



# THE EMERALD VOICE

FIVE STAR CHAPTER



EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## ROTC RECOGNITION DINNER

**Wed, May 10th, 1800 Social, 1900 Dinner, \$28**  
**Veterans' Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette**

### Appetizers

**Barbecue Meatballs**

**Tortilla Chips with Cilantro Salsa and Guacamole**



### Main Course

**Asian Cucumber Salad**

**Teriyaki Beef Stir Fry**

**Teriyaki Sauteed Vegetables**

**Rice Pilaf**

**Grandma's Rolls and Butter**

**Pineapple Cheesecake**



### Program

**Presentation of Scholarships to U of O ROTC MSIII Cadets and  
 Medallions to Graduating MSIV Cadets**

**DRESS: Business Casual, Uniforms are Encouraged**

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

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MAY 2023

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## MEMORIAL DAY



**MONDAY, MAY 29TH**

## MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

### 2023 CHAPTER 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		

**Dinner reservations must be  
 received by  
 Sunday, May 7th**

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES, 26 APRIL 2023

**PRESENT:** Officers: President Michael Kennedy, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President John Toensing, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Secretary Jim Koch, and Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Ken Evans, Michael Pace, Frank Balazs and Joe Snyder. Pat Harris, Floyd Bard, and Dick Norton were also present. A quorum was established.

**OPENING:** President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 12:01 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He also gave an opening prayer.

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT** for 22 March – 25 April 2023 was reviewed and approved.

## TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP 1 JUNE 2022 -25 APRIL 2023

Umpqua Account	\$ 3297.00
Benton Community Foundation Endowment Fund	\$ 850.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4147.00</b>

## UMPQUA ACCOUNT

### **\*Chapter Operations:**

Beginning balance as of 21 March 2023	\$ 5506.67
Deposits: to Chapter Operations	\$ +1985.00
Expenses include catering, plaque for speaker and door prizes	\$ -781.43
<b>*Chapter Operations as of 25 April 2023</b>	<b>\$ 6710.24</b>

<b>Special Projects Fund:</b> added \$ 0.00 in donations	\$ 3814.00
<b>ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund:</b> added \$100 in donations	\$ 3297.00
<b>Cadet Dinner Fund:</b> added \$ 25 in donations	\$ 1022.00
<b>UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT Grand Total as of 25 Apr 23</b>	<b>\$ 14843.24</b>

## OCCU ROTC SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance Forward (21 March 2023)	\$ 2022.35
Donations:	\$ 0.00
Dividend Credit: (Yield Earned 0.20%)	\$ 1.71

<b>OCCU TOTAL BALANCE (25 April 2023)</b>	<b>\$ 2024.06</b>
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## **BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)**

### EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance Forward (21 March 2023)	\$ 47313.40
Change in Value of Investments	\$ +628.26
<u>Administrative Cost</u>	<u>\$ -76.92</u>
<b>BCF Balance (25 april 2023)</b>	<b>\$ 47864.74</b>

**NOTES:** Unspecified donations from chapter members this month totaled \$1102.00, and have been placed temporarily in Chapter Operations.



### **"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 MINUTES (cont.)

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. ROTC Update: Cadets will be participating at the U of O Football Spring Game at 13:00 hours, Saturday, 29 April. Four Apache helicopters will make a flyby. Fifteen Cadets will be working the Eugene Marathon. The ROTC Dining Out is on 6 May. There will be a ROTC Picnic in Alton Baker Park on 6 June.
2. Twelve or Thirteen Cadets will be attending the ROTC Dinner on 10 May. Thirty-two prizes, including Twenty-eight gift cards have been donated so far. More will be accepted.
3. The Perpetual Plaque has been purchased. The board is deciding when the start date for names should begin.
4. The Annual Membership Picnic is still planned for 11 June.
5. Floyd Bard reported on the great trip for the Doolittle print presentation. Check the full article in the newsletter.
6. Eight members still have not paid their 2023 dues.
7. Our large storage locker has been traded for a smaller one.
8. Dick Norton is in desperate need of member assistance in forming a Nominating Committee for 2024 nominations.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Level of Excellence forms are ready for submission to National MOAA.
2. Communication Awards have been received. Five Star for Website, Four Star for Newsletter.
3. Senate Bill 178 has been passed by committee and is awaiting action by Senate Ways and Means Committee. Senator Manning will keep pushing for passage.
4. First-year ROTC Cadets have begun oral interviews with veterans concerning their service and biographies. This could help members provide theirs.
5. A discussion carried on about constructing a war memorial on Kirk Stroda's property. This could be a long process to accomplish and much pre-work would be needed. No further action now.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report:

Personal Affairs and Surviving Spouse Liaison, House Committee, Newsletter, Website: No Report

### 2nd Vice President Report:

Membership, Awards (General and Levels of Excellence), Legislative, Benton Community Fund (BFC): The Board is awaiting a report from BCF on their investment strategy for the Foundation. There is one potential new member.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT:** Floyd Bard gave update on Lane County Standdown.

**CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING:** 10 May 2023, 18:00 Hours; Vet's Building ROTC Dinner

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 24 May 2023, 12:00 Hours; Vet's Building

Meeting Adjourned: 13:33 Hours

James Koch, Secretary

*You have questions. VA has answers.*

***The number to call when you don't know who to call.***

***Call VA today. 1-800-MyVA411***

**(1-800-698-2411)**

You only need to remember **one number** for information on **VA care, benefits, and services** or to speak to a **live agent** for assistance!

## DOOLITTLE RAIDER PRINT PRESENTATION

The presentation of the signed Jimmy Doolittle Print "I Could Never Be So Lucky Again" to the Pendleton Air Museum would not have happened without Tom Stewart's donation of his print to the MOAA December luncheon raffle. Tom received this print from LTG Jimmy Doolittle when he was at the Pentagon. Michael Kennedy and his wife Connie, Ken Evans, Michael Pace, and Floyd Bard made the trip to Pendleton to attend the 81st Annual Recognition dinner of the Doolittle Raid on Japan on April 18, 1942. The importance of Pendleton Air Museum to receive this print was due to 28 of the "Doolittle Raider" pilots that came from the 17th Bombardment Group station at the Pendleton AirField.

Michael Kennedy and Floyd Bard were the Guest Speakers, where Michael expressed the importance of the history of the Doolittle Raid and what MOAA, and the Emerald Empire Chapter's involvement with veterans and military service members. Floyd gave the history of the Doolittle Print and was delighted to have possessed the print to ensure it found its "Permanent Home". Floyd also recognized a B25 Mitchell pilot (Bob Stanger) in attendance with a CCWO coin.



Ken Evans, President Michael Kennedy, Floyd Bard and Michael Pace presenting the Doolittle print



The museum's restored B-25 Mitchell bomber

Debbie Rasumssen, Pendleton Air Museum Coordinator, was a wonderful host. She ensured that all of us were lodged during our stay and welcomed us at the dinner and silent auction. Each of us participated in the auctions and came away with many items, which helped with the Museum's fund raising to obtain a new location for their Museum.

As we say in the military, "Job Well Done".

Floyd Bard, Events Chairman



## Legislative Affairs

On March 28th, four chapter members testified in front of the State Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs supporting Senate Bill 178 to assign the Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs to conduct a study on the state's policy on the tax treatment of military pensions. On April 4th the committee referred the bill to the Senate floor with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The passing of this bill will be the first step in making sure that those military members who retire now can enjoy some of the tax relief enjoyed by those who served before 1991. We will keep you posted.



**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.

## ShredFest 2023

The Oregon Community Credit Union (OCCU) is once again putting on their annual ShredFest next Saturday, May 6th. This event is open to the public. Drive into the parking area at 2880 Chad Drive (next door to COSTCO) between 9 and 2. You can bring up to two boxes of stuff per person. There is no cost for this service, but OCCU is collecting non-perishable goods for Food for Lane County if you would like to donate.



## New Members Welcome

If you know someone who is eligible to join MOAA, just ask them to come out and share a meal with us. What can it hurt? First meal is free to prospective members.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I have always liked museums. I like that connection to the past that they give and the interesting facts that you can learn. And this month of April has been a month with several museums explored.

On 7 April, Connie and I traveled to Florence to see the Oregon Coast Military Museum. We knew that the director, Geoffrey Cannon, was going to be our guest on 12 April, and we thought that we might better understand what he was going to present if we had seen the museum. It was shut down for some maintenance; we are planning to go back soon.

Our next museum event was last week when several MOAA members were invited to visit the Pendleton Air Museum on April 18 for a banquet. See Floyd Bard's article elsewhere in the newsletter.

Connie and I stayed over one more day to see the actual Pendleton Air Museum down town. It has an overwhelming amount of memorabilia, information, and a curator who knew every nook and cranny and the stories the displays tell.

We also went to see the Tamastlikt Cultural Institute just east of Pendleton. The TCI is a very interesting museum that walks through the 10,000 + years of a storied past, rich present, and bright future of the Umatilla and related tribes. The TCI was designed, built, supported, and staffed by native Americans, one of the first museums with this background in the United States to do so.

I have always appreciated Winston Churchill's comment: "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it." May you learn from history!

Submitted by Michael Kennedy, Chapter President

### Undesignated Donations

Whenever the chapter Treasurer receives a donation, whether it be from a member or someone outside the organization,

and the donor does not designate the fund to be credited, the Treasurer places the funds in the Chapter Operations Fund. This gives the board the flexibility to move the funds wherever they are needed. So, if the ROTC Scholarship Fund is a little short of its goal when May rolls around, the board can fill the void from Chapter Ops. The important take-away from this note is, if you want your donation to benefit a specific fund, i.e., Special Projects, Boosters or Cadet dinners, you should note it in the "Memo" space on your check.



**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.



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.



# THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

The Vietnam War Commemoration, which the Emerald Empire chapter participated in with our display of the Vietnam Moving Wall, is coming to a conclusion with a three-day celebration on May 11-13. Entitled "Welcome Home! A Nation Honors our Vietnam Veterans and Their Families!," the festivities are being held in Washington D.C. The interactive, immersive experience includes flyovers, parachute drops, static displays of period aircraft and vehicles, drill teams and military service bands. Go to [VietnamWar50th.com](http://VietnamWar50th.com) to get the full schedule, take a virtual tour and find out how to view the events on social media.

## Updated Uniform Regulations?

Have your service's uniform regulations changed for retirees wearing their uniforms? The Coast Guard's did. Where they once said that for a retiree to wear their uniform, they must meet the

grooming stands that were in effect when they separated from the service. No beards for me. However, that changed in 2020. It now reads, "Uniform Wear by Retired or Separated Personnel: Whereas current military grooming standards do not directly apply to retired or separated personnel, when wearing the uniform, it is highly encouraged to present oneself in a proud and professional manner as to reflect positively on the individual and the Coast Guard." Beard time.

## ROTC Boosters

**The Emerald Empire Chapter ROTC Boosters provide the scholarship monies awarded at the annual 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 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, Surviving Spouse	Ronald Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)
James Smurthwaite, 1LT, USA (Fmr)	Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret)	Michael Kennedy, CAPT, USN (Ret)
Don Simpson, LTC, USA honoring LTC	Pat Simpson and LTC Mike Reuter	Lee Krueger, Surviving Spouse
lene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret)	Helen Cook, Surviving Spouse	Betty Lou Snyder, Surviving Spouse
Wilson Muhlheim, CPT, USA (Fmr)	Kelly Beckley, Col, USAF (Ret)	John Van Scholten, Capt, USMC (Fmr)
Robert Beck, LTC, USA (Ret)	Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Lance Englet, COL, USA (Ret)
Leber, Jr., Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Jonathan Landon, Chaplain (MAJ), USA	John Darren McMahon, CPT, USA (Ret)
James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret)	Edward Gear, COL, USA (Ret)	Michael Lee, Col, 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.**

**Donations received so far \$3,297**

# ROTC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

**Emerald Empire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America**



**Recognize the outstanding MSIII achievers and all the graduating MSIV class.**



## **AGENDA**

1800: Social adjustment  
1900: Call to order—Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC) (Ret)  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Star Spangled Banner—Led by Joelle Goodwin, MAJ, USA (Ret)  
Invocation—Chaplain Jonathan Landon, MAJ, USA (Ret)  
Self-introductions (excluding Cadets)  
1915: Dinner  
1945: LTC Snyder speaks about the ROTC program  
Military Science III awardees introduced  
Presentation of three Cadet Scholarships  
Introductions of Military Science IV Cadets  
Presentation of Chapter Medallions by BG Norm Hoffman-ARNG (Ret)  
Presentation by Senator James Manning  
2030: Raffle Drawing—Jim Koch, MAJ, USA (Ret)  
2045: Adjourn



## **Benton Community Foundation Scholarship recipient**

CDT John Helmlinger is working towards a BS in Political Science and a minor in Psychology. CDT Helmlinger enjoys going on runs, skiing, and reading. CDT Helmlinger loves the camaraderie and sense of purpose that the Army provides and upon graduation, he hopes to be commissioned into Active Duty and become an Army Combat Engineer.

## **MOAA ROTC Scholarship recipient:**

CDT Brianna Marsh enlisted in the Oregon Army National Guard in March of 2020 as a 68W combat medic. She joined the SOU ROTC program where she earned a 3-Year Minuteman Scholarship. In the summer of 2021 she was activated as a National Guardsman to support local hospitals during COVID-19 pandemic, later accepting a full-time job as a medical technician in the emergency department. CDT Marsh drills with 2-641 AVN HHC in Salem, OR and plans to branch aviation and become a Blackhawk pilot after commissioning. In 2024, Marsh will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Communications.

## **MOAA ROTC Scholarship recipient:**

Jamie Spiegel is originally from Oceanside, California, and is majoring in Human Physiology with an emphasis on Pre-Medicine and a minor in Chemistry. In addition to her academic concentration, she is also an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Ashley Walker's Aging and Vascular lab at the University of Oregon. She is also an active member in the University of Oregon's Basketball and Marching band. She hopes to go to medical school and become a pediatric general and trauma surgeon, and aid in the research of pediatric cystic fibrosis.

**The following Military Science cadets will be graduating this year**

Jacob Angeles  
Mario J Campbell  
Ryan J Chu  
Chance A Day-Spicer  
John R Helman



Tamia M Joseph  
Yecharn T Kang  
Lincoln W Richardson  
Aiden G Rodriguez  
Joseph A Wymer

**MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Website:**

[www.emeraldempiremoaa.org](http://www.emeraldempiremoaa.org)

**E-mail:**

[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 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.



Military Spouse Appreciation Day  
May 12th

**National  
Oceanic and  
Atmospheric  
Administration (NOAA)**



**Happy  
Birthday,  
May 22nd**