

General Membership Luncheon Meeting, 8 June 2022

Veterans' Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette

11:30 Social / 12:00 Lunch, \$18 each

MENU

Macaroni Salad

Southern Fried Chicken

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Fresh Green Beans

Grandma's Rolls and Butter

New York Chocolate Chunk Brownies

PROGRAM

Ron Sticka

“Music for a Healthy Mind”

REMEMBER: Guests are always welcome; but please make a reservation



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JUNE 2022

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5-Star Winners Yet Again

The Col. Marvin J. Harris
Communications Awards



WEBSITE
Ginger Banks



NEWSLETTER
Pat Harris

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 |

Make your luncheon reservations by
Sunday, 5 June.

REPLY to the newsletter distribution
email or contact your caller or call
Dick Norton..

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 25 May 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, Ginger Banks, and Frank Balazs. A quorum was established. Pat Harris was also present.

OPENING: President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 12:00 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He also gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 27 Apr 2022 board meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Jim Koch and seconded by Ginger Banks. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT 21 APRIL -24 MAY 2022:

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Umpqua Account ROTC Scholarship Fund | \$ 2639.00 |
| Benton Community Foundation ROTC Endowment Fund | \$ 3000.00 |
| TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TOTAL 1 JUNE 2021 – 24 May 2022 | \$ 5639.00 |

UMPQUA ACCOUNT

Club Operations:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Beginning balance as of 20 April 2022 | \$ 6738.45 |
| Deposits: to Club Operations | \$ 1559.00 |
| Expenses: include cadet dinners, medallions, incidentals, door prizes. | \$ -2072.13 |
| Club Operations as of 24 May | \$ 6225.32 |

***Special Projects Fund:** added \$500 in donations, and
\$1000 donated to a veterans project, see below.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund: added \$152 in donations | \$ 2639.00 |
| UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT grand total as of 24 May 2022 | \$ 11943.37 |

OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Balance as of 31 March 2022 | \$ 2008.22 |
| Interest | \$ 0.38 |
| OCCU Total Balance as of 30 April 2022 | \$ 2008.60 |

BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Previous balance as of 20 April 2022 | \$50243.19 |
| Member donation | \$ 0.00 |
| Change in Value/Administrative Fees | \$ ---- |
| BCF Balance as of 24 May 2022 | \$ 46950.69 |

NOTES:

A total of \$5639.00 was donated this fund year for the ROTC Scholarships. On May 31, the ROTC Umpqua Fund will be "zeroed out", with the funds going to OCCU until the scholarships are sent to the University of Oregon in September. Further contribution from OCCU to Benton Community Foundation will occur in the Fall.

"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)

A total of 19 cadets were hosted at the ROTC Annual Dinner on May 13, 2022. The cost of hosting the cadets and incidentals amounted to \$684.97. These funds were under the Club Operations budget this year.

The annual ROTC Scholarship drive restarts on 1 June 2022. Members have requested that in addition to the ROTC Scholarship Fund, the Cadet Dinner Fund return as its own category so that members are more aware of the donations specific to the annual dinner. This will also start on June 1.

*A \$1000.00 donation is made by MOAA to "Housing Our Veterans". This was comprised of a \$500 donation by a MOAA member and another \$500 matched by the Emerald Empire Special Projects Fund.

**The Benton Community Foundation had not released the full end of April statement. Specifics are incomplete.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ROTC Dinner/Scholarships: Chris Warren set a good tone for the cadets. There was great interaction between MOAA members and the cadets. The gifts were exciting and there was great enthusiasm among the cadets. ROTC Dinner Donations were paid from Club Operations.
2. Storage locker: Michael Kennedy is keeping an eye on it and Dick Norton has told Marcy that she is free to take any old furniture that is left.
3. There was a Council of Chapters zoom meeting on 18 May. The Military Pay Raise was the main item of interest of Advocacy in Action (AiA). The term Associate Members may be changed to Surviving Spouses. Pat Harris will check if that came from National MOAA. Still trying to figure out what to do with the Corvallis Chapter. USS Oregon will launch 28 May 22.
4. Membership: Five members with delinquent dues have been notified. Two have checks in the mail. Ken Evans is developing a new Membership Dues Invoice Form.
5. Pat Harris now has MOAA Dual Flag Pins - \$ 4.00 each.
6. Our \$ 1,000 contribution to Housing Our Vets will be presented at 11:00, 27 May 2022.
7. Michael Kennedy will be attending the MOAA Leadership Conference 3-4 Jun 2022 in Tacoma. Motion by Ken Evens and seconded by Ginger Banks to reimburse him for gas to attend.
8. Individuals may volunteer to support Lane County Standdown 30 Sep 2022.
9. BCF has a new Scholarship Coordinator, Celina Franklin. We will invite a speaker from BCF annually.
10. Eric Watkins displayed new ROTC Medals which now include Space Force.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Annual Christmas Party will move to 15 Dec this year.
2. Eric Watkins will talk to the Professor of Military Science regarding gold Lieutenant Bars for commissioning cadets.

1st VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:

Lynn Toensing broke her shoulder. Ron Sticka will speak at the June luncheon. Ginger Banks reported 77 hits to our website last month.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: No Report

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT: None

MINUTES, continued on page 6

2022 ROTC RECOGNITION DINNER

The first ROTC Recognition Dinner since 2019 was held in the Veterans Memorial Building's Colonial Room on May 11th. Being the first event of its kind in three years, the room was packed with about 70 people, including the 19 ROTC cadets who were to be honored. To make the event even more memorable, Honorary member Senator James Manning presented an Oregon State Resolution honoring the memory of the late LTC Patrick Simpson who had passed away in 2019. Seven members of Patrick's family were in attendance.

The evening started with hot meatballs and cheese and cracker appetizers as the guests and members arrived for a very animated social hour. During that time members brought in prizes that stocked the prize table to overflowing. There was everything on display from the usual wine and candies to ROTC garb, clocks and knives, books and gym bags. We stopped counting at 40 items, then someone opened the four gym bags and unloaded another 20 items.

President Michael Kennedy started the proceedings by leading the Pledge of Allegiance, then Joelle Goodwin led the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. Chaplain Landon gave an invocation that included best wishes for the people of Ukraine. Self introductions included Pat Simpson's sister, Alexis, introducing Pat's daughter Kathleen and five other members of their extended family. As usual, Dick Heyman claimed to be the world's best fighter pilot. No one disputed him.

Mac's Custom Catering surpassed themselves with a very flavorful beef pot roast and excellent accompaniments. The carrot cake squares were a superb dessert selection. At this point

Peggy from Mac's Catering set the patriotic spirit with her décor.

I have to mention the condition of the Colonial Room. The nine tables were laid out perfectly so that people could move freely during the social and when heading for the buffet line. And the decorations were wonderfully patriotic; including red, white and blue tablecloths and napkins set up by Peggy and center pieces manufactured and provided by member Ginger Banks.

President Kennedy started the business portion of the meeting by introducing Senator Manning who gave his thoughts on Pat Simpson, then read the Resolution before providing parchment copies of the document for each immediate family member. He



Honorary member Senator James Manning presents LTC Pat Simpson's daughter (and honorary member) Kathleen Murray with a picture of her father that had hung at the state legislature when his memorial resolution was approved.

2022 ROTC RECOGNITION DINNER (continued)

also gave copies of a photo of Pat that had been on the State House floor when the resolution was introduced.

LTC Chris Warren then took the mic and introduced two of our three scholarship recipients, presenting them with certificates and checks. He then gave glowing remarks about the quality of the graduating class, then called up all 16 of them so they could be personally congratulated and bestowed with our MOAA medallions by Brigadier General Norm Hoffman. Then, after a frantic photo session, General Hoffman gave his thoughts on duty, honor and country and charged the soon-to-be-commissioned to “Stand the Watch” to the best of their abilities.



Chapter President Michael Kennedy presents the MOAA scholarships to cadets Danial Tran and Mario Campbell. The third recipient, cadet Bryce Worthington, was unable to attend the event. (See the May newsletters



BG Hoffman said something to the cadets that cracked up LTC Warren.

Then it was raffle time. Jim Koch decided to call off ticket numbers quickly, only waiting long enough to hear someone say they had won before calling the next number. Things moved so quickly that we often had six to eight winners gathered around the prize table trying to decide among all the choices. When the last prize was gone the party meeting broke up and everyone headed for home. It was a great night.



The 2022 University of Oregon ROTC Graduating Class

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I am glad to report that we have received a lot of positive feedback on our ROTC banquet on 11 May. I thought that it was one of our better gatherings since there were a lot of people reconnecting and making new connections.

As I have thought about that dinner over the past few weeks, I was struck by the two presentations that were made. We have all seen young military officers beginning their new life in the military. And we have all participated in some way to honor those who have passed on. It was unique, I think, that we were able to experience both of those extremes in one evening.

It is always exciting to get to meet the cadets of the ROTC at the University of Oregon and to hear their stories. They were, as usual, a varied lot, from places near and far, going into different leadership positions and specialties within the Army. Their enthusiasm and ambitions leading to different career goals will allow them to find success in many ways. Many of us can remember how it was when we first raised our right hand to take the oath of office.

At the other extreme, we were able to remember a friend and co-worker for MOAA and veterans. I enjoyed getting to meet Pat Simpson's family and to recognize all of Pat's accomplishments as referred to in Senator Manning's proclamation that had been passed by the Oregon House and Senate. It is hard to believe that it has been three years since Pat died. And, as I said to Pat's sister, we really did not know how much Pat had done for MOAA until we had to find people to take over the many tasks that Pat did weekly.

To be able to share the enthusiasm of the cadets as they began the next part of their lives and recognize the service of a true warrior at the end of a long and distinguished career, made that night a celebration that, in many ways, was unique.

Submitted by Michael Kennedy, Chapter President




MINUTES, continued from page 3

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|
| March Luncheon Meeting: | 8 June 2022 | 11:30 Hours | Veterans' Building |
| Next Board Meeting: | 22 June 2022 | 12:00 hours | Veterans' Building |

Meeting adjourned 13:28 hours
James Koch, Secretary





A command team led by American General [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) was formed in December 1943 to plan the naval, air and land operations. [Deception campaigns](#) were developed to draw German attention - and strength - away from Normandy. To build up [resources for the invasion](#), British factories increased production and in the first half of 1944 approximately 9 million tons of supplies and equipment crossed the Atlantic from North America to Britain. A substantial Canadian force had been building up in Britain since December 1939 and over 1.4 million American servicemen arrived during 1943 and 1944 to take part in the landings. By 1944, over 2 million troops from over 12 countries were in Britain in preparation for the invasion. On D-Day, Allied forces consisted primarily of American, British and Canadian troops but also included Australian, Belgian, Czech, Dutch, French, Greek, New Zealand, Norwegian, Rhodesian and Polish naval, air or ground support.

JUNE LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Ron Sticka was commissioned in 1969 for USAF service while at Willamette University after reaching the grade of cadet colonel and serving as the cadet commander. Ron took a delay to attend law school at the University of Oregon, and then entered active duty in 1972 for over six years active service and the balance of his career in the reserves. He served his entire career as a judge advocate, retiring in 2002 on the grade of O-6. He was the staff judge advocate for 4th Air Force, and then ended his career as a military judge. Ron in his civilian life has been a practicing attorney and a United States Bankruptcy Trustee. He is now retired from all of that and is the founder and executive director of the Kim Sticka PTSD Music and Arts Foundation, working primarily with traumatized youth, veterans, first responders and homeless families using arts and musical techniques. His topic is "Music for a Healthy Mind".



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 will now zero out the 2022 Booster Fund and start accepting donations for the 2023 scholarships. Here is one final thank you to those who donated to the 2022 ROTC Booster Fund:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 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) | Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret) | Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret) |
| Michael Kennedy, CAPT, USN (Ret) | Don Simpson, LTC, USA honoring LTC Pat Simpson and LTC Mike Reuter | |
| Alan Keaton, MAJ, USA (Ret) | Earl Hain, LTC, USA (Ret) | Jon Weck, COL, USA (Ret) |
| Joelle Goodwin, MAJ, USA (Ret) | Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) | Helen Cook, CIV |
| Darren McMahon, CPT, USA (Ret) | John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) | William Kellogg, Maj, USMC (Ret) |
| Edward Gear, COL, USA (Ret) | Robert Tully, Jr., LTC, USA (Ret) | Dale Offet, CPT, USA (Ret) |
| John Leber, Jr., Lt Col, USAF (Ret) | Marcy Prevics, CIV | |

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

ROTC Gold Bar Ceremony and Commissioning: The University of Oregon ROTC graduating cadets will receive their gold bars at a brief ceremony during their commissioning rehearsal on Tuesday, 14 June at 1000 at the Military Science building, 1672 Agate Street. Board members Eric Watkins and Frank Balazs will present the gold bars to the graduating MS IVs. The actual commissioning will be held the next day at 1100 in the Ford Alumni Center.

Thank YOU: A special thank you goes out to all who responded to our call for help with raffle prizes for the ROTC Recognition Dinner. You were very generous and the smiles on the cadets' faces after the dust settled was very gratifying. Thank you again.

Eugene Elks Flag Day Ceremony: This event has been changed from June 11 to the 18th. State Senator James I. Manning, Jr. will be the guest speaker. Ceremony will start at 11am with BBQ hamburgers and hotdogs to follow.

TAPS **Former Emerald Empire Chapter member MAJ Frank E. Bocci, USA (Ret),** passed away on 25 April 2022 at age 94. He served from 1946 to 1965. As a retirement job, he served as a municipal judge in Eugene for many years. He is survived by his wife Susan. His obituary is attached to the distribution email.

YOUR BOARD, OUR CHAPTER'S FUTURE

The Emerald Empire Chapter has a lot to be proud of as we have ascended to become a chapter that gives donations, manages a robust scholarship program, and has an enthusiastic membership with an award winning newsletter and website. This is what many chapters strive to achieve. All of this is only possible with a strong Board of Directors that possesses leadership qualities and integrity. Looking forward, we do not want to lose momentum. We can only prevent this from happening with a list of competent candidates that will replace outgoing board members and officers. We have until October to develop that list. Some of our Board Members have been in place for a number of years and now intend on stepping down. I will be in contact with many of you this summer, or you may make contact with me. I appeal to you to consider becoming a new Officer, Board Member, or volunteering as a Committee Chairperson.

Thanks....Dick Norton, 1st Vice President



ShredFest 2022

OCCU is once again putting on their annual Shred Fest on June 4th. This event is open to the public and has been in hiatus during the pandemic, so I'm sure there is a build-up of paper needing shredding. Drive into the parking area at 2880 Chad Drive (next door to COSTCO) between 9 and 2.



New Members Welcome

If you know someone who is eligible to join MOAA, just ask them to come out and have lunch with us. What can it hurt? First meal is free to prospective members. This will be the last chance to bring a prospective to lunch until the annual picnic on Sunday, September 11th.

Support Your National MOAA Charities by Using Amazon Smile

The MOAA Scholarship Fund and The MOAA Foundation joined forces with AmazonSmile in 2015. Both charities now receive quarterly payments from the Amazon Foundation because generous Amazon shoppers have chosen to support the MOAA Scholarship Fund or The MOAA Foundation. Many of MOAA's 390,000 members are Amazon shoppers, making this a great source of funding for our programs. The best part is... this doesn't cost you anything extra.

How to set up donations: When you first visit smile.amazon.com (do not use "www"); log in using your regular Amazon account information and you will be prompted to select a charity. Search for the MOAA Scholarship Fund or The MOAA Foundation.

Now, just shop as normally would, but be sure to go to smile.amazon.com instead of Amazon.com for future purchases.

MOAA-Backed Bill Improving SGLI, VGLI Passes Senate

By: Kevin Lilley

A MOAA-supported bill increasing the amount of life insurance available to servicemembers and veterans via two popular VA plans took a major step forward last week, passing the Senate via a voice vote.

The Supporting Families of the Fallen Act (S. 2794) would increase the automatic maximum coverage under both the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) plans from \$400,000 to \$500,000. It would be the first coverage-cap increase for either plan since 2005.

"This legislation is ultimately about supporting the families of servicemembers," said MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret). "MOAA looks forward to growing bipartisan support for this important modernization of life insurance."

The bipartisan bill heads to the House for consideration. The House version of the bill (H.R. 3793), introduced in June 2021 by Reps. Chip Roy (R-Texas) and Mike Levin (D-Calif.), has 13 co-sponsors. Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), who introduced the Senate version, told Military.com the bill "has good support" in the House.

The bill marks a major step toward adjusting SGLI and VGLI coverage for inflation. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, \$400,000 coverage in January 2005 would represent more than \$595,000 in purchasing power in February 2022.

While the \$100,000 increase doesn't cover the entire amount, the legislation could set the stage for Congress to make further adjustments – moves necessary to protect the benefit of these insurance programs and preserve the financial security of military families.



Volunteers Needed for Annual Membership Picnic

We would like to make our annual picnic, scheduled for 11 September (yes... that's 9/11), one to remember. We need a couple of folks to help John Toensing do the planning and purchasing, then help with set-up and break-down. This can be a big job for one or two people, but becomes a satisfying team accomplishment when shared by several. Give John a call at 541-345-7535.

**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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
JUNE 14TH**

U.S. ARMY

