



MOAA®

# THE EMERALD VOICE

FIVE STAR CHAPTER



EMERALD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## 11 MARCH LUNCH MEETING

March 11th—Veterans’ Memorial Building  
1626 Willamette

11:30—12:00 Social / 12:00 Lunch \$17.00

### MENU

**Chef Rob's Famous Chicken Stroganoff with Noodles**

**Mac's Caesar Salad**

**Steamed Broccoli**

**Grandma's Rolls and Butter**

**Cookies**



### GUEST SPEAKER

**Chris Quaka, President and CEO, Benton Community Foundation (BCF)**  
Provide an overview of the our ROTC scholarship fund’s growth at BCF

**Reminder— If you make a reservation for Lunch/Dinner, you are expected to pay, even if you do not attend and do not cancel ahead of time.**

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 3 MARCH 2020

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**Do you need a ride to and from the next luncheon meeting?**

**If so, let us know when you make your reservation. We will do everything we can to make it happen.**

## MOAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS MANY

### 2020 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Ken Evans	914-6235
Vice Pres	John Toensing	345-7535
Secretary	Pat Harris	942-5274
Treasurer	Elaine Callahan	968-1746
Chaplain	Jonathan Landon	946-3888
Membership	Eric Watkins	687-8404
Newsletter	Pat Harris	942-5274
Webmaster	Ginger Banks	484-3336

Chapter membership dues for 2020 were due January 1.

Printing graciously provided by



## MINUTES OF THE 26 FEB 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**PRESENT:** Officers: President Ken Evans; Vice President John Toensing, Secretary Pat Harris and Treasurer Elaine Callahan. Board members: Mike Kennedy, Frank Balazs, Dick Kimbell, Eric Watkins and Bud Fitzgerald were present. A quorum was established. Members Dick Norton and Marcy Prevics and ROTC PMS Chris Warren were also present.

**OPENING:** President Evans called the meeting to order at ----1201 hours and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Kennedy gave an invocation.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the 22 Jan 2020 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer's Report for 20 Jan to 26 Feb 2020 was reviewed and approved:

**Club Operations:**

Beginning balance	\$ 4728.64
Deposits: to Club Operations	\$ 988.00
Expenses:	-\$ 854.38
<b>Club Operations as of 20 January 2020:</b>	<b>\$ 4862.26</b>

**Special Funds:**

\$428.00 in directed donations:

ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund added \$325 for a balance of	<b>\$ 5947.00</b>
Special Projects Fund added \$103 for a balance of	<b>\$ 2308.05</b>

**Umpqua Checking Account** grand total is: **\$13117.31**

The **OCCU Endowment Fund Account** added \$1.41 in interest. \$5,000 was transferred to Benton Community Foundation for the purpose of long-term support of the ROTC Scholarship Fund. OCCU Total Balance is now **\$1,827.43**

The **Benton Community Foundation (BCF) Scholarship Endowment Fund** has a current market value of **\$34,235.42** as of 24 February 2020. There is a \$5,000 transfer from OCCU that has not yet been credited and will be reflected next month.

**Notes:**

The **Annual Treasurer's Report** for 2019 was presented to the February 2020 Board Meeting and will be attached to the March 2020 newsletter distribution email.

The memorial donations made in 2019 have been reviewed and accounted for. Those directed specifically towards the ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund were verified to be placed in that fund. Donations not specified were divided between Club operations (which now provides funding for all Cadet dinners) as well as the ROTC Scholarship Booster Fund.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. President Evans presented a procedure paper for recruiting and handling guest speakers. The paper was adopted as page one of the chapter Policy and Procedures Manual.
2. Eric Watkins has volunteered to take over the flag history presentation from Bert Toepel for

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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)

the May ROTC Recognition Dinner. He will contact Bert for the presentation folder and the flags. Pat Harris will work with Eric to set the program.

3. John Toensing noted that member Maj Gen Paschall has donated two indoor flag poles that can be used by us or any other veteran organization. John will look for options. President Evans will send a "Thank You" letter.
4. Dick Kimbell noted that since BCF has mandated that we take a distribution of \$1,000 from the scholarship fund and that we have over \$5,000 available in the ROTC Booster Fund, that we could offer more and greater scholarships this year. Pat Harris noted that by doing so we would slow our progress toward making the BCF Scholarship Endowment Fund self-sustaining; which would make the need for further donations unnecessary. A motion was made and seconded to offer three \$1,500 scholarships this year and that we would revisit these amounts each year before May. The motion passed 6-3. Scholarship checks will be delivered to the university just prior to the start of the next school year.
5. A discussion on an annual dues change has been tabled until the next meeting.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**HEALTH AND WELFARE – Dick Norton:** No report.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE – Pat Harris:**

- The March menu is set. The speaker is Chris Quaka, President and CEO of the Benton Community Foundation.

**MEMBERSHIP – Eric Watkins:**

- 77 members and 13 associate members have paid their 2020 dues.

**LEGISLATIVE - Ed Daley:**

- An article has been prepared for the March newsletter on state Veteran services.

**NEWSLETTER - Pat Harris:**

- The next newsletter should be out by 1 Mar.

**WEBSITE – Ginger Banks:**

- The website had ---678 visits last month... many from Kiev.
- The annual renewal of the website is due March 10th. Ginger will pay it and send the bill to the treasurer.

**FUND RAISING – Marcy Prevics:**

- Marcy delivered the annual receipt for the donation of our storage space to Big Y Storage.

**PROJECT –**

- The Huey memorial is a dead issue as the expense is too great.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- Six board members have provided biographies per the new format; five to go.
- Calling list: Board members are calling all members who are not on the regular calling list to see if they want to be called or if they prefer to make their luncheon reservations via email.
- President Evans presented a report on the feasibility of accepting credit cards for lunch, dues

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## MARCH LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER

### Chris Quaka, President and CEO of Benton Community Foundation (BCF)

**Topic:** Chris will provide an overview of the Emerald Empire MOAA scholarship fund's growth at BCF, this year's distribution of those funds and how members can help meet the club's goal of disbursing \$2,000 annually to students. During the discussion Chris will talk about the tax benefits of IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) and how estate gifts can support the Emerald Empire's scholarship program into perpetuity.

**BIO:** For more than 15 years, Chris has partnered with nonprofits across the country to strengthen local communities. After graduating with a B.S. from Southern Illinois University in 2001, Chris joined AmeriCorps NCCC, and building on that experience was hired by the Corporation for National and Community Services in 2005. He later coordinated disaster recovery efforts in regions affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike. In 2010, Chris moved with his family to Redmond, Oregon, and began his career in fund development at a regional non-profit. That opportunity led him to Corvallis where in 2017 he was selected as the President and CEO of the Benton Community Foundation. Chris continues to volunteer today and is fortunate to serve on the Board of Directors for Leadership Corvallis and the Imagine Corvallis Action Network. Chris lives in Corvallis with Emily, his wife, and their children Logan (10), Cady (6) and Ellie (6).



The dreaded Daylight Saving Time starts on March 8th

Visit our Chapter website at [EmeraldEmpireMOAA.org](http://EmeraldEmpireMOAA.org)

**The Emerald Empire Chapter ROTC Boosters provide the scholarship monies awarded at the annual Cadet Dinner during the May General Meeting. We are now accepting donations for this year's scholarships and have, so far, received donations from the following members:**

Frank Balazs, 1st Lt, USMC, (Fmr)	Patrick Harris, CAPT, USCG (Ret)	Tommy Albert, CW3, ARNG, (Ret)
Scott Sandgathe, CDR, USN (Ret)	Eric Watkins, LTC, USA (Ret)	Richard Kimbell, CDR, USNR (Ret)
Charles Cole, CAPT, USN (Ret)	Edward Gear, COL, USA (Ret)	Barbara Gunn, CIV
William Gutheim, COL, USA (Ret)	Robert Heaton, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Norman Hoffman, BG, USA (Ret)
Kent Karren, LTC, USA (Ret)	John Leber, Jr., Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Michele Mort, LCDR, USN (Ret)
James Paschall, Maj Gen, USAF (Ret)	John Simmons, CH Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Donald Simpson, LTC, USA (Ret)
Robert Tully, Jr., LTC, USA (Ret)	Mike Kennedy, CAPT (CHC), USN (Ret)	Bud Fitzgerald, MAJ, USAR (Ret)
James Armour, CPT, USA (Ret)	David Cooper, Maj, USAF (Ret)	Ron Sticka, Col, USAF (Ret)
Mary Ann Roos Stockstad, CIV	James Helbling, LTC, USA (Ret)	Michael Lee, COL, USA (Ret)
Richard Norton, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	Clayton Robson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)	James Smurthwaite, 1LT, USA (Fmr)
Thomas Stewart, CDR, USNR (Fmr)	Elaine Callahan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)	Mark Schibler, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Darlene Thomasec, LTC, USA (Ret)	Helen Cook, 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 Cadet Recognition Dinner:** Each year in May (13 May this year) the chapter hosts the University of Oregon MS IV (Senior) ROTC Cadets and the MS III Cadets and/or other scholarship recipients. This year the projection is ABOUT 20 MS IV's and their spouses and three MS III scholarship recipients - total of 23. We pay for their meals including spouses. There is a separate chapter fund for cadet meals which is replenished each year with donations of \$25.00 or more. If you would like to donate, your \$25 amount will pay for one cadet meal or for a cadet spouse attending the 13 May 2020 dinner.

**Chapter Dues for 2020:** Chapter dues for 2020 are due. So far 73 Regular Members and 12 Associate Members have paid. If you have not paid this year's dues (\$25.00 for Regular Members and \$5.00 for Associate Members) please send a check made out to Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA, or just MOAA to Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA; P.O. Box 767; Eugene, OR 97440. Delinquency notices will be mailed out on 1 March.

**Quilts of Valor:** At our last general meeting we heard Bobbie Sanford and two associates on the Quilts of Valor Foundation. They make quilts for veterans and then honor them in a ceremony that is both specific to the individual and very meaningful. Several of our members have received these quilts. If you would like to find out more about this foundation, nominate someone to receive a quilt (yourself included) or donate to the group, visit their website at [QOVF.org](http://QOVF.org).

**In Memoriam:** Over the past year several members have donated to the chapter in honor of recently passed members, Rusty Cook and Pat Simpson. Most donations were undirected and will go into the Operations Fund, while some have been designated for the ROTC Scholarship fund. Those who donated in honor of Rusty Cook: Christine Tebben, Jack and Constance Christensen, Brad Lieberman, Fran and Ron Lieberman, Pat and Suzanne Simpson and Helen Cook. Those who donated in honor of Pat Simpson: Tim McCartney, Eugene and Cynthia Youngman, James and Judy Wright, Alexis Simpson, Thomas Stewart and Thomas and Kathy Albert. John and Lynne Toensing and Larry Jones donated in honor of both Rusty and Pat.

MINUTES, continued from page 3

and donations at the door before meetings. Members will be polled on who would prefer to use a credit card when they come to the next meeting.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

- LTC Chris Warren expresses his and the ROTC cadre/cadets' appreciation for all our support. He will work with Elaine Callahan and Dick Kimbell to codify the scholarship application and selection process to assure a smooth transition if there is any turnover.

### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

11 Mar 2020, 11:30 am social, noon lunch: general membership meeting; Vets' Bldg.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** 25 Mar 2020 at noon in the Veterans' Memorial Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 1334 hours.

Pat Harris, Secretary

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

This is directly off the **Oregon.Gov** website. Looks like there is more than I had been aware of. I'll list what's on the page. Navigation is easy, all categories can be opened for explanations.

1. File a claim (disability): Tips for filing a claim with the best chance of success.
2. Healthcare: Learn about the Federal VA Healthcare system.
3. Long-term Health care: Programs for Veterans and health care workers.
4. Transportation: Benefits, adaptive programs for rural disabled Veterans.
5. Emergency Assistance: Financial help, housing and more.
6. Home Loans: Oregon offers its own Veteran loan program.
7. Pension: Tax free monetary benefit for low income Veterans.
8. Veteran Volunteers: Outreach program for Veteran Benefits.
9. Records and Medals: Update or replace records or medals. This could be of great importance.
10. Taxes: Tax exemptions for Veterans and help filing taxes.
11. Vet Owned Business: Resources for starting or growing a business.
12. Employment: Helping Veterans getting the most out of their careers.

There are more, however these seemed the most beneficial on the page. All of the categories open to give a wider explanation and "how to" instructions.

Simply go to "Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs" (ODVA), on the heading click on Benefits and Programs. There is more on the heading that may also be of interest.

This is full of helpful information and, as said, an easy site to navigate. Explanations seem easy to follow. Just another example of how Oregon is working to take care of its Veterans.

Ed Daley, Legislative Chair  
Never Stop Serving



You may know that March contains St. Patrick's Day and International Earth Day;



but did you know that March is National Celery designated by our erstwhile legislators who seem nothing better to do?



Month, so des- to think that they have

But then there's also If Pets Had Thumbs Day (3rd).



Hug a GI Day is March 4th... now that's the one I can really appreciate.

National Pi Day



and National Potato Chip Day



are on the 14th.

National Goof Off Day (22nd),



is in a category all its own.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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I hope this newsletter finds you well. The move into spring appears to have begun with a few flowers blooming and trees budding.

The presentation by Quilts of Valor was very informative and moving as well. It is really nice to see this and other organizations that have a genuine interest and support of our fellow service members. I note that the presenters left information about their organization on the back table as well as a brochure on how you might help them. We encourage presenters to make this information available so that, should any of our members wish to donate, they could pick up the information and act on it as they wish. See Briefs, page 5, for website information.

The 11 March 2020 lunch meeting will soon be here. You may find this meeting quite informative as Chris Quaka, President and CEO of the Benton Community Foundation will be our featured speaker. I suspect there will be a lot of information on the building of a fund to help us support ROTC. Their help in building a selection process will also be very valuable.

The Board has been assessing the ability to accept credit and or debit cards for payment of the lunch meeting fee. We notice that most people seem comfortable paying with cash or checks but maybe a card would be something that would be desired. There are some fees associated with the chapter accepting cards so we would like to know what you think. At the next lunch meeting, at the time you check in, we will be asking you if you would use a credit card or debit card if you could.

Please think about this and have an answer when we ask. Thank you.

New Membership: just a reminder that if you bring a prospective eligible member recruit to lunch, the chapter will pay for their meal and welcome them and will help inform them of chapter membership information. Make sure you make a reservation for your guest and let us know when checking in.

We look forward to seeing you at the luncheon and learning more about the Benton Community Foundation (BCF).

See you then.

Submitted by: Ken Evans, President  
Emerald Empire Chapter, MOAA



A member of the Quilts of Valor demonstrates the draping of a veteran with a personalized quilt by placing one on our own Dick Heyman. (Photo courtesy Dean Dorsey)



**MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA**

Emerald Empire Chapter  
P.O. Box 767  
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[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 380,000 members.



The organization represents those on active duty, former officers, members of the National Guard, Reserve, Retirees and their surviving spouses.



**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.

