



MOAA®

# THE EMERALD VOICE

FIVE STAR CHAPTER



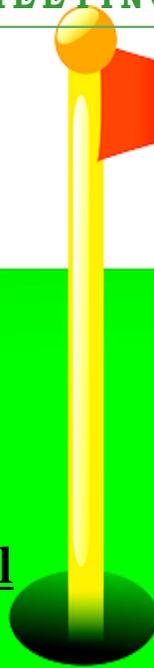
EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## NO LUNCH MEETING THIS MONTH

There will be no luncheon in March, but, we are looking longingly at April 14th. Check out the BRIEFS article on page 9.

Check out our new less colorful back page

Keep in touch with each other; use your new directory to reach out.



## A MOAA Golf Tournament?

Yes, you heard right. The board met and decided to host a Veterans Appreciation Golf Tournament in cooperation with several other veterans' organization from Lane and surrounding counties.

Reserve September 11th for a special day at Pine Ridge Golf Course.

Proceeds will benefit Lane County Veterans organizations.



VOLUME 57, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2021

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## Vietnam Veterans Day

29 March

## MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

### 2021 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Ken Evans	914-6235
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	Mike Kennedy	463-7951
Newsletter	Pat Harris	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336



The dreaded Daylight Saving Time starts on March 14th

Printing graciously provided by



# MINUTES OF THE 24 FEB 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**PRESENT:** A virtual meeting was conducted on Zoom. Officers: President Ken Evans, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dick Norton, Secretary Jim Koch, Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Frank Balazs, Eric Watkins, Mike Kennedy, Tom Kulick, Chris Warren, and Ed Daley. Committee members: Pat Harris and John Toensing. Activities/Events Committee: Floyd Bard. A quorum was established.

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

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the 27 Jan 2021 board meeting were reviewed. Motion by Dick Norton and seconded by Tom Kulick to accept. Motion approved.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

### TREASURER'S REPORT for 27 January-23 February 2021

#### UMPQUA ACCOUNT

##### Club Operations:

Beginning balance as of 26 January 2021	\$ 5199.27
Deposits: to Club Operations	\$ 0.00
Expenses: see notes	\$ -302.75
<b>Club Operations as of 23 February 2021</b>	<b>\$ 4896.52</b>

<b>Special Projects Fund:</b> added \$ 0.00 in donations	\$ 3168.05
<b>ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund:</b> added \$ 75.00 in donations	\$ 2420.00
<b>UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT grand total as of 23 Feb 2021</b>	<b>\$ 10484.57</b>

#### OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance as of 31 December 2020	\$ 5957.58
Transfer of funds to BCF 22 February 2021	\$ -3000.00
Interest January	\$ 0.76
<b>OCCU Total Balance as of 22 February 2021</b>	<b>\$ 2958.34</b>

#### BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

##### EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance as of 31 December 2021	\$42948.21
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**NOTES:** Expenses this month included Zoom fee and website maintenance fee.

**Benton Community Foundation is upgrading their bookkeeping process for 2021 and has not yet reported January's activities. January through February BCF activity will be reflected on next month's report, which will include the recent \$3000 transfer from OCCU.**

Elaine Callahan reported that income was down due to lack of activities ie: luncheons, picnic.

#### "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/>.

## MINUTES (continued)

Motion by Frank Balazs and seconded by Tom Kulick to accept. Motion approved.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Awards – Ken Evans is still working on them.
2. House Committee Chair – Dick Norton Volunteering – Calling Committee has been reconstituted. All previous callers are remaining and some new ones have been added. John Toensing recommended that we need to stay in touch with members and check on their welfare and such, more than once a month. Dick stated this is already being done.
3. Re-energize Members: Contact with Habitat for Humanity, others? Dick Kimbell has been in touch with Habitat for Humanity.
4. [Veteran's Appreciation Golf Tournament](#) – Update, Needs, Support - Floyd Bard presented an extensive update including budgeting for both revenue and expenses, members of committees he has formed, initial contact with Pine Ridge Golf Course, and must meet deadlines of March 1<sup>st</sup> for our Golf Committee Chairman (TBD) to meet with Pine Ridge and March 15<sup>th</sup> for signing of a contract. He will provide written copies of all he discussed to be attached to the minutes.
5. Lunch meeting resumption? Veteran's Building is re-opening Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Ken Evans recommended that maybe we can shoot for April after waiting a few weeks to see if there are any changes to the State's dining-in criteria.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Website Platform Update, Cost, Needs – Ginger Banks reported that GoDaddy has a new platform and she must migrate our website to the new one before March 12<sup>th</sup>. It will all be encrypted and should cut down on unwanted visitors. There were 606 visits to the website this past month.
2. Golf Tournament Initial Funding – pre-authorize an amount? Questions were asked about the purpose of the tournament. This would be a combined event for our Veterans and Military members currently serving, to include the Guard and Reserve. The size of this event would be worthy of media exposure and would really place MOAA in the forefront of being an organization that supports our Military. It has the potential to raise funds that we can feed to Vets in Lane County. Profits could go to our Special Projects Funds and the tournament could possibly help us increase membership in Emerald Empire MOAA. We need to identify who the benefits would go to. We can take past plans to help answer that. Working with other groups will help too. Ken will meet Floyd to discuss the issues and the board will hold a Zoom meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss funding and other questions.
3. Corvallis Chapter Active Status and Future? - Dick Norton reported that the Corvallis Chapter is no longer valid and would be very difficult to revitalize. There is a lot of money left in their scholarship funds. Maybe we can contact ROTC there and provide assistance with the situation.
4. ROTC Awards – difficulty through national MOAA. – MOAA cannot procure those awards at the moment. We may have a couple of medals and certificates on hand. Chris Warren was asked if they have found a new training area. They are still seeking and only have 4 day-long training labs scheduled in Spring. They do have an FTX this weekend for cold weather training. We may have one scholarship application coming in May. Graduation exercises are in May and that is when we usually have the ROTC dinner.

MINUTES, continued on page 4

## ROTC BOOSTERS

MINUTES, continued from page 3

5. Information from / to Oregon Council of Chapters – Ken Evans doesn't know when Chapter Presidents are invited to join meetings.

**1st VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:** - Dick Norton

Personal Affairs (Health, Welfare, Surviving Spouse), House Committee. News Letter, Webmaster, Purchasing Projects – All sub-functional areas under the 1st VP were extensively covered under new and old business.

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: Dick Kimbell**

Membership, Awards (General & Levels of Excellence), Legislative

Membership Committee: Michael Kennedy - We have 88 Regular Members, 69 paid dues for 2021 and 85 paid dues for 2020. We also have 33 Associate Members, 12 paid dues for 2021.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

General Thoughts/Good of the Order - Ken Evans

Special Board meeting 1200 hours, 3 Mar 2021 pertaining to Veteran's Appreciation Golf Tournament

**Chapter Luncheon Meeting:** To Be Announced. Possibly April

**Next Board Meeting:** 24 March 2021, method to be announced.

Meeting adjourned 1335 hours.

James Koch, Secretary

**ROTC Boosters** The Emerald Empire Chapter ROTC Boosters provide the scholarship monies normally awarded at the annual Cadet Dinner planned for the next May General Meeting. We have now zeroed out the 2020 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2021 scholarships. The following donations have been received:

Frank Balazs, 1st Lt, USMC, (Fmr)	Richard Kimbell, CDR, USNR (Ret)	Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)
Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Clayton Robson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Pat Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)
Darren McMahon, CPT, USA (Ret)	William Kellogg, Maj, USMC (Ret)	Richard Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)	Lynnette Campbell, MAJ, USA (Ret)	Charles Cole, CAPT, USN (Ret)
Robert Beck, LTC, USA (Ret)	John Abele, Capt, USMC (Ret)	James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret)
Raymond Byrne, Jr., BG, USA (Ret)	Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)
Ronald Lechnyr, LCDR, USPHS (Fmr)	James Paschall, Maj Gen, USAF (Ret)	Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret)
Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) in memory of Mike Reuter, LTC, USA (Ret)	Judy Simpson, Associate	William Gutheim, COL, USA (Ret)
Mike Kennedy, CAPT (CHC), USN (Ret)	Ed Daley, Maj, ANG (Ret)	Thomas Stewart, CDR, USNR (Fmr)
Robert Tully, Jr., LTC, USA (Ret)	James Brann, LTC, ARNG (Ret)	Dale Offet, CPT, USAR (Ret)
Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Mike Lee, COL, USAR (Ret)	James Helbling, LTC, USA (Ret)
John Simmons, CH, Lt Col, USAF, (Ret)	Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret)	James Miller, CPT, USA (Ret)
Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret) in memory of his twin brother, Patrick Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret)	Alan Keaton, MAJ, USA (Ret)	
CW2 John Toensing, USA (Fmr)		Jon Weck, COL, USA (Ret)
Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret)		

**Booster contact is John Toensing (541) 345-7535. Checks may be given to the Treasurer at meetings (whenever we have the next one), or mailed to: Emerald Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0767.**

# ONE OF OUR OWN IS BEING HONORED BY THE STATE

81st OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2021 Regular Session

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 2

Sponsored by Senator MANNING JR

### SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

In memoriam: Patrick James Simpson, 1940-2019.

### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Patrick James Simpson was born on August 3, 1940, in Ashland, Oregon, along with his identical twin brother, Donald Alexander Simpson, to Alexander I. Simpson and Patricia Whitney Simpson; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson graduated from Ashland High School in 1958 and the University of Oregon in 1962; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson and his brother participated in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and were commissioned in the United States Army in 1962 as infantry officers; and

Whereas in July 1966, Patrick Simpson was assigned to the 1st Cavalry (Airmobile) Division in the Republic of Vietnam, where he served for five months on the division staff before assuming command of C Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry, for nearly seven months until completion of his tour of duty in July 1967; and

Whereas after serving at Fort Polk, Louisiana, Patrick Simpson returned for a second tour of duty in Vietnam in October 1968 with the Americal Division, where he served as an assistant battalion operations officer and on the division staff; and

Whereas after earning a master's degree at Indiana University, Patrick Simpson served as a physical education instructor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, from 1974 to 1977, where he taught boxing and, in 1976, was involved in the integration of women into the Corps of Cadets; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson retired from the Army in November 1988 with the rank of lieutenant colonel after 26 years of distinguished service; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson earned numerous medals and commendations, including the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, four Bronze Stars (two for valor and two for meritorious service), Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, Air Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab and Parachutist Badge; and

Whereas following his retirement from the Army, Patrick Simpson and his family moved to Eugene, Oregon, where he spent a year at the University of Oregon updating his teaching credential; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson then began his second career as a popular substitute teacher for 20 years, primarily at Cottage Grove High School; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson was active in the West Coast Airborne Association, the Emerald Empire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America and the Cottage Grove Elks; and

Whereas in 2016, Patrick Simpson was instrumental in bringing the Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial to Eugene for four days, an event attended by more than 18,000 veterans and members of the public that raised awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson was active with his graduating class at Ashland High School, and he man-

SIMPSON, continued on page 8

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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

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### MOAA Accomplishments

**"MOAA engages with Congress on all manner of issues related to the uniformed services community."** A statement not made lightly to our benefit, whether a MOAA member or veteran with no affiliation. We all benefit. Originally named "The Retired Officers Association of America", later changed to our present name. They have been our advocate storming the hill for over ninety years (1929).

I thought I would thumbnail a list of what our MOAA leadership has accomplished through the years, along with active MOAA Chapters such as ours, and individual members willing to take part in this important mission to the lives of so many veterans.

- Repealing the Widows Tax, saving up to \$12,000 yearly for about 67,000 surviving spouses.
- A game plan for the oversight of DoD's healthcare, protecting continued access to quality healthcare.
- Securing comprehensive privatized military housing reform. This will improve housing, establish a Tenant Bill of Rights, and Congressional oversight.
- Lessening the impact of TRICARE fee hikes. So important at the age of many in our own group.
- Protecting TRICARE for Life (TFL) five consecutive administration budgets have proposed TFL enrollment fees. At this point there are still no fees for TFL.
- Maintaining pay raise comparability. Keeping pace with civilian sector increases.
- Providing Wounded Warrior protections and caregiver enhancements, thus securing multiple improvements in VA healthcare programs.
- Defeating COLA Minus one percent, ending Congressional attempts to reduce retired pay.
- Securing major GI Bill upgrades include transferability, as well as improving benefits for National Guard on Title 32 orders.
- Boosting compensation significantly for retirees with fifty percent VA disability (still fighting for the rest to include those medically retired).
- Improving Guard and Reserve TRICARE coverage, and securing a premium cut.
- Ensuring Guard and Reserve retirement age credit for active duty service. Allowing ninety days to stretch over two consecutive years. Example, active duty of ninety days November through January. At 1 January time would start over again.



A little capsule of MOAA and the work done all over the country, by leadership, chapters, and individual members for the benefit of those who have served in uniform - no matter when or where. I'm happy to say, this is only a short list, so much has been done. If you check out the "Advocacy" section of the National MOAA website (that's where this article came from) you will find this and much more to stay informed.

Pray you are all doing well getting through our time of being home more than out. Stay well; hopefully we will be able to reunite in the near future.

Never Stop Serving.

Ed Daley, Legislative Rep. MOAA, Emerald Valley Chapter

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Did February seem to be a short month to you? I guess it is good for CO-Vid impaired days to go by quickly.

The Governor on Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> lowered the health risk status in Lane County to High Risk from the previous Extreme Risk. This allows a number of things to happen such as restaurants opening to 25% capacity and gyms and related venues to have up to 50 persons depending on space, spacing and arrangement. This is definitely a move in the right direction. However, the Governor will be making another assessment on Monday and will follow up with changes in status the following Monday. It is a time to be hopeful but not necessarily a time to take action. It is possible that there could be a downgrade in status one day prior to a lunch meeting which would cause all kinds of difficulties for the caterer, the Vets Club and for us in contacting you. Even though we like to meet, we think it's prudent to have two or three report periods in which either the high or lesser risk ratings before we arrange a meeting. So what does all that mean? It looks like we will begin preliminary preparation for a lunch meeting for April. Our normal scheduled time would be 14 April 2021 Wednesday with socializing at 11:30 am and meeting beginning at Noon. Please keep eyes and ears open for updates as we get closer.



In the meantime a quick summary of the workings of the Board of Directors is:

- Keeping close tabs on restrictions, relaxation of lockdowns and willingness of members to return to in-person meetings.
- Special Projects. The chapter has not had any special projects recently so the Board is looking at a project or activity that can contribute to good in the Lane County area.
- Should a project be found the chapter may resurrect the Mini Newsletter to better share information in a timely manner.
- Membership. The Board is renewing its energy to investigate what it will take to increase chapter membership. A new membership chairman, Michael Kennedy, has jumped into the committee module and is looking at MOAA resources that can help.
- ROTC: the board continues to work with the Benton Community Foundation to build up a growing endowment to help fund most if not all scholarships currently provided. If successful in investing the scholarship program may be able to grow.
- The Board is working to keep up on national MOAA news and activities, local ROTC activities and needs, and in the connection of members with one another.

In the meantime continue to stay healthy and as active as possible.

Submitted by:

Ken Evans, President

Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA

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## SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER

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**Y**ou don't know how inspiring it is to sit down each month and write something that we all do not enjoy thinking about. However, here goes:

Let's try to accomplish as much as we can prior to our passing so as to not impact the family as much as possible. If you want something specific to happen at your funeral or memorial service, it's a good idea to get it in writing, and let your family know your wishes. Doing so gets rid of the headache of planning for your family, and ensures you get what you want. You don't need to go in and plan everything out, but here are a few things worth considering:

- \* If you want a burial, you need to find a grave plot. You'll need to contact a local cemetery and purchase a plot. If you want a specific cemetery or plot, the earlier you do this step the better.

- \* If you want cremation, you'll work with a funeral director, so contact a local funeral home and arrange any details with them.

- \* Decide if you want to pre-pay for any arrangements so you don't have to worry about your family having to pay these expenses up front. Since the average funeral is around \$6,500.00, it might be helpful to pay ahead of time.

At this time, you can also decide if you want anything specific in a memorial service, how you want it handled, etc. It's also common to add these details to the will if you want to make sure your wishes are followed. Obviously this is a very personal event, and what you want depends a lot on your religious and social background. It's a good idea to make your wishes known to family members to take the pressure off them when the time comes. Children have a tendency to not want to present their concerns about your passing and will be relieved you brought up the subject.

I am certain that many or most members of our Chapter have already made all of these arrangements including knowing that the funeral director will make arrangements for a Military Burial Service. However, there are a number of you that may have procrastinated. It's easy to do. Call me or e-mail me if you need assistance.

Carol Norton – Chairman, Surviving Spouse Committee, Emerald Empire Chapter (MOAA)

541-344-8800 or [rnorton604@comcast.net](mailto:rnorton604@comcast.net)

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SIMPSON, continued from page 5

aged the traditional gift project presented in 2008 at their 50th anniversary, raising more than \$25,000 for a fund managed by the Oregon Community Foundation that provides assistance to disadvantaged students; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson enjoyed spending time with his family, playing cards, competing at fantasy football and canning jams, jellies and his award-winning dill pickles; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson died unexpectedly on July 2, 2019; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson is survived by his wife, Susanne\*, his daughters, Mary and Kathleen, his son, Alex, his twin brother, Donald, his sister, Alexis, three grandchildren, two nieces and a nephew; and

Whereas Patrick Simpson was laid to rest at Willamette National Cemetery with full military honors; and

SIMPSON, continued on page 9

## Briefs:

**Possible In-Person Meetings:** With Lane County descending to the High COVID risk level, the Vets Building is starting to open again. Mac's Catering is also opening for business. Though the board feels March is too soon to meet in person, with the lowering COVID case numbers, the better availability of vaccines and two more opportunities for the Governor to reduce the county to a moderate risk level, the board will revisit the possibility of a face-to-face general membership luncheon meeting on 14 April. The decision will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

**ROTC Cadet Recognition Dinner:** Each year in May the chapter hosts the University of Oregon MS IV (Senior) ROTC Cadets and the MS III Cadets and/or other scholarship recipients. With the ongoing COVID restrictions we are still unsure whether or not this event will occur. The board will revisit the issue at the March meeting, so keep 12 May open just in case we can pull this off.

# TAPS

We recently learned that Vernice Paterson, widow of national MOAA life member Maj Louis E. Paterson, USAF, passed away on November 15th, 2020.

## Corrections to the 2021-2022 Directory of Members

### Address Change:

Clay and Ann Robson's new phone numbers: home 541-654-0174 and cell 541-653-5571

Scott Sandgathe's new email address: scottsandgathe51@gmail.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.

SIMPSON, continued from page 8

Whereas Patrick Simpson lived a remarkable life and served his nation with honor and distinction; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, celebrate the life of Patrick James Simpson, and we recognize and honor his service to his nation, state and community; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Patrick James Simpson as an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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NOTE: LTC Simpson's widow, Susanne Simpson, has passed away on April 28, 2020, after this resolution was written. Before the resolution is voted on it will be revised.

This resolution is scheduled to go before the Senate's Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee on 2 March at 3:15pm.

To view, follow this link: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/mediaplayer?clientID=4879615486&eventID=2021031009>

**MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA**

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

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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.

**DOD** no longer allows us to display the seals or logos of the various services. However, we are allowed to say this: "This activity supports the U.S. military and its veterans; however, it is not officially connected to or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its branches."

Imagine if you will, a colorful display of the symbols of the services to which we have devoted more than 2,000 years of duty. Hopefully the words air, army, atmospheric, coast, force, guard, health, marine, navy, oceanic, public, service, and space will remain in the public domain so that we may continue to use them.