

**The Emerald Empire Chapter
holds no general membership meetings
in July or August.**



VOLUME 62, ISSUE 7 JULY 2026

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July

04 Independence Day
14 VMA America 250 Flag Raising
16 USPHS Birthday
16 National Atomic Veterans Day
22 Board Meeting, 1200, Vets
27 Korean War Armistice Day

August

03 US Coast Guard Birthday
14 Navajo Code Talker Day
26 Board Meeting, 1200, Vets

CALENDAR

MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2026 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Floyd Bard	688-4172
1st Vice Pres	Ken Evans	914-6235
2nd Vice Pres	Dick Kimbell	915-0405
Secretary	Pat Harris	942-5274
Treasurer	Elaine Callahan	968-1746
Chaplain	Jonathan Landon	946-3888
Membership	Ken Evans	914-6235
Newsletter	Pat Harris	290-0814
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336
Surviving Spouse	Michael Pace	636-3745
Liaison		

The picnic was our last general membership meeting until our luncheon on Wednesday, 9 September. Have a great summer.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 24 Jun 2026

Excerpts from the Board Meeting Minutes. Full minutes are attached to the distribution email.

PRESENT: Officers: President Floyd Bard, 1st Vice President Ken Evans, 2nd Vice President Dick Kimbell, Treasurer Elaine Callahan and Secretary Pat Harris. Board members: Les Cunningham, Ron Lechnyr, Tom Kulick, Jonathan Landon, Scott Sandgathe and Michael Kennedy. Former board members Eric Watkins and John Toensing were also in attendance. A quorum was established.

EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER MOAA, TREASURER'S REPORT, MAY 27 – JUNE 23, 2026

BALANCE ON HAND (June 23, 2026):

Chapter Operations	\$ 5759.32
Veterans Services Fund	\$ 3822.05
ROTC Scholarship Drive 2026	\$ 2200.00
ROTC Scholarship 2027	\$ 56.00
ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$ 10810.84
Cadet Dinner Fund	\$ 471.20

COLUMBIA CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$ 2319.41	\$ 2319.41
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NOTE: June marks the start of the 2027 ROTC Scholarship Drive. Of the total of \$3681, \$2200 remains in the 2026 ROTC Fund, to be transferred to the Cadets' accounts in Fall 2026, and \$1481 was transferred to the ROTC Endowment Fund.

ROTC REPORT:

The annual membership picnic was a success; all it needed was more participation. Joe Snyder is to be commended for finding us a new site, which all agreed was a real upgrade from Jasper Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Accepting credit cards/donations page for website – Ken Evans, Floyd Bard.

This is still a work in progress, but Elaine says the goal is to have the Point of Sale (POS) portion active at the September general membership meeting.

2. CT-12 process update – Elaine Callahan

Oregon state DOJ has processed our application, and we now have a registration number. We have until November 15, 2026, to submit our FY 2025 CT-12. The CT-12s will be due by May 15th hereafter.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Idea for the Board – John Toensing

A. John recommended that since our expenses outpace the \$35 dues we charge annually, that we need to assure a steady income from other sources. John suggests that each member asks at least one friend or neighbor to save their returnable bottles and cans to aid our cause. Once we establish a consistent participant, we should give them a receptacle to put their "blue bags" in to make it easier for them to collect the returnables, and hence, easier for us to cash them in.

B. We will attempt to locate a suitable receptacle while introducing members to the idea.

2. Veterans Memorial Association (VMA) meeting report – Ken Evans

A. Ken attended the last VMA meeting and learned that they are planning an event to mark the 25th anniversary of 9-11. They intend to hold a ceremony at the Eugene Wall of Honor Veterans Memorial in Skinner Butte Park on 12 September. They are also in the process of securing the nearby Lamb Cottage to hold a pancake breakfast after the ceremony.

B. Both VFW and American Legion Post 3 have earmarked \$500 to cover expenses. MOTION: Ken Evans moved that we commit up to \$500 of Veteran Service Funds to help, especially if they plan to repaint the names on the Wall of Honor. Jonathan Landon seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

3. Christmas Party dates and times – Pat Harris

The House Committee Chair noted some confusion on the date of this year's Christmas Party. The Board decided to keep the party on our normal **second Wednesday (9 Dec)**, but hold it earlier to allow our members to travel home after the party during daylight hours. Registration/social hour will now be at 1330 hours with the meeting starting at 1400.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Vets Building "America 250" flag raising Tuesday, 14 July at 11:30 am. Details coming.

BRIEFS AND BOOSTERS

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. Our next all-hands meeting is on Wednesday, September 9th.

HEADS UP

Our Chapter President has started the process to form a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the elective offices, which include President, two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and one elected representative from each of the uniformed services. Now is the time for you to consider how you can contribute to the mission of the chapter as it continues to serve the nation and our communities.



Atomic Veterans Day, 16 July

July 16 is National Atomic Veterans Day, honoring the brave service and sacrifice of the members of the U.S. Armed Forces who participated in nuclear tests or were exposed to radioactive material from 1945 to 1962. On this day, Americans are called upon to remember the service of these brave individuals and to honor their sacrifices made for the safety and security of the nation.

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 2026 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2027 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2027 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret) Richard Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)

Booster contact is Dick Kimbell (541) 915-0405. Checks may be given to the Treasurer at meetings or mailed to: Emerald Empire Chapter, P.O. Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0767.

Do you know how this chapter works? Who decides how we generate income and disperse it? What must be voted on by the general membership and what power can the Board of Directors wield on their own? Sit in on a meeting. Board meetings are normally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The next Board Meeting will be held at the Veterans Memorial Building on Wednesday, 22 Jul at 1200 pm.

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

"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)(3) veterans organization that meets regularly at the Veterans' Memorial Building at 1626 Willamette Street. We have 82 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.

OUR 2026 MEMBERSHIP PICNIC



John Toensing, the corn king and his bride, Lynne



El Maestro, Joe Snyder Planner the picnic and found us an excellent new home.



Les and Diane Cunningham: first time picnickers



Ron and Sue Sticka, our musical interlude. Thanks, Ron.



Norm Hoffman with Dick and Candy Kimbell



Michael and Andrea Pace. He had been hiding this

woman for years... we didn't even have her name in the directory. It's not like they haven't been married for 43 years.



Jonathan and Rebeka Landon, our duty chaplain



This is what happened when I asked Michael Kennedy to take Geri's and my picture. My phone has never been the same since. I'm not putting his picture in here (sorry, Connie).

Our newest member (as of 13 June):



Jerry and Isabel Johnson and their friend, Marie.

First off: thank you Joe Snyder for spearheading the picnic effort and coming to our rescue when Oregon State Parks shut us out of our usual spot. Thanks also to John Toensing for finding and cooking the best summer corn, and to all those who helped.

This was our first year to picnic at the Jack B. Lively Memorial Park in Springfield, and WOW... was it ever an upgrade from Jasper Park. Huge prep area, designated buffet/serving area, built-in gas barbecues big enough to prepare two dozen burgers at a time, monitored site that is cleaned before we get there. No more need to lift our personal grills into a truck. So much easier.

Lots of parking right next to our site. Restrooms, children's playground and dog park only steps away. PLUS, the SPLASH waterpark is just on the other side of the parking lot. I'm pretty sure we will try to get this facility again next year. Now if we can just talk Joe into working his magic again.

Plan to join us here next year.



Ken Evans and Eric Watkins setting up the flag and MOAA banner.

The ambulance was on speed dial.

THOUGHTS FROM A CURRENT BOARD MEMBER

Submitted by Pat Harris... the current Secretary

Did you read the "Heads Up" item on **page 2** of this newsletter about forming a Nominating Committee? Well, you should, because that committee could be looking at you to assume a more active role in the chapter. The average tenure of our current Board of Directors is just a bit more than five years. We have three past presidents on the Board who account for eight years in that position, one going back to 2010. These folks are not going to be able or willing to stay in these positions forever.

You may ask if you need any special skills to assume one of these positions and the answer is, of course, yes. You need to have been trained and performed as an officer in the service of the United States of America. That is 100 percent the make-up of the current Board.

You may ask how much time this will take from your busy month and that depends on the position you take. Board members spend about an hour-and-a-half at a Board meeting once a month; nothing more unless you participate in a committee. Officer positions can take from two-to-ten hours a month depending on duties. Many committee chairs only work as the need arises, yet others can put in ten-to-twenty hours per month. Of course, we would also hope you would attend the general membership meetings.

Here's a job description of a couple of positions that may be available... and some comments from me.

From ARTICLE IX-OFFICERS of the Chapter Bylaws

Section 5. The President shall be the chief elected officer of the Chapter, shall preside at meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors, and shall be a member ex-officio, with right to vote, of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall also, at the Annual Meeting and at such other times as might be deemed proper, communicate to the Chapter or the Board of Directors information or proposals to help in achieving the purposes of the Chapter. Further, the President shall perform such other duties as are necessarily incident to the Office of the President.

Additional comments: The President shall preside at all meetings; appoint all standing committees promptly at the beginning of his administration and in any event not later than the first regular monthly meeting following election; appoint other committees as authorized by these bylaws or as directed by members of the chapter or the Board of Directors. He shall make executive and administrative decisions within the provisions and limitations of these bylaws; and shall supervise the activities of the chapter generally, making certain that all officers and committees are acting within the scope of the Articles of Incorporation of the chapter and bylaws. He shall represent the Chapter at public affairs and community events consistent with the mission of MOAA and the Chapter.

The President develops and maintains an organizational chart that properly defines the Command and Control of the Chapter. Each Chapter Committee and its Chairperson will be placed on the Organizational Chart under the appropriate Vice President. The President shall be ex-officio a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Supervises the Chaplain, Auditor, Historian, ROTC Liaison, Strategic Planning and the Legal Counsel.

Section 6. In the event of the President's temporary disability or absence, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. The First Vice President shall perform other duties such as the President may assign. The Second Vice President shall preside should the President and First Vice President not be available.

Additional comments: The 1st Vice-President shall assist the President in such matters as may be requested by him. During the absence or disability of the President, the First Vice-President

A LITTLE HISTORY... AND HISTORY IN THE MAKING



BG Norm Hoffman found this picture of our Chapter members taken at a Christmas party in 2006. I can spot Dick and Barbara Heyman, John and Nadine Simmons, Bert and Mildred Toepel, Mike and Beverly Reuter, Jon and Randy Hiltbrand and Jack Lindstrom. Who can you spot?

Norm suggests we try to take this type of picture when we gather at Christmas... but who's going to kneel?

Our Chapter President Attends the U of O ROTC Events by Floyd Bard

I was honored to attend and represent the Emerald Empire Chapter of MOAA at two recent events conducted by the University of Oregon Army ROTC, "Webfoot Warriors".

I first attended the Dining Out on May 28th at the Downtown Athletic Club. It was well attended and many awards and recognitions were presented to the Cadets. Also in attendance was BG Alan R. Gronewald, Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard. The traditional "Grog Bowl" ceremony was conducted and many Cadets earned the rights to sample its contents...YUCK.

The UO Army ROTC Commissioning Ceremony was conducted at the Ford Alumni Center on Tuesday, June 16 at 1000. The rehearsal started at 0830, and I presented the five graduating Cadets with their first 2nd Lieutenant Gold Bars (Butter Bars) at the beginning of the rehearsal. The photo of the Cadets with the MAJ Jesse DeBoest, Recruiting Operations Officer as well as myself show the presentation of their "first" Gold Bars as a "tradition" of MOAA and EEC MOAA.

Pictured from left to right: Floyd Bard, CW5, Army, Ret. (MOAA Chapter President); Christian Ash, 2LT; Josie Bohman, 2LT; Carlos De Prado Montana, 2LT; Ivy Fleury, 2LT; Nicole Morales Lopez, 2LT and Jesse DeBoest, MAJ, PMS.



THOUGHTS... (continued)

shall act as President in his stead and shall be responsible for the faithful performance of the duties of the President.

The First Vice-President shall be the Program Chairman, responsible for developing, programming and coordinating appropriate programs for general membership meetings of the chapter.

Assume responsibilities for all committee actions within the internal actions of the Chapter, including:

Supervises the Communications Manager (Email Account Manager, Directory Control, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster), House Committee, Personal Affairs Officers (Surviving Spouse Liaison), and Purchasing Project Coordinator.

The Second Vice-President is the Custodian of the Chapter Colors and shall be responsible for the availability of Colors at every meeting of the chapter and at such special events as may be directed by the Board of Directors and other duties as requested by the President.

During the absence or disability of the President and the First Vice-President, the Second Vice President shall act as President in their stead and shall be responsible for the faithful performance of the duties of the President.

The 2nd Vice President shall be the Benton Community Foundation (BCF) liaison, responsible for maintaining contact with the BCF, monitoring status of Emerald Empire MOAA Endowment Scholarship and reporting such to the Treasurer prior to each board meeting and attending BCF hosted meetings. As chairperson of BCF committee, shall join with the ROTC Professor of Military Science in the scholarship selection process.

Assume responsibilities for all committee actions within the external workings of the Chapter.

Supervises the Membership Chair, Awards and Legislative Affairs

From ARTICLE VIII—BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Chapter Bylaws

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Chapter; shall determine its policies or changes therein within the limits of the bylaws; shall actively prosecute its purposes; and shall have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as may be deemed advisable and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.

The functions of the chapter do not just happen... someone has to take the initiative to guide the rest. Shouldn't that someone be you?

Emerald Empire Chapter MOAA... Who We Are

We have 82 regular and surviving spouse members made up of active, retired and former members of the nation's eight uniformed services and their surviving spouses. An application to join our local chapter and/or the national MOAA organization can be downloaded from our website: www.emeraldempiremoaa.org/ABOUT-US.

MOAA... What We Do

We, and the national organization, are a non-partisan advocate on military personnel matters affecting the career force, the retired community and veterans of all the uniformed services. Our main areas of emphasis can be found at <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>. As a local chapter, we focus more on the local military and veteran community, e.g., supporting the programs of Habitat for Humanity and St. Vincent de Paul targeting the Lane County veteran population.

**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

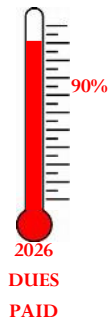


*Thank You for
supporting MOAA
with your
membership.*

**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 364,000 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!*



On the other
hand, the USPHS
Commissioned
Officer Corps'
birthday is
January 4th.

**U.S. Public Health Service
July 16th**