



# Ozark Empire News

Ozark Empire Chapter, Military Officers Association of America  
2131 West Republic Road, Box 164, Springfield, Missouri 65807

<http://www.oemoaa.org>

Editor: Ron McCall, Capt, USAF, Ret (rnrtaf@gmail.com)



November, 2022

## A Word from the Chapter President

- With the November elections fast approaching, let me take this opportunity to encourage everyone to be informed about the issues that matter to you, and get out and VOTE.
- The final Honor Flight for 2022 was completed on 25 October. Three members of our chapter participated as Veterans in that event. They were: Col Chuck Guy, Col Tom Marty, and LtCol Bill Pickett.
- Ozarks Empire Chapter, MOAA, was again honored at the recent MOAA Annual Members meeting and Awards Banquet in Kansas City, receiving the Five Star Level of Excellence award. My thanks to each member of our Chapter, for your contributions during this past year.
- As previously mentioned, our next chapter meeting is scheduled for the evening of November 18, and this will constitute our required chapter business meeting. Elections will be held that evening, for all elected Board positions. Candidates for those positions at this time include Ron McCall, Captain, US Air Force Retired, as candidate for President for a second two-year term; Becky Hutchings, surviving spouse, as candidate for Vice President for a second two-year term; and Bill Pickett, LtCol, US, Air Force, Retired, as candidate for Secretary-Treasurer, for another two-year term. Nominations will be open for any additional candidates for these offices. We would especially like to solicit candidates for Second Vice President.
- For all Chapter Members, MSU hosts a Veterans' Day Breakfast. I have attended this several times in the past. It's a good breakfast, presented at no cost, and a well-done program. They adhere tightly to a schedule. For those who want to stick around, there is a moving presentation of Taps, which starts outside MacDonald Arena, circles around the entire campus, before returning to its starting location. It's really quite an experience to sit there and listen to it make its way around the campus. Interested individuals may check out the page on MSU's website: [Veterans Day Breakfast and Taps Project 2022](#)
- The City of Nixa will hold a Veterans' Day observance, at the Nixa Community Center, beginning at 0900, on Saturday November 12. The Speaker at this event will be LtCol Shawn Swier, UMSC (Retired). All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will follow.
- I need to voice another need that has become known in our chapter. We enjoy hearing from a wide variety of speakers each month at our meetings. Chuck Guy has filled this need valiantly for the past two years, but his personal schedule has become overcrowded, and he needs to divest himself of this responsibility. Thus, we need someone to speak up, who has good community contacts, can reach out to agencies, and recruit speakers. It is the combined efforts of all of us together that make our chapter work. Thank you for continuing to volunteer. Remember – Never Stop Serving ©.
- As always, our newsletter is freely available on the chapter website, [www.OEMOAA.org](http://www.OEMOAA.org) as well as via email to all members. If anyone wishes to receive this newsletter via US Mail, please make that known to a Board Member or the Newsletter Editor, and we will make that happen.

Ronald McCall, OEMOAA Chapter President

**Chapter Mission Statement:** To stimulate patriotism in our community and serve those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any of the eight uniformed services, as well as their surviving spouses. The Ozark Empire Military Officers Association of America (OEMOAA) is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

## Legislative Update

November 2022  
OEMOAA Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)



Never Stop Serving®

### Special Legislative Advocacy Issues for the month of September

#### 1. Co-Sponsor Milestone Puts Star Act on Key House Calendar

By: Mark Belinsky, MOAA AUGUST 17, 2022

The **Major Richard Star Act** has reached a milestone goal of 290 co-sponsors in the House – the threshold for it to be placed on the chamber's consensus calendar. This significant accomplishment, along with ongoing efforts in the Senate, show clear progress in MOAA's work to expand concurrent receipt to more than 50,000 combat-injured veterans who lose a dollar of retirement pay for every dollar of VA benefits they receive.

[TAKE ACTION: [Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Major Richard Star Act](#) | [Call Your Lawmakers Today](#)]

#### 2. NGAUS Washington Report, 16 August 2022

**PACT ACT** President Joe Biden last week signed the Sgt. First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act into law. The measure will provide medical care to an estimated 3.5 million veterans suffering from health conditions from exposure to toxic substances. The Department of Veterans Affairs has established an online resource for information or filing a claim at [www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits](http://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits). Robinson was a member of the Ohio Army National Guard until dying from lung cancer in 2020. He deployed to Iraq and Kosovo.

#### 3. MOAA Advocacy News

Link to the latest **MOAA Advocacy** Updates [MOAA - News Listing](#)

*We encourage all chapter members and spouses to check and respond to MOAA Calls to Action at least monthly, preferably weekly! Yes, two votes per household are better than 1.*

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## MISSOURI STATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

### 2nd Regular Session, 101st General Assembly

- The Missouri Council of Chapters continues to focus on key legislation that affects our military, spouses, families and veterans. Chapter members are encouraged to advocate for these issues with their elected officials.

- In 2022, the Missouri General Assembly passed a proposed amendment to the Missouri state constitution to create the Missouri Department of the National Guard. The Governor approved and signed this amendment for approval by the voters in the November 2022 general election.

**Amendment 5 would create the Missouri Department of the National Guard. (HJR116) (SJR35) under the charge of the Adjutant General appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, charged with providing the state militia and other defense and security mechanisms as may be required.**

**MOAA members are encouraged to vote “Yes” to approve this constitutional amendment on November 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Missouri Amendment 5, the Department of the National Guard Amendment** is on the [ballot](#) in [Missouri](#) as a [legislatively referred constitutional amendment](#) on [November 8, 2022](#).

A "yes" vote supports providing the state's national guard with an executive department called the Missouri Department of the National Guard.

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thus keeping the state's National Guard as part of the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

### What would this ballot measure change?

Amendment 5 would create the Missouri Department of the National Guard as an administrative department within the state's executive branch. As of 2022, the Missouri National Guard is part of the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

As an executive department, the adjutant general, who commands the National Guard, would be a member of the governor's cabinet.

Amendment 5 would define the department's purpose as providing for the state militia, upholding the U.S. Constitution, upholding the Missouri Constitution, protecting the constitutional rights and civil liberties of Missourians, and providing other defenses as required.

[Missouri Department of the National Guard Amendment \(2022\) - Ballotpedia](#)

- **Following are links you can follow for additional Missouri legislative information:**

[Missouri House of Representatives - Home \(mo.gov\)](#)

[Missouri Senate – Missouri General Assembly \(mo.gov\)](#)

## Sign Up for MOAA “Newsletter” and Legislative “Calls to Action”

*We encourage all chapter members and spouses to always, please stay alert, and respond to MOAA **Calls to Action** at least monthly, preferably weekly! Yes, two votes per household are better than 1.*

### **Signing Up for the MOAA “Newsletter” and Legislative “Calls to Action”:**

- **Newsletter:** Sign up for the MOAA Newsletter. <https://www.moaa.org/> Check “News & Info” on Menu, then, on drop-down menu, check “Newsletters”

Or go directly to this link: <https://www.moaa.org/content/tmn/the-moaa-newsletter/>

- **Calls to Action:** Please stay alert for any “Calls to Action”. <https://www.moaa.org/> Check “Advocacy” on Menu, then, on drop-down menu, check “Legislative Action Center”

Contact your Federal elected officials by using the following link: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/?0>

\*\*\*WHEN COMPLETING “CALLS TO ACTION” **PLEASE LOGIN TO THE MOAA WEBSITE**, WHICH WILL ALLOW YOU TO ENTER OUR **OZARK EMPIRE CHAPTER #** IN THE BLOCK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LETTER PRIOR TO SENDING. THE CHAPTER # IS: **MO05** (MO is “alpha character” and 05 is “numeric” zero 5).\*\*\*

**Phone calls matter; Emails matter; Online petitions matter; In-person meetings, when practical, matter.** We want to ensure our elected representatives receive local constituents concerns for maximum national impact. (call them via MOAA’s toll-free Capitol Switchboard: 1-866-272-6622).

### **CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS**

The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 • Phone: (202) 224-3121

The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 225-3121

**Always feel free to contact me if you need any additional specific details or have any questions. Email: [john@linegroup.com](mailto:john@linegroup.com) or Mobile: 417.230.9187 Thank you, John Hathcock**

Collectively we make a difference - **Never Stop Serving®**

John D. Hathcock  
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.)  
Legislative Affairs Chair, OEMOAA Chapter  
Cell: 417.230.9187  
NEVER STOP SERVING. ®



## Chaplain's Corner

**By Becky Hutchings**

Folks, November is here! It seems that the leaves have more color than in the past couple of years, but they're not quite as vibrant as when rainfall is sufficient. Since leaves are beginning to fall as gusty winds prevail, fall colors will soon disappear.

As we break out the warm coats and crank up the heat, it reminds us that we are fortunate to live in the land of the free-The United States of America. While it is easy to complain about high prices on almost all of our goods, the counterbalance is that we do not go without, or suffer for our beliefs. Some of us may cut back on certain items, or dial the heat down a little lower, however we are very blessed.

We are approaching that special day when the turkey is cooked, pounds of potatoes are mashed, gravy made, dressing is put together (you know, that special recipe that grandma used to make), pies are cut, and all the other side dishes come together-and so the feast begins! Our family dinner usually begins with each person voicing something he/she is thankful for. The older ones are a little more thoughtful with their input, while the younger ones just want to eat, so they often slide by with a "generic" comment.

As far back as biblical times, the Bible teaches us about how God instructed the people of Israel to remember to be thankful. They were to observe three (3) feasts each year, which were reminders of how God had moved them out of Egypt toward the Promised Land. The feasts included celebration of unleavened bread (Passover), Feast of Weeks, and Feast of Tabernacles. God chose the place where the people were to celebrate these Feasts. These instructions were not intended to make the peoples' lives burdensome, rather to help them learn to be thankful and joyful. You can read more about these Feasts in Chapter 16 of Deuteronomy.

There are many controversies surrounding the history of Thanksgiving in America, and even when the first celebration occurred. However, today we celebrate the day with family and friends as it marks a special time for us to pause and be thankful for each other and our many blessings. As we celebrate this year, may we be reminded of how fortunate we are to be Americans.

One of our important freedoms and privileges is the right to vote in elections. Make sure you cast your vote in a few days. Remember that your vote is not a statement of total devotion to any given candidate, but a statement about the future society that you wish to live in.

May you be encouraged.

## Prayer for Veterans Day 2022

A special prayer of thanks, encouragement and remembrance for our military men and women who are currently serving, veterans who have served, those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. And their families sacrificing and standing beside them in their missions

On Veterans Day we honor all veterans who have served our nation and defended our freedoms. It is an opportunity for reflection, remembrance, and camaraderie. Especially protecting our religious liberties and freedom. We honor the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church who have served or are currently serving as members of our nation's Armed Forces.

Our nation's service members, including active, National Guard and Reserve — past and present — and their families represent the absolute best of America. Motivated by patriotism and love of country, our soldiers, marines, sailors, airmen, space guardians and Coast Guardsmen serve at home and abroad with professionalism, ingenuity, integrity, and devotion.

November is "National Veterans and Military Families Month". We celebrate the loved ones of our country's men and women in uniform and recognize the demands and challenges of military life shared by the loved ones of our heroes. Spouses, parents, siblings, and children often shoulder increased burdens and responsibilities when their servicemen and women are called to duty.

We ask that you grant these requests and continue to strengthen and support the men and women of our Armed Forces, and their families, that they may continue to serve in your glory and in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Ministry to the Armed Forces.

*"Only 2 defining forces have ever offered to die for you....Jesus Christ and the American Soldier. One died for your soul, the other for your freedom."*

*Lt Col Grant L. Rosenstein, Jr., USAF, Luke AFB*



## 33rd ANNUAL VETERANS' LUNCHEON

Hickory Hills Country Club

November 19, 2022

Social: 11:30 AM Lunch: 12:00 PM

**Remembering Veterans  
Will Carr & Tom Sentman**

Honored Guests  
World War II Veterans



Sons of the American Revolution Compatriots  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
JROTC & ROTC Cadets & Commanders



Featured Speaker  
**Ashley Beard-Fosnow, Executive Director  
Missouri Humanities Council**

**Bring a guest to help us honor America's Patriots**

Hickory Hills Patriot Lunch: Return with Meal Choice & Check

Chicken Marsala / Roasted Potatoes / Bacon Brussels sprouts \_\_\_\_\_

Boneless Pork Chop Apricot Chutney / Roasted Potatoes / Bacon Brussels Sprouts \_\_\_\_\_

Served with House Salad Vinaigrette / Warm Rolls / Butter / Coffee / Tea / Chocolate Cake

**Please indicate your entrée choice for each attendee.**

**Make check payable to OMCSAR, and mail: OMC SAR, PO Box 10405, Springfield, MO 65808**

**\$35.00 per person if received by November 1<sup>st</sup> / \$40.00 after 1<sup>st</sup> - no promise of late seating**

Compatriot: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_



## November US Military History

- 1620:** The Mayflower Compact is signed in what is now Provincetown Harbor, near Cape Cod, Massachusetts
- 1783:** Annapolis, MD becomes the first peacetime US Capitol
- 1798:** Congress agreed to pay a yearly tribute to Tripoli, considering it the only way to protect US shipping in the Mediterranean, as the US has no appreciable Navy as yet. This decision was later reversed by Thomas Jefferson, leading to the invasion of Tripoli, and the famous line in the Marine Corps hymn.
- 1820:** USN Capt Nathaniel Palmer discovered the frozen continent of Antarctica
- 1861:** Julia Ward Howe writes the lyrics for the Battle Hymn of the Republic, later sung by Union Troops to the tune John Brown's Body, which had been composed in 1852.
- 1863:** President Abraham Lincoln delivers "a few appropriate remarks" at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery
- 1864** - Sand Creek Massacre, resulting in heavy loss of life to the Native American tribes of Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Wutapai.
- 1867:** Dynamite is invented by Alfred Nobel. He later also invented the blasting cap, to detonate dynamite rods.
- 1883:** At exactly Noon on November 18, American and Canadian railroads began using four continental time zones, to end the confusion of dealing with thousands of local times, emblematic of the power shared by the railroad companies at the time.
- 1906:** International Distress Call "S-O-S" is adopted at the International Radio Telegraphic Convention in Berlin
- 1917:** Provisional government of Aleksander Kerensky falls to Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin
- 1918:** At the 11<sup>th</sup> Hour on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, the Great War ends.
- 1921:** Exactly three years after the end of World War I, the Tomb of the Unknowns is dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery
- 2002:** President George W Bush signs bill creating the Department of Homeland Security



## October Meeting Recap

John Sellars, Director Emeritus of the Springfield History Museum, was again our guest speaker at our October OEMOAA Chapter meeting. For those who may recall his previous visit with us, he was at that time quite entertaining, giving us a wealth of details about the foundation and development of Springfield. His visit this time was no different in that respect. This time, he took us on a photo tour around our city. He has been able to find a number of old photos, and replicate them in many cases with new images taken from the same perspective. The difference, as one would expect, is really amazing, given the time difference between pictures. He was even able to share photos taken of the museum itself, taken during its renovation. It turns out that following a severe fire involving the building which now houses the museum, that asbestos was used throughout flooring, walls, and ceilings, to help make certain that the building would not again suffer serious damage from fire. During renovation, this asbestos discovered in abundance throughout. Of course all of that had to be remediated, in accordance with OSHA and other Federal guidelines, which meant that the project was going to take much longer, and incur greater expense, but in the end resulted in a significantly safer facility.



The Springfield History Museum is truly an amazing facility. It contains a number of immersive exhibits, and can educate the visitor on many aspects of the history of our city, from its very early days onward. If you have not had taken the opportunity to visit, it's highly recommended. It's really quite educational, as well as entertaining.

Thank you, John, for sharing once again with us, from your wealth of knowledge

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## Taps



None to report at this time

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## Member Activities



- August's Honor Flight was Carl Boswell's opportunity to visit Washington DC.
- October's Honor Flight Veterans were Tom Marty, Chuck Guy, and Bill Pickett.
- Honor Flight of the Ozarks has added both Tom Marty and Ron McCall to their Board of Directors, as our Chapter continues to support them
- Ozark Empire Chapter, MOAA, represented the Missouri Council of Chapters at the Missouri National Guard Association Conference, 28-30 October, 2022.
- Pictured here from left, COL Steve Vanderhoof, USA (Ret.); COL John Hathcock, USA (Ret.); COL Chuck Guy, USA (Ret.). Also participating was LTC David Snodderly, USA (Ret.).



**Our host, Twin Oaks Country Club, has transitioned our service to Plated Meals. This should help keep our cost down, and allow our host to better anticipate our needs.**

**Our options for November are: Lemon Caper Salmon \*or\* Chicken Florentine. Both options will be served with parmesan herb risotto and Asparagus**

**Either meal will be available for the same cost: \$32 per attendee**

## November 2022 Meeting

**DATE** 18 Nov 2022

**PLACE:** Twin Oaks Country Club (Oak Room)  
1020 East Republic Road  
Springfield, Missouri 65807

**TIME:** 1815 – Social Hour (Drinks can be purchased from the bar; for example: house wine \$6/glass; domestic beer \$4; liquor varies.) 50/50 voluntary donations, to support Honor Flight of the Ozarks. Drawing at the close of the presentation.

1900 – Meal/Program

**MENU:** **Plated Dinner, options as outlined on the preceding page.** Includes small house salad, Rolls, Table Beverages, Chef's choice dessert, Gratuity.

**Cost:** \$32 per person

**PROGRAM:** Chapter Business Meeting

**RSVP:** By noon, Monday, 14 Nov 2022  
To: LtCol William Pickett, USAF, Retired  
417-888-0135 or [cathyquilt@earthlink.net](mailto:cathyquilt@earthlink.net)

**LtCol Pickett will acknowledge ALL reservations received within 24 hrs. If you do NOT receive a confirmation, please contact Bill.**

## 2022 OEMOAA Monthly Schedule

Chapter meetings during Jan, Feb, Mar, will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, Twin Oaks Country Club, Oak Room. All remaining monthly meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, unless otherwise noted.

2022 OEMOAA Meeting Dates:

18 November: Chapter Business Meeting

9 December (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday)

2023 Meeting Dates

Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9: **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Noon**

21 Apr 15 Sep Dec 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Fri)

19 May 20 Oct

16 Jun 17 Nov

July – Cards Baseball

## ELECTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** Ron McCall, Capt, USAF, Retired  
417-840-1657 [mrtatf@gmail.com](mailto:mrtatf@gmail.com)

**1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** Becky Hutchings  
417-839-3059 [byhutchings@gmail.com](mailto:byhutchings@gmail.com)

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** (Open)

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** William Pickett, LtCol, USAF, Retired  
417-888-0135 [cathyquilt@earthlink.net](mailto:cathyquilt@earthlink.net)

**IMMED PAST PRESIDENT:** Chuck Guy, Colonel, USA, Retired  
520-820-7339 [chuckguy0765@gmail.com](mailto:chuckguy0765@gmail.com)

## APPOINTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

**CHAPLAIN:** Becky Hutchings  
417-839-3059 [byhutchings@gmail.com](mailto:byhutchings@gmail.com)

**LEGISLATIVE CHAIR:** John Hathcock, COL, USA, Retired  
417-230-9187 [john@linegroup.com](mailto:john@linegroup.com)

**AWARDS COORDINATOR:** Phil Samples, Col, USAF, Retired  
417-742-5125 [pls.rxd@gmail.com](mailto:pls.rxd@gmail.com)

**TRUE AMERICAN HERO CHAIR:** John Hathcock, COL, USA, Retired  
417-230-9187 [john@linegroup.com](mailto:john@linegroup.com)

**SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON:** Becky Hutchings  
417-839-3059 [byhutchings@gmail.com](mailto:byhutchings@gmail.com)

**NOMINATIONS CHAIR:** Steve Vanderhoof, COL, USA, Retired  
660-886-0205 [svanderhoof856@att.net](mailto:svanderhoof856@att.net)

**AMBASSADOR:** David Reed, CDR, USN, Retired  
417-840-6600 [dreed7272@live.com](mailto:dreed7272@live.com)

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR** Chuck Guy, Colonel, USA, Retired  
520-820-7339 [chuckguy0765@gmail.com](mailto:chuckguy0765@gmail.com)

**WEBMASTER:** Keith Oxby, W/O British Navy  
[ozarkenglishman@gmail.com](mailto:ozarkenglishman@gmail.com)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Ron McCall, Capt, USAF, Retired  
417-840-1657 [mrtatf@gmail.com](mailto:mrtatf@gmail.com)

Common Sense is like deodorant. Those who need it most, never use it.

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on just one!

There is no such thing as a grouchy old person. Truth is, once you get old, you stop being polite, and start being honest!

When one door closes and another one opens, take a look around. You may be in prison!

When I say "the other day", I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 40 years ago.

## OEMOAA NAME TAGS

Some members and their spouses prefer a solid plastic name badge with a magnetic clasp. The member cost is \$10 per badge, payable in advance. Order forms will be available at the next two meetings. You can also email Bill Pickett ([cathyquilt@earthlink.net](mailto:cathyquilt@earthlink.net)) anytime and he will send you the form by return email. Please return completed forms to Bill at a meeting with the \$10 per badge fee. Nametags will be ready at the next regular dinner meeting. Yes, the name tags with the pin clasp will continue to be provided at no cost.