



MOAA®

THE EMERALD VOICE

A FIVE STAR CHAPTER



EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

There will be no August general membership meeting.



We're on vacation... all except the Board, that is. See the minutes from the 27 July meeting on page 2.

Just remember our annual membership picnic is next month... September 11th, at Jasper State Park.

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2022

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NOMINATIONS

for 2023 Officers and Board Members

ARE OPEN

Talk to Dick Norton

MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2022 CHAPTER OFFICERS		
President	Michael Kennedy	463-7951
1st Vice Pres	Dick Norton	344-5696
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
Legislative	Ken Evans	914-6235
Newsletter	Pat Harris	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 27 JULY 2022

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

OPENING: President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He also gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 21 June 2022 board meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Dick Norton and seconded by Dick Kimbell. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT for 22 JUNE-27 JULY 2022

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP

Umpqua Account ROTC Scholarship Fund	\$ 400.00
*Benton Community Foundation ROTC Endowment Fund	\$ 0.00
CONTRIBUTION TOTAL 1 JUNE 2022 -27 JULY 2022	\$ 400.00

UMPQUA ACCOUNT

Club Operations:

Beginning balance as of 21 June 2022	\$ 5641.24
Deposits: to Club Operations	\$ 0.00
Expenses	\$ -0.00
Club Operations as of 27 July 2022	\$ 5641.24

Special Projects Fund: added \$0 in donations.	\$ 3079.05
ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund: added \$100 in donations	\$ 400.00
Cadet Dinner Fund: added \$0 in donations	\$ 112.00
UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT grand total as of 27 July 2022	\$ 9232.29

OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance as of 21 June 2022	\$ 4648.28
Interest	\$ 1.06
OCCU Total Balance as of 27 July 2022	\$ 4649.34

BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Previous balance as of 21 June 2022	\$47171.17
Member donation	\$ 0.00
Change in Value	\$ -2851.30
Administrative fees	\$ -76.50
BCF Balance as of 27 July 2022	\$ 44243.37

Motion to approve by Dick Kimbell and seconded by Frank Balazs. Motion approved.

"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

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/>.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Continued)

OLD BUSINESS:

Storage Locker: Marcy Prevics was present and gave us an update on what is left in the locker. After giving away many items there are just a few pieces of furniture and one box of books left. The furniture will be donated to St. Vinnie's or other nonprofits who deal with veterans. Michael Pace will sort through the books and donate them to interested organizations.

Leadership Succession: Planning will continue as an item of discussion.

Visit from National MOAA: Michael Kennedy received an email from Frank Michael stating that he is available to visit on 24 Aug or 28 Sep 2022. Michael will contact to confirm date.

Agenda Item Submission Form: Ken Evans reminded us that we do have a form that was adopted 29 May 2020 and to consider using it for agenda item submission, especially for items that may take resources to accomplish.

NEW BUSINESS:

Management of VMA: Eric Watkins will ask if he can attend their board meetings. We may be able to provide help to them. This is an ongoing discussion and there are numerous amounts of information to seek. Ken Evans volunteered to accompany Eric to the meeting.

Joe Snyder would like the ROTC program to become more involved with MOAA. A ROTC Report will become part of the monthly agenda.

1st VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:

The picnic on 11 Sep 22 is ready to go. There were 57 hits on our website this month.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:

We have a new contact at BCF, "Celina Franklin." Dick would like to convene a new committee to establish criteria for ROTC Scholarship Awards. That can be used in conjunction with our Scholarship Application Form. The initial committee volunteers were Dick Kimbell, Michael Kennedy, Joe Snyder and Elaine Callahan. Ken Evans has several membership applications on hand to process. LTC Joe Snyder became an official dues paying member at the meeting. Welcome Colonel Snyder.

Next Luncheon Meeting: 11 September 2022, noon; Picnic at Jasper State Park

Next Board Meeting: 24 August 2022, 12:00 hours; Veterans' Building

Meeting adjourned at 1250 hours.

James Koch, Secretary

Corrections to the 2021-2022 Directory of Members

Add New Members:

Wilson Muhlheim, CPT, USA (Fmr). Spouse: Nancy. 1811 Balboa St., Eugene, OR 97408. 541-953-9995, wcmuhlheim@gmail.com

Joseph Snyder, LTC, USA (Act). Spouse: Rebecca. 6443 Forest Ridge Rd., Springfield, OR 97478. 541-913-2643, alotalot@hotmail.com

John Van Scholten, Capt, USMC (Fmr). Spouse: Judy. 416 Covey Lane, Eugene, OR 97401. 541-221-5608 johnvanscholten@yahoo.com

Use of this Directory

This directory is not to be used for the compilation of mailing lists for commercial or political purposes. It is intended for the private, noncommercial use of the members of this club and is not for distribution without prior consent of the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Summer and hot weather are all around us, reminding us that this is the time when we can relax a little and recharge our batteries. I am writing this while I am on a retreat at the Benedictine Monastery in Mt. Angel, OR. I try to make a five to seven day retreat yearly to refresh physically, mentally, and spiritually. It really does help to get away from demands on one's time and to reflect on what is most important.

I was thinking about this as I looked at my calendar for MOAA meetings. We traditionally do not meet in July and August for our second Wednesday luncheon. This gives us the opportunity to take a trip or visit family without having to keep that second Wednesday open for the luncheon.

I read somewhere that a minister was working very hard without a day off. When a friend asked him about that, the minister responded that the devil does not take a day off. The friend replied that the devil would be a better devil if he did take a day off.

Anyway, I do not want to get too theological, but even God took a day off weekly, the Sabbath, to refresh and appreciate what was accomplished in the other six days.

Enjoy this summer break to take time off and see you at the picnic on 11 September, ready for another year!



OCC Resources – Customer Service

WWW.VA.GOV/CommunityCare. This is an exceptional resource for our Veterans and Community Providers on many aspects of the Community Care Program. If you have a question and have access to the internet, I encourage you to go here first.

Customer Service. The VA offers our Veterans customer Service through the following avenues:

- 1. Local OCC Office.** You can call us any time between 8:30 AM to 4:00, Monday thru Friday, except for National Holidays. Call **541-440-1296**, or send us a secure message through My HealthVet (www.myhealth.va.gov)
 - a. We are now open for walk-ins, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, M – F.**
- 2. VA Community Care Contact Center.** This is a National Call center that is in place to help Veterans with concerns or issues on billing. Call **877-881-7618**, open 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM EST
- 3. TriWest Health Alliance.** Call 877-226-8749. Should only be used for care being scheduled by TriWest.
- 4. 72 Hour Notification for Emergency Care.** Call **844-724-7842**, 24 hours a day/7 days a week
- 5. Urgent Care Eligibility.** Call **800-698-2411**, select option 1, then option 3
- 6. Beneficiary Travel Office.** Call, **541-440-1000 ext. 44518**



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After retirement, it was MOAA's TRI-CARE supplement that brought many of us to MOAA in the first place.

BRIEFS AND BOOSTERS

BRIEFS

Christmas Party Date Change: ***SAVE THE DATE*** The annual Emerald Empire Chapter Christmas party has been moved to Thursday, December 15th. This change will keep us from having another party in the ballroom above us and give us better parking availability. ***SAVE THE DATE.***

Lane County Stand Down: The Lane County Stand Down scheduled for Friday, September 30, 2022, 0630-1500 is for our local veterans and military families. Volunteers are always welcome because the numbers will be large again this year. The day before the Stand Down is for setting up the facilities at the Lane County Fair Grounds (Auditorium and Wheeler Pavilion). MOAA members (4-5) helping with the setup from 0900-1300 would be very helpful and appreciated. If interested, contact Floyd Bard at floydbard@gmail.com. Thank you.

Passing of a key chapter contributor: Dennis Twite, former Commander of VFW Post 3473 in Cottage Grove, passed away on June 29th. Dennis was a key member of our Moving Wall project. He led the Post's contributions to the project by providing color guards and bugle players for Taps ceremonies. He helped build the POW/MIA Remembrance Table. His auxiliary members planned, set-up and ran the snack bar for all volunteers who helped at The Wall during the four-day event. Dennis was former Army and served in Vietnam.



Volunteers Needed for Annual Membership Picnic

John Toensing could use a couple of folks to help with set-up and breakdown of the picnic site. This can be a big job for one or two people, but becomes a satisfying team accomplishment when shared by several.

Email to MOAAofEugene@gmail.com to sign up.

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 2022 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2023 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2023 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Frank Balazs, 1st Lt, USMC (Fmr)

Richard Kimbell, CDR, USNR (Ret)

Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)

Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)

Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)

Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

Thomas Stewart, CDR, USN (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.

**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

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

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never
too late
to
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a MOAA
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honesty and
integrity

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MOAA is the largest veterans' organization for military officers in the United States, with approximately 356,000 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
COAST GUARD
August 4th**



**232 years
and still
growing**