

THE EMERALD VOICE

MOAA®

A FIVE STAR CHAPTER



EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, October 9th
Veterans' Memorial Building
1626 Willamette Street, Eugene
11:30 Social / 12:00 Lunch / \$18 each

MENU

Chicken Piccata
Fresh Green Salad with 3 Dressing Choices
Rice Pilaf
Green Beans with Onions
Grandma's Rolls and Butter
Apple Pie

PROGRAM

**Richard Grover, Coordinator, Homeless Veterans
Reintegration Program at Goodwill of Lane County**

Guests are always welcome

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2024

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2025 DUES AND BOOSTERS

**Now accepting 2025 annual dues:
\$25 for regular members and \$5 for
Surviving Spouses**

**Pay the Treasurer by mail at: Emerald Empire
Chapter, P.O. Box 767, Eugene, Oregon 97440**

**Invoices will be going out this month.
Early payments will be gleefully received!**

MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

2024 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Michael Kennedy	463-7951
1st Vice Pres	Floyd Bard	688-4172
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	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336
Surviving Spouse Liaison	Michael Pace	636-3745

**Time to update the
Chapter Directory
See page 6**

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES of 25 SEP 2024

PRESENT: Officers: President Michael Kennedy, 1st Vice President Floyd Bard, Secretary Pat Harris, and Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Ken Evans, Frank Balazs, Scott Sandgathe, Tom Kulick, Michael Pace and LTC Joe Snyder. Member Eric Watkins was also present. A quorum was established.

OPENING: President Kennedy called the meeting to order at 1158 hours, led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an opening prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes of the 28 Aug 2024 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT for 28 Aug through 24 Sep 2024 was approved with the corrected Door Prize figure of \$72.00 vice ~~\$723.00~~.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP 2025 DRIVE

Umpqua Account ROTC Scholarship Fund	\$ 557.00
Benton Community Foundation ROTC Endowment Fund	\$ 0.00
CONTRIBUTION TOTAL JUNE 1, 2024 –September 24, 2024	\$ 557.00

UMPQUA ACCOUNT

Chapter Operations:

Beginning balance as of August 27, 2024	\$ 6329.54
Deposits: to Chapter Operations	\$ 705.00
Expenses include name tags, plaque, door prizes, luncheon	\$ -711.82
Chapter Operations as of	\$ 6322.72

Veterans Services Fund: added \$110 in donations	\$ 4735.05
ROTC Scholarship 2024 Drive: added \$357 in donations	\$ 557.00
*ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund (-\$1000)	\$ 3478.84
Cadet Dinner Fund: added \$25 in donations	\$ 514.30
UMPQUA CHECKING ACCOUNT Grand Total as of Sept 24, 2024	\$ 15607.91

BENTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (BCF)

EMERALD EMPIRE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance Forward (June 30, 2024)	\$ 56638.64
Change in Value of Investments	\$ 1517.94
Administrative Cost	\$ -121.17
BCF Balance (July 31, 2024)	\$ 58035.41

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROTC SCHOLARSHIP JUN 1 TO SEP 24, 2024

Umpqua Account	\$ 557.00
Benton Community Foundation Endowment Fund	\$ 0.00
TOTAL 2025 ROTC SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE	\$ 557.00

NOTES: The \$1000 Scholarship was sent to Southern Oregon University for Cadet J. Esquibel. The Bottle Drop Account has \$80.51 as of Sep 24, 2024. These donations are used for Veterans Services.

"The Emerald Voice"

is published monthly by Emerald Empire Chapter, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA),
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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 109 regular and associate members made up of active, retired and former members of the nation's eight 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 MINUTES (Cont.)

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ROTC update, Veterans History Project - LTC Joe Snyder and Pat Harris
 - 12 Seniors this year, 10 at UO and 2 at SOU. All successfully completed Cadet Summer Training 2024.
 - Robert Dougherty's Internment is 13 OCT at Sunset Hills Cemetery. Bob was a key figure around the Veterans Memorial Building for years and helped keep the city from putting it under their jurisdiction.
 - UO ROTC has welcomed three new Cadre:
 - ◊ MSG Jonathan Jimenez, Senior Military Science Instructor
 - ◊ SFC William McDunn, Military Science Instructor
 - ◊ Mrs. Jenny Owen, Human Resources Assistant
 - UO ROTC has bid farewell to CPT (Ret) James Miller as he has retired but remains in the local area.
 - CadetsGiving will be on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving in Agate Auditorium (27NOV24).
2. Dues deadline and luncheon payment status - Elaine Callahan and Ken Evens
 - We were short 4 diners at the last luncheon meeting; notices were sent for reimbursement.
 - Seven members have not paid 2024 dues. A new notice, in large print, will be sent shortly.
3. Cut-off date for dues non-payment
 - The board discussed when it would be appropriate to remove non-paying members from the roles and a general consensus was that we should advise them after six months that their membership was suspended, but that we would keep them on the roles for an additional 12 months, though they would not be allowed to vote.
4. 501(c)3 status - Eric Watkins and Ken Evans
 - Some forms have been submitted online. Draft bylaws have been distributed for review, expecting a near-final draft by next week.
5. Floyd Bard attendance at Regional Workshop - Michael Kennedy
 - A discussion was held on funding prospective chapter president Floyd Bard to attend the MOAA Western Regional Workshop in Reno on 15-16 November. Funding would cover at least transportation and 1-2 additional nights at the conference's hotel. The MOTION was made by Elaine Callahan and seconded by Michael Pace. It was approved unanimously.
6. The Veterans' Café is a program by the Roseburg VA to provide a catered meal for any veteran, including ROTC cadets, to get together and socialize. The event is planned for 19 Oct, 1100-1400 at Eugene Elks.
7. Bottle/can return program update. Ken taking over from John T.
 - Ken Evans briefed that he has relieved John Toensing of the bottle and can recycling program. He will plan to brief the members and have the new blue bags and stickers at the next luncheon. More details will be in the newsletter.
8. Stand Down - Floyd Bard
 - Set-up for the Lane County Stand Down starts tomorrow and volunteers are requested to show up around 1000. Pizza and drinks will be provided. The actual Stand Down is Friday the 27th with registration starting at 0630 and closing at 1500. Two meals will be served, and the ceremony will be at noon. Floyd further mentioned that he would like us to consider manning a table at the next stand down to get our name out in front of the veteran population and possibly gain some membership.

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

Your military journey documented in the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress has instituted a program to capture the recollections of U.S. military veterans who served from World War I through more recent conflicts and peacekeeping missions, so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand what they saw, did and felt during their service. These personal stories will then be curated and available to anyone, either by visiting the Library of Congress or by accessing the collection online.

The process of conducting the interviews and collecting and submitting the documents and photos (optional) is not overly complicated, but can be so much simpler if someone walks you through it. Hence, Chapter Board member LTC Joe Snyder, PMS of the U of O ROTC, will rouse his Cadets to master the process and help Lane County Veterans prepare their stories for inclusion in the collection. Interviews will start this fall.

To get your name on the list to be part of this program, contact Jonathan Landon either by email at fr.landon@gmail.com or by phone at 541-942-9992.

MINUTES, continued from page 3

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ROTC Week of Welcome Barbeque will be held Sunday, 29 Sept, 11 to 2 in the parking lot behind the fire station next door to the ROTC office. MOAA members are invited to attend.
2. MOAA attendance at the 11 Nov Veterans Day parade in Albany is not being organized as several more local organizations have stepped up to fill the void left when the Oregon National Guard's 41st CIB was called up for deployment.

1st VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: Personal Affairs and Surviving Spouse Liaison, House Committee, Newsletter, Website: Webmaster reports 68 hits on the website last month.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: Membership, Awards, Legislative, Benton Community Fund (BFC): Eric Watkins mentioned that the Benton Community Foundation is having an open house at their new location on 10 Oct and that he and 1st VP Dick Kimbell have been invited to attend.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

1. Treasurer Elaine Callahan reported that we have been taking donations into the Veteran Service Fund but have not dispersed any this year. She requests board members come to the next meeting with ideas for projects. A suggestion was made, that since our local Guard unit was deploying, we could explore if they have a family support program that we may be able to help with.
2. President Kennedy noted that MOAA Chapters suggests we have a national staff visit every 2-3 years. It has been two years since our last visit. He will confer with Oregon Council President to try to coordinate.

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Wednesday, 9 Oct 2024, 1200 hours, Vets Bldg.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Wednesday, 23 Oct 2024, 1200 hours, Vets Bldg.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1251 hours

Patrick Harris, Secretary

THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD

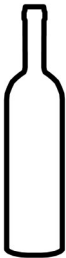
Emerald Empire Chapter Scholarship Fund

When I first became a member of the Emerald Empire Chapter in about 2002, we would “pass the hat” at luncheon meetings to help fund one \$250 ROTC scholarship! During Charlie Cole’s Presidency, we started the “Booster Fund.” At that time we asked members to chip-in \$25 to the fund annually. Soon we were awarding one \$1000 scholarship. By 2010 the Board had completed the documents to establish the Chapter as a nonprofit veterans organization... 501(c)19. The Chapter Scholarship fund gathered momentum with significant donations. With the continued support of the Boosters at \$50 annually, the ROTC fund grew to two \$1000 individuals, and currently three \$1000 individual scholarships. By 2017 the fund had a sufficient balance to meet the minimum requirements to establish a donor advised fund (DAF). The Board chose the Benton Community Foundation to administer the Chapter Scholarship Fund. Today the DAF balance is about \$59,000 and pays for two of the three \$1000 scholarships. When the scholarship endowment fund reaches \$80,000, it will pay for all three scholarships with no loss of principle. Currently your Chapter Board is completing the documentation to convert the Chapter Scholarship Foundation to a 501(c)3 nonprofit. This will facilitate the transfer of funds from personal DAFs and RMDs (required minimum distributions). We will advise the members of the new EIN and certification in the near future.

On behalf of your Chapter Board and the University of Oregon ROTC program, I wish to thank every member and associate member for their support. Your participation over the years has made this scholarship program viable and important to the cadets.

R Kimbell, Foundation Board Member and Chapter 2nd Vice President

Chapter Recycling Program Puts Money in our Veterans Services Fund



Many thanks to all who have brought in their returnable bottles and cans during the past two years. We are quickly approaching the \$1,000 mark on funds raised from simply collecting and returning bottles and cans. The program, started by John Toensing and recently transferred to Ken Evans, has most recently been used to support Housing Our Veterans and Habitat for Humanity. John has ordered more of the **special BLUE bags (no more green bags)** and labels and Ken will have them available at the 9 October luncheon. Ken will update everyone on the current and upcoming changes at the next general membership meeting and through the newsletter. Call Ken if you need further information at 541-914-6235 or email him at ken@eugenegenerals.com.



CHRISTMAS PARTY SAVE THE DATE: The annual Emerald Empire Chapter Christmas party has been moved to Thursday, **December 5th**. This change will keep us from having another party in the ballroom above us and give us better parking availability. **SAVE THE DATE.**



BRIEFS AND BOOSTERS

Update Your Directory Listing

We plan to publish a new Chapter Member Directory on 1 Jan 2025. To make this edition as accurate as possible, we ask that everyone look at the last edition and make sure your information is complete and accurate. New members who have changed address, any phone numbers, spousal status or email address since joining should also respond. If anything needs to be added or corrected, please contact Pat Harris, at MOAAofEugene@gmail.com or call at 541-942-5274.

If you do not have access to an old directory and have changed any contact info in the last couple of years, please send that info to Pat.



New Telephone Listings in the Directory

With many people dropping their landlines and having two or three cell phones in the house, we've noticed that it may be better to list phone numbers in our directory as either PRIMARY or SECONDARY. **So, ask yourself, "What number do I want other MOAA members to call to reach me?"**

- If the answer to that question is the cell phone listed in the directory, tell me you want that to be your PRIMARY number and I will make that happen. I will list your other number as SECONDARY.
- If the answer is the HOME number listed in the directory, you don't have to tell me anything. I will just make that your PRIMARY number and any other number SECONDARY.
- If you now only have cell phones and no landline, just tell me which phone you want listed as the PRIMARY; others will be SECONDARY.
- If I don't hear from you, your current HOME phone will be listed as PRIMARY and any other phone will be listed as SECONDARY.



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 2024 Booster Fund and are now accepting donations for the 2025 scholarships. Here are those who have donated to the 2025 ROTC Booster Fund so far:

Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Ken Evans, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Pat Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)
David Cooper, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Dick Kimbell, CDR, USN (Ret)	Frank Balazs, 1stLt, USMC (Fmr)
Michael Kennedy, CAPT (CHC) USN (Ret)	Bert Toepel, COL, USA (Ret)	Eric Watkins, LTC, 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.

Visit our website at www.emeraldempiremoaa.org

Proposed Slate of Officers and Board Members for 2025

OFFICERS

President	Floyd Bard
1st Vice President	John Toensing
2nd Vice President	Dick Kimbell
Secretary	Pat Harris
Treasurer	Elaine Callahan

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

U.S. Army	Jonathan Landon
U.S. Marine Corps	Frank Balazs
U.S. Navy	Scott Sandgathe
U.S. Air Force	Dean Dorsey
U.S. Coast Guard	Tom Kulick
U.S. Public Health Service	Ken Evans
University of Oregon ROTC	LTC Joe Snyder
Surviving Spouse Liaison	Michael Pace
Legislative Affairs	Ken Evans
U.S. Space Force	Vacant
NOAA	Vacant

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Personal Affairs	Michael Pace
Membership	Ken Evans
Programs	John Toensing
Chaplain	Jonathan Landon
Newsletter	Pat Harris
Website	Ginger Banks
House and Calling Committee	Pat Harris
ROTC and Awards	Eric Watkins
Historian	Eric Watkins
Scholarship Fund	Dick Kimbell

Barring any new or additional candidates, the general membership will vote to accept these candidates at the Annual Meeting on 13 Nov 2024.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON SPEAKER: RICHARD GROVER

My name is Richard Grover, I am the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Coordinator at Goodwill of Lane County. With a decade of military service under my belt, split between the Marine Corps and the US Army, I've had the privilege of deploying to various countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan, and Haiti.

My educational background in Social Psychology, complemented by specialized training in PTSD and MST counseling through the VA, equips me to support veterans facing challenges in employment and housing. Born and raised right here in Eugene, I'm deeply connected to my community and passionate about serving my fellow veterans.

At Goodwill of Lane County, we're dedicated to providing career exploration, training, placement, and supportive services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Our goal is to empower them to secure good jobs in stable, high-demand occupations paying livable wages. Additionally, we strive to establish strong partnerships between public, private, and nonprofit organizations, particularly those employing and partnering with veterans who have experienced homelessness. By delivering equitable services to marginalized veterans facing or at risk of homelessness, we aim to help them overcome barriers to employment.

Understanding the unique challenges veterans encounter in civilian life, I'm committed to working alongside them to create a brighter future. Together with the dedicated team at HVRP Goodwill of Oregon, we're determined to overcome obstacles and foster a better tomorrow for those who have served our nation.

I eagerly anticipate connecting with veterans throughout the community and continuing my service alongside the outstanding individuals in Lane County.



Richard Grover

CLOSE OUT SALE ON AMERICAN FLAGS—Pure profit for our Chapter: John Toensing reports that he still has four flags for sale... and ALL the proceeds go to our MOAA chapter. These are the Allegiance flags... all made in America. He has one 3 X 5 for \$65 and two 3 X 5 deluxe flag sets that each include a 3 X 5 flag, a six foot Vermont white ash wooden staff, a wall mount and a swivel kit that keeps the flag from "wrapping around the axel." The kits go for \$150 each.



Our chapter Board of Directors has until the October 23rd board meeting to approve a slate of officers to fill all officer and board positions for 2025.

NOMINATIONS

ARE OPEN

So, you have about a month to decide which position you would like to hold. Membership in the Board of Directors is usually a good place to start as it gives you access to the conversations that determine the chapter's policies, prosecute its purposes and determine how its funds should be disbursed. Membership on the Board can lead to one of the five Officer positions. You've all been officers before, so nothing new there. Put your hand in the air.

VETERANS STAND DOWN, Roseburg VA Campus, 9/11

PATRIOT DAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2024

District 13, Color Guard

Very early on Patriot Day, September 11th, Color Guard members from Coos Bay, Eugene, Florence and Albany switched off their alarms, secured uniforms and gear, and then drove into a stormy early fall day that featured heavy rains. Their goal was to provide a Color Guard for the



Roseburg Veteran's Affairs (V.A.) Veteran's Stand-Down event held at the V.A. complex. This was a well-publicized event that planned to host almost 50 vendors to provide mostly free goods and services to Veterans. The rain caused some consternation as the event was planned to take place in an outdoor location.

Coast Guard Auxiliary Color Guard members; Doug Wisman, Miyasha Hilliare, Steve Shallenberger, and Bill Malone were joined by program manager, Norm Hoffman for the occasion. Members of the Color Guard had trained the week before so they would be sharp and at their very best for this event.

So, on they drove, and...upon arrival in Roseburg, the rain suddenly stopped.

The team hit the ground, running. They first met with the event master of ceremonies to coordinate details, then they discussed the order of events with the singers who would perform the Star-Spangled Banner anthem. Next, they picked out their marching route and did a final rehearsal. At that time, the M.C. was reading the notifications of the 9-11 Twin Towers attack to the crowd in real time.

But promptly at 0900, she announced (from a pre-printed Color Guard format);

"Ladies & Gentlemen, please stand for the presentation of our Nation's Colors & remain standing for our National Anthem. Today the Colors are presented by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary."

With that announcement, and the Color Guard now as the focal point of the event, our team came to Port Arms and marched smartly out toward the speaker's podium. They presented the Colors as the Star-Spangled Banner was sung, and at its conclusion they did a facing movement and then marched past the spectators to return to their staging area.

And just then the rain began again!

The large crowd was very grateful for the Color Guard's efforts and many people, mostly Veterans, stopped by to say thank you to the Color Guard members.

The event planners also expressed their appreciation for the Color Guard's display of precision and professionalism.

"Semper Paratus!"

Norm Hoffman, Program Manager

District 13 Color Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary



USCG Auxiliary LCDR (AKA USA BG) Norm Hoffman puts the Coast Guard District 13 Color Guard through their paces

**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA**

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*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 365,000 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.

