapter of the two books. These two individuals were rather head-strong and pranksters in their youth. And they both went on to amazing things.

And they are both unknown to most people. Perhaps that is why these are such a good read, hearing about two people who made a real impact with their actions.

I hope that you get to read Dan Simmons book "With His Hand: The Incredible Story of John C. 'Red' Morgan." It is surely worth reading!

Submitted by: Michael Kennedy, Chapter President

Rore Report

- 1) Winter FTX was completed at Camp Najaf, OR 11-12 MAR. Great success, Cadets were able to sleep overnight and conduct Platoon training lanes.
- 2) $10 \times \text{Cadets}$ and $2 \times \text{Cadre}$ participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March this past weekend. All finished the 26.2 miles. It was a great event and developmental for the Cadets.
- 3) MSG Derek Ertmer, the Senior Military Science Instructor, has departed for retirement operations in South Carolina.
- 4) CPT Daniel Shull, the MSIII Advisor and OPS Officer, has departed for language school in Monterey, CA with a follow-on assignment to Indonesia as a Foreign Area Officer.
- 5) **HEADS UP:** Darren McMahon, the Recruiting Operations Officer, is retiring from UO ROTC. We will be hosting a celebration on April 29th after the Spring Game. MOAA members who have known him are invited to attend.

Upcoming Events:

UO Spring Game: 29 April 2023 UO Dining Out: 6 May 2023

UO MOAA Senior Dinner: 10 May 2023

UO Spring FTX: 18-21 May 2023

UO Commissioning Ceremony: 21 June 2023

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON ROTC'S NEW LOGO

MINUTES FROM THE 8 MAR 2023 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 1200 on 8 March 2023 by Chapter President Michael Kennedy. President Kennedy read the following proposal to change the existing Bylaws:

NOTE: New text is underscored.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers (President, First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer), the Immediate Past President, Legislative Representative and Surviving Spouse Liaison (as appointed by the President), the Professor of Military Science, University of Oregon, and one elected representative from each of the uniformed services. Should representation from each service not be available, that position shall remain vacant.

Eric Watkins made the motion to adopt the proposed changes as written. Jonathan Landon seconded.

President Kennedy called for the question and the changes were adopted unanimously.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1206 hours.

James Koch, Secretary

The Emerald Empire Chapter ROTC Boosters provide hinspacethe scholarship monies normally awarded at the an-Unual Cadet Dinner during the May General Meeting.

We are accepting donations for the 2023 scholarships through the month of May. The following donations have been received:

Frank Balazs, 1st Lt, USMC (Fmr) Richard Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) Micheal Rainbolt, LTC, USA (Ret) Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret) Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret) Charles Cole, CAPT, USN (Ret) James Paschall, Maj Gen, USAF (Ret) William Gutheim, COL, USA (Ret) James Koch, MAJ, USA (Ret) James Smurthwaite, 1LT, USA (Fmr) Michael Kennedy, CAPT, USN (Ret) Lee Krueger, Surviving Spouse Betty Lou Snyder, Surviving Spouse John Van Scholten, Capt, USMC (Fmr) Lance Englet, COL, USA (Ret) Jonathan Landon, Chaplain (MAJ), USA Darren McMahon, CPT, USA (Ret)

Richard Kimbell, CDR, USNR (Ret) Clayton Robson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) Thomas Stewart, CDR, USN (Fmr) John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret) Cabot Clark, LTC, USA (Ret) Norman Hoffman, BG, USA (Ret) Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret) Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret) Mary Ann Roos, Surviving Spouse Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret) Don Simpson, LTC, USA honoring LTC Pat Simpson and LTC Mike Reuter Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret) Wilson Muhlheim, CPT, USA (Fmr) Robert Beck, LTC, USA (Ret) William Guthiem, COL, USA (Ret)

Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret) David Cooper, Maj, USAF (Ret) Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret) James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret) James Miller, CPT, USA (Ret) Lynnette Campbell, MAJ, USA (Ret) Erven Kincaid, LCDR, USN (Ret) Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret) Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret) Helen Cook, Surviving Spouse Kelly Beckley, Col, USAF (Ret) Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) John Leber, Jr., Lt Col, USAF (Ret) James Armour, CPT, 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.

APRIL LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Geoffrey Cannon, Operations Manager

Oregon Coast Military Museum

A Native Oregonian, Geoffrey Cannon was born and raised in Florence and has been fascinated by history since childhood thanks to his father's service in the Vietnam War. Over the years, Geoffrey has studied the various wars and conflicts of the United States and its allies, continuously expanding this interest. With a bachelor's in history, Geoffrey is the Operations Manager of the Oregon Coast Military Museum located in Florence, Oregon, and has handled the museum's collections and exhibits since 2015, and administration of the facility since 2019. The museum opened on July 4th, 2015, after a seven-year effort by locals to build a museum to honor the more than 20% of Florence residents who are Veterans. Intended to honor all eras of Oregon Military History and all disciplines of military service, the OCMM is home to over 27,000 artifacts, records, photographs, and stories from local, state-wide, national, and



international parties. As of 2022, the Museum hosts over 12 exhibitions, 36 exhibits, and 80 displays; all of which are rotated on a regular basis. One of the museum's primary objectives is to prevent the loss of information about our Veterans by providing a home for their stories, artifacts,



and memorabilia to gather; creating a comprehensive history of the sacrifices made by our Nation's Veterans and Service Members to protect the freedoms and liberties we all enjoy. They see their mission as: 'Honoring our Veterans by Educating our Public'

Oregon Coast Military Museum, 2145 Kingwood St., Florence, OR 97439, Telephone: 541-902-5160

WE 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.



The **ROTC Recognition Dinner** is scheduled for Wednesday, 10 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 will be Mac's flavorful pot roast. We will be presenting our scholarships to three MS III cadets and medallions to the MS IV graduates. Honorary MOAA member Senator James Manning will speak to the cadets about the value of NCO/JO relationships.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OUR FUTURE

Over the past several years, we have witnessed our Chapter grow and prosper. We have a healthy financial page, our donations to the community and our scholarship program continues to improve and we are proud of our Chapter's many successes. These accomplishments were only possible as a result of your support as Chapter members. Thank you for your continuous support.

Our future now depends on your ongoing support for the year 2024 and beyond. Many of our officers have served three years in their respective offices and many board members have served for up to fifteen years. We are looking to fill at least five vacant positions this next year and that includes the office of President. In the past, we have asked for your participation to fill board positions with no responses. We can no longer expect our present members to spend an additional year as board members. We ask once again that you consider attending future board meetings and make an evaluation as to your consideration to serve on our board. If we cannot fill these positions, we may be without sufficient members to meet the required quorum numbers to vote on policy and future Chapter business.

Pat Harris will be sending out a complete description of the duties and responsibilities of each board position. Please review this information and use it to assist you in making an educated decision on which office you would feel most comfortable filling. The future of our Board and Chapter could be in jeopardy. Please contact me at (541) 915-5696, or any board member for additional information or questions you may have.

Dick Norton

Nominating Committee Chairman



WE STILL HAVE FLAGS AVAILABLE: John Toensing has a supply of top-quality American flags available for purchase. Display one, give them as gifts or sell them to your friends to dress up the neighborhood. He stocks both 4' X 6' and 3' X 5' sizes. He will display them at our general membership meetings. Call him at (541) 345-7535.

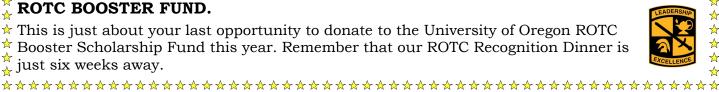


The Annual picnic is 11 June... and the folks that put this on need a little help. There's shopping, set-up and meal prep, grilling and clean-up that could use a couple of extra hands. We already have a couple of folks offering to help, but the more hands the merrier. If you can be at the park by 11:00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



ROTC BOOSTER FUND.

★ This is just about your last opportunity to donate to the University of Oregon ROTC Booster Scholarship Fund this year. Remember that our ROTC Recognition Dinner is just six weeks away.



Chapter Dues for 2023: Dues for 2023 were due as of 1 Jan 2023. So far, about 87 percent of our members have paid their \$25 dues. If you have not already paid, please do so soon. Notices were sent out in mid November. Send a check made out to Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA, (or just "MOAA") to P.O. Box 767, Eugene, OR 97440.

Our Chapter's Board of Directors sent the following letter to the Oregon Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs requesting they support Senate Bill 178 to direct the "Department of Veterans' Affairs to study and make recommendations for policy proposals for tax treatment of military pensions. "



Military Officers Association of America Emerald Empire Chapter



Statement in Support: SB 178

Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs March 28, 2003

The Emerald Empire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) represents members of all uniformed services of the United States. Our 108 local members include veterans of all wars and conflicts; some who served in 1942 and others who are still serving today. The national organization's 355,000 members work to advocate for all veterans, servicemembers, their families and survivors, especially on military personnel matters and proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of all the uniformed services.

MOAA supports Senate Bill 178. Oregon exempts military retirement income earned before 1991. Veterans retiring now with up to 32 years of service in one of the uniformed services of this country do not earn the same exemption. Currently 37 states offer full exemptions from state taxation of military retired pay, and that number is increasing steadily.

Oregon is losing its ability to attract veterans to live and work in this state after retirement. Beside the fact that there are very few military facilities located here, hence even fewer amenities, there is little other incentive to establish a post-retirement residence or start a second career in Oregon. This has become well known to retiring service members, evidenced by the fact that the veteran population in Oregon has decreased from over 11 percent in 2010 to less than eight percent in 2021. If we value our veterans, we need to take steps to show it.

Senate Bill 178 is just such a way to attract retiring uniformed services members to this state so that our communities can profit from the values, leadership, and desire to serve that these individuals bring with them. The Eugene chapter of MOAA, whose members are retired, former and active-duty officers of the uniformed services, includes current and former presidents of such civic and fraternal organizations as Kiwanis, Rotary, MADD, Elks, and the University of Oregon Alumni Association. There are key leaders in churches, philanthropic organizations, commercial development groups and chambers of commerce. The members volunteer in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, various fire departments, community development corporations, scouting, and health and veterans' organizations. We even have someone who volunteers as a chaplain at the jail.

Oregon communities profit greatly from their uniformed services retirees. It's the virtues these individuals bring with them, e.g., their proven ability to work with others and their demonstrated respect for laws, rules, and other people, that makes them the kind of citizens that communities build around.

As our veteran population continues to decline every year, we need to take steps to address the tax policy that rewards only those who served before 1991 and ignores those who served on 9/11 or during the Gulf Wars. Finding ways to adjust our policy on the treatment of uniformed services members' pensions is just one way. This will demonstrate that the state of Oregon values them and wants them to become citizens of this state.

On behalf of the Military Officers Association of America and all veterans of the uniformed services of the United States, we respectfully ask that SB 178 be approved to help make Oregon a more veteran-friendly place to live.

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 355,000 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.

