



**MOAA®**

# THE EMERALD VOICE

FIVE STAR CHAPTER



EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## 12 JANUARY 2022 ALL-HANDS MEETING

**Wednesday, 12 January 2022**  
**1130 social, 1200 lunch**  
**Veterans Memorial Building,**  
**1626 Willamette Street, Eugene**  
**Lunch \$18**

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### MENU

Fresh green salad with 3 choices of dressings  
Homemade meatloaf  
Au gratin potatoes  
Corn with roasted peppers and onions  
Chef's choice dessert  
Grandma's rolls and butter

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The Remembrance Ceremony for those who left us in 2021 will be held during this meeting

Guests are always invited, but must make a reservation

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Volume 58, Issue 1

January 2022

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**Join us on January 12th for our first in-house Remembrance Ceremony**



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### MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

#### 2022 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Mike 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
Newsletter	Pat Harris	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336

#### 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Frank Balazs	USMC
Ginger Banks	USAF
Ken Evans	USPHS
Tom Kulick	USCG
Michael Pace	USN
Eric Watkins	USA

*Happy New Year*

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 15 December 2021

**PRESENT:** Officers: President Ken Evans, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dick Norton, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Treasurer Elaine Callahan, and Acting Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Mike Kennedy, and Frank Balazs. A quorum was established. Incoming board member Michael Pace was also present.

**OPENING:** President Evans called the meeting to order at 1206 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Kennedy gave an opening prayer.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the 17 November 2021 board meeting were reviewed. Motion by Mike Kennedy and seconded by Frank Balazs to accept. Motion approved.

## TREASURER'S REPORT for 17 NOVEMBER - 14 December 2021

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP

Umpqua Account	\$ 2235.00
Benton Community Foundation Endowment Fund	\$ 2000.00

**CONTRIBUTION TOTAL 1 JUNE 2021 TO DATE** **\$ 4235.00**

### UMPQUA ACCOUNT

#### **Club Operations:**

Beginning balance as of 17 November 2021	\$ 5248.79
Deposits: to Club Operations	\$ 3098.00
Expenses: Dec dinner, door prizes, stamps, Oregon state fees, annual Veterans Memorial Association donation**	\$-2277.91

**Club Operations as of 14 December 2021** **\$ 6068.88**

**Special Projects Fund:** added \$830\* in donations. \$ 3377.05

**ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund:** added \$1235 in donations \$ 2235.00

**UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT grand total as of 14 Dec 21** **\$11680.93**

### OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance as of 31 October 2021	\$ 2006.98
Interest	\$ 0.25

**OCCU Total Balance as of 30 November 2021** **\$ 2007.23**

### BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

#### EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Previous balance as of 31 October 2021	\$ 52301.92
Member donation	\$ 1000.00
Change in Value	\$ -1027.22
Administrative cost	\$ -65.96

**BCF Balance as of 30 November 2021** **\$ 52208.74**

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#### "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/>.

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (continued)

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## NOTES:

**\*\$400.00 of the \$830.00 donated to the Special Projects Fund has been provided by the Stroda Christmas Tree Donation, organized by John Toensing.**

**\*\*The Veterans Memorial Association (VMA) is the operational group for the Vet's building. The \$50 discrepancy noted last month was a direct deposit from MOAA previously overlooked. The Umpqua statement and our account sheets are now reconciled.**

Treasurer's Report was discussed. Motion was made by Dick Norton and seconded by Mike Kennedy to accept. Motion approved.

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. VMA (Veterans Memorial Association): Eric Watkins unable to attend. Item tabled.
2. Level of Excellence (LOE) Awards: Dick Kimbell will draft a LOE input for the next board meeting to generate discussion.
3. Holiday Dinner Meeting:
  - a. The holiday party was very enjoyable. Peggy from Mac's Catering claimed that our group was the most congenial and seemed to have the most fun of any group they had worked with this year.
  - b. However, we did have five people make reservations and not show. Dick Norton will be contacting them.
  - c. Even though the Sheldon High School Dublinaires were unable to give a live performance, they did go to the trouble to produce a video for us. As a show of appreciation, the board moved to donate \$100, our usual contribution, to their operating fund. Motion made by Dick Norton and seconded by Dick Kimbell and approved 6 to 1.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Remembrance Ceremony: Last year's Zoom ceremony was discussed, and it was decided to hold this year's ceremony during the 12 January luncheon. Dick Kimbell will locate a bell to use during the ceremony and Ken will talk to Chaplain Landon about leading the ceremony.
2. ROTC Scholarships:
  - a. The Benton Community Foundation (BCF) has notified us that they have begun accepting nominations for scholarships for the May 2022 disbursement. Dick Kimbell will contact LTC Warren to make sure he is aware.
  - b. Dick K. will also notify BCF that should their disbursement exceed \$1,000 that they should make one scholarship for \$1,000, then disburse the rest in \$1,000 increments to any additional recipients designated by U of O ROTC Professor of Military Science.

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:** Newsletter will be out 1 January 2022. Menu for the January luncheon has been approved and was sent to the newsletter editor and webmaster for distribution.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:** 56 of our 89 regular members have paid their 2022 dues so far.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:** It's been a pleasure serving you for the past four years. I'm not going away. I look forward to taking on the Membership Chair position and discovering how we can best support the Veterans Memorial Association to preserve this valuable asset for the future.

**January Luncheon Meeting:** 12 January 2022, 1130 hours, Veterans' Building

**Next Board Meeting:** 26 January 2022, 1200 hours, Veterans' Building

Meeting adjourned 1328 hours

Patrick Harris, Acting Secretary

## BRIEFS AND ROTC BOOSTERS

**U of O ROTC Annual Chili Cook-Off** was held December 2, 2021 at Agate Hall on the U of O campus. Our entry was marvelously prepared by Chef Chaplain Jonathan Landon. Though the chili had great taste, used real meat (versus ground meat) and had great texture and color, it did not take first place. We think it had a little too much devil in it to please the delicate palettes of the students who are more used to Hamburger Helper and Top Ramen. However, the 6-8 MOAA folks who showed up for the contest had a great time mingling with the cadets and cadre and feasting on the chili and fixings, the cornbread muffins, the sub sandwiches and cookies.

**MOAA Name Tags:** If you would like one of our blue MOAA name tags, just send the name you would like on it and your service affiliation to Frank Balazs. balazsfd@comcast.net or 541-515-3137. He will get them made and deliver them to our Treasurer who will have them at the luncheon check-in desk for pick up. Cost \$5 each. Be sure to designate whether pin or magnetic backing. Also, if the tag is for a spouse, say either Army Spouse or Wife or Husband.



**St. Vincent de Paul Reports:** St. Vinnies reports their Supportive Services for Veteran Families served 198 veteran households in 2021; 15 of which included children.

**Chapter Dues for 2022:** Dues for 2022 are due as of 1 Jan 2022. So far, 64 Regular and 8 Associate members have paid their dues for 2022 of \$25.00 and \$5.00, respectively. 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.

**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 2021 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2022 scholarships. The following donations have been received:**

Frank Balazs, 1st Lt, USMC (Fmr)	Richard Kimbell, CDR, USNR (Ret)	Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)
Richard Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Clayton Robson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	David Cooper, Maj, USAF (Ret)
Micheal Rainbolt, LTC, USA (Ret)	Thomas Stewart, CDR, USN (Fmr)	Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)
Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)
Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret)	Cabot Clark, LTC, USA (Ret)	James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret)
Charles Cole, CAPT, USN (Ret)	Norman Hoffman, BG, USA (Ret)	James Miller, CPT, USA (Ret)
James Paschall, Maj Gen, USAF (Ret)	Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret)	Lynnette Campbell, MAJ, USA (Ret)
William Gutheim, COL, USA Ret)	Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Erven Kincaid, LCDR, USN (Ret)
James Koch, MAJ, USA (Ret)	Mary Ann Roos, CIV	Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)
James Smurthwaite, 1LT, USA (Fmr)	Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)	Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret)
Michael Kennedy, CAPT, USN (Ret)	Don Simpson, LTC, USA honoring LTC Pat Simpson and LTC Mike Reuter	

**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.



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## THE NEW PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Meet your new president: Michael Kennedy

Let me introduce myself to you. I am a local, having grown up in Springfield and graduated from Springfield High School in 1963. In 1965 I enlisted in the Coast Guard and went to boot camp in Alameda, CA. After my six months active duty, I returned to Eugene and joined the USCG reserve. Due to the needs of the service, I became a Damage Controlman sticker.

I married the love of my life, Connie, in 1967 at First Christian Church, on Oak Street, where we first met.

I graduated from the University of Oregon in Finance in 1969. I applied to and was accepted by Yale University Divinity School. After we arrived in New Haven, I began attending USCG reserve drills there. In 1970, I applied for a superseding appointment to the Navy as a Chaplain Candidate. I attended Chaplains School in Newport, Rhode Island, in the summer of 1971.

I graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1972 with an MDiv and accepted a call to Community Christian Church in Beech Bottom, WV. I also was accepted into the US Navy Chaplain Corps as a Lieutenant and was assigned to the Navy Reserve unit in Wheeling, WV. While we lived in Beech Bottom, both of our children were born: Sean in 1973 and Erin in 1975.

An opportunity arose to go on active duty in 1975. Thus began my 21 years on active duty with a move from the hills of West Virginia to the sunshine of Hawaii, where I was assigned to DESRON (Destroyer Squadron) 35. We deployed for 9 months in 1976-77 to the Western Pacific. In 1977, we moved to Maine where I became the chaplain at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. On base was a beautiful New England-style chapel. After two years, we received orders to Naval Air Station, Bermuda, where we stayed for three years. While there I was promoted to LCDR.

In 1982, I received orders to Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. I was to enroll in a master's of finance course of study for a year before reporting to the Chief of Chaplains office in the Naval Annex in Washington, DC, to be the comptroller for the Chief of Chaplain. As I graduated from NPS in 1983, I was also promoted to CDR.

We spent 4 years in Washington, DC, when the kids were at a perfect age to be interested in the history of the area. In 1987, I received orders to the USS New Jersey (BB-62) home-ported in Long Beach, CA. We deployed to the Western Pacific in 1988.

In 1989, I was in receipt of orders to the USMC Air-Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms, CA. Both kids graduated from 29 Palms High School. Sean went to Oregon State University and Erin went to Mary Baldwin College in Virginia. We were in 29 Palms when Desert Storm took place. Many of our Marines departed very soon after the president deployed military units in defense of Kuwait. I was assigned to the base, so we stayed while the troops left. Many dependents needed help and council during this time. I was promoted to CAPT while there and became the senior chaplain for the base.

In 1993, I received orders to Naval Security Group, Nebraska Avenue, Washington, DC. It was interesting being one of the few chaplains with a Top Secret clearance. I did lots of traveling to visit our stations around the world.

I retired from the Navy in August, 1996. Connie and I moved back to Eugene. I completed my Doctor of Business Administration degree at Nova University and began teaching at Northwest Christian University. After 16 years of teaching, I retired from NCU.

I am anxious to serve with such a friendly and talented group!



**MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA**

Emerald Empire Chapter  
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[MOAAofEugene@gmail.com](mailto: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 351,000 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.

**United States  
Coast Guard**

**AIR FORCE**

**SPACE  
FORCE**

**USN**

**USPHS**

**U.S. ARMY**

**NOAA**

**USMC**