

Ozark Empire News

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

December 2019

<http://www.oemoaa.us>

Editor: Ron McCall, Capt, USAF, Ret

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 seven 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).*

A Word from the Chapter President

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the members and friends of the Ozark Empire chapter, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. We do not take lightly the fact that there are several of our number who are presently dealing with health issues, and that these can be quite a challenge. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers on a continual basis. We look back on a fruitful year behind us, and pray for a good year ahead. Of course, none of us knows what challenges may lie in the future for any of us, but with the help and support of our friends and our faith, we trust that we will be able to deal with whatever comes our way.

We need to always remember to be thankful, not only for our many blessings because we are fortunate enough to live in the USA, but we need to also remember those deployed abroad in our defense, those in hospitals or otherwise away from home and family, and all who serve on home soil, whatever their mission. Remember to give to local charities, especially those that support Veterans, the homeless, and those in need this time of year.

Chuck Guy, President
Ron McCall, Newsletter Editor



One of our members recently reached a personal milestone in his life and took to the skies with his wife to mark and celebrate it. Mike Murphy finished his distinguished career in aviation on November 4th with over 10,500 flying hours. He took his last flight on the same date as he first soloed on November 4th, 1965 in a Cessna 150. During the intervening 54 years, Mike flew over 30 different aircraft, both helicopters and airplanes in the Army and civilian activities. He flew for 34 years in the Army National Guard across the U.S., Germany and Panama. His civilian flying activities included flying Branson sightseeing helicopters for 15 years, the KY3 helicopter for 2 years and the Assemblies of God airplane for several years. It was truly a distinguished career. Thank you Mike and Jackie!

He and Jackie are pictured here.

The Ozark Empire News is published by the Ozark Empire Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.

Legislative Update

Frank Bridges, Legislative Chair

This month's Legislative input is highlighted by the lack of "sound" coming out of Washington, include our Headquarters, regarding the 18K cut in Medical Billets. It seems that this action had gone the same direction of Sequestration, we just don't take about anymore. We all need to watch for action regarding these billets moving in to the Defense Medical Arena.

Our Medicare Part "B" share is going up depending on what the individual or joint income level is that appears on our IRS returns. As I have state on other issues, it is not the amount that is worrisome, rather that our Medical costs are marching upward.

As I'm sure you know, we are under a continuing resolution until 20 December, the next deadline. It appears that our leaders don't want to operate that way but the question is, will they have the will to do otherwise? Apparently, the issue driving the situation is the looming cost for allowing Veteran's to go outside of the VA System when they can be seen in a timely matter by VA. I really haven't seen any definition regarding those costs.

Finally, the "Widow's Tax" repeal is still alive! Please answer calls to action regarding the Tax.

The key to all of this is as always, please respond to **Calls to Action** at least monthly, preferably weekly!

Please Respond to all Calls to Action

On 25 October Frank Bridges attended the Missouri State University's (MSU) Ring Ceremony and Ball. LTC Toni Rieke, the new Professor of Military Science, was the official host of the affair. Mr. Bill Moskoff, Kansas's City, a graduate of MSU ROTC, endowed a ring fund to provide Class Rings to all Seniors. At this Year's Ceremony, soon to be Second Lieutenants received their ring. The Ring has MSU symbology on one side and ROTC symbology on the other side. Since this Ring Presentation started a few years ago it has become very significant for the Cadets. The Ring Ceremony, along with OEMOAA presenting a Ceremonial Sword to the Top Cadet, has had a very positive impact on the Corps of Cadets. The photo shows Mr Moskoff at the beginning the Ceremony. There were a number of former ROTC Cadets in attendance including our own Tom Marty.

"The views expressed in this article do not necessarily represent those of Missouri State University".





On November 2, several of our members were able to represent OEMOAA in the annual Veterans' Day Parade in Willard, MO. They have invited those of us with convertibles, to bring our cars, and drive in the parade. We take the opportunity to share an abundance of candy with the children (both young and old) in Willard, as we pass along the parade route. Always a fun time! Participants were Bill Pickett, Mike Murphy, Chuck Guy, Steve Vanderhoof, Frank Bridges, and Ron McCall.

December US Military History

- 1674 – Father Jacques Marquette, French missionary, built the 1st dwelling at what is now Chicago.
- 1773 – In Boston Harbor, a group of Massachusetts colonists disguised as Mohawk Indians board three British tea ships and dump 342 chests of tea into the harbor.
- 1776 – Patriot General George Washington crosses the Delaware River with 5,400 troops, hoping to surprise a Hessian force celebrating Christmas at their winter quarters in Trenton, New Jersey.
- 1803 – U.S. and French governments finalize a little land transaction known as the Louisiana Purchase, a \$15 million deal, doubling the size of the United States.
- 1835 – Cherokees were forced to move across the Mississippi River after gold was discovered in Georgia. Relocation was completed by 1838. This became known as the Trail of Tears March
- 1860 – South Carolina officially leaves the United States when a convention ratifies an article of secession, the first state to secede.
- 1896 – “Stars & Stripes Forever” was written by John Philip Sousa.
- 1951 – U.S. Air Force George A. Davis, flying a F-86 Sabre jet out of the 4th Fighter-Interceptor Wing, was credited with four aerial victories against MiG-15s, the largest number of kills by a single pilot in one day during the war in Korea.
- 1987– At a summit meeting in Washington, D.C., President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev sign the first treaty between the two superpowers to reduce their massive nuclear arsenals.
- 1996 - Mars Pathfinder is launched from Cape Canaveral
- 2010 – With the second launch of the SpaceX Falcon 9 and the first launch of the SpaceX Dragon, SpaceX becomes the first private company to successfully launch, orbit and recover a spacecraft.

Meal Costs to Increase

Following a meeting with the Twin Oaks Catering Director, we were advised that, effective 1 Nov 2019, they will be raising costs for our normal monthly meals by 20%. This is the first cost increase that they have imposed in 10 years. With that increase, the cost to members will necessarily increase. During a recent meeting of the OEMOAA Board Of Directors, the decision was made to increase meal costs to members to \$26. Breakdown of costs looks like this:

New Meal cost: \$18.00, plus 18% gratuity, as assessed by Twin Oaks. Total cost per meal: \$21.24. Room setup (after 50% discount): \$50. Bar setup cost: NC. Prorated cost/meal, based on 20 members and 1 speaker meal: \$24.61. We have not in the past, and plan to continue not to charge members who RSVP and are not able to show up for their meal, for which we are charged. Some speakers bring a spouse, whose meal is also covered by OEMOAA.



Over There: Missouri & the Great War, a traveling exhibition highlighting a statewide collaborative digitization project to document Missouri's role in World War I, will be on display at Duane G. Meyer Library, Dec 4, 2019 – Feb 27, 2020.

The Missouri and the Great War traveling exhibit explores the many facets of World War I history through the perspective of Missouri and Missourians.

Learn about the contributions of Missouri women and African Americans to the war effort. Discover the vital role Missouri horses and mules played in the war, despite the military adopting new technologies, such as motorized vehicles.

The exhibit also features two touch-screen kiosks, where visitors can explore more content and discover Missouri's World War I monuments. Visitors will also view a new seven-minute documentary featuring footage from the war.

This exhibition was developed by the Missouri Humanities Council and the Springfield-Greene County Library District, with funding provided by the Missouri Humanities Council, Friends of Springfield-Greene County Library District, and the RDW Family and Community Fund.

Admission: Open Daily to the Public, 7AM – 2AM, alumni, current students, faculty, future students, staff. Exceptions: Closed on 14 Dec, 15 Dec, 21 Dec, 22 Dec, 23 Dec, 24 Dec, 25 Dec, 26 Dec, 27 Dec, 28 Dec, 29 Dec, 30 Dec, 31 Dec, 01 Jan 2020, 02 Jan, 03 Jan, 04 Jan, 05 Jan, 11 Jan, 12 Jan, 18 Jan, 19 Jan.

Location: Meyer Library, Duane G. Room LIBR 007

December 2019 Meeting

DATE 6 December 2019 – 1st Friday
Location – Twin Oaks Country Club (Mulligan Room)

PLACE: Twin Oaks Country Club
1020 East Republic Road
Springfield, Missouri 65807

TIME: 1815 – Social Hour (Drinks can be purchased from their 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 Speaker's presentation.

Unfortunately, we were not able to arrange for a musical program, as has been our norm the past few years. We'll have to do our best, simply talking and fellowshiping with each other.

1900 – Dinner

MENU: Plated Dinner, as reserved by guests

COST: \$(Varies, according the entrée choice)

RSVP: By noon, Monday, 2 Dec 2019
To: LtCol William Pickett, USAF, Retired
LtCol Pickett will acknowledge ALL reservations received.

ELECTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Chuck Guy, COL, USA Retired

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jerry Nicholson, LtCol, USMC, Retired

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Ron McCall, Captain, USAF, Retired

SECRETARY/TREASURER: William Pickett, LtCol, USAF, Retired

IMMED PAST PRESIDENT: Phil Samples, Colonel, USAF, Retired

APPOINTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

AWARDS COORDINATOR: Phil Samples, Col, USAF, Retired

CHAPLAIN: Becky Hutchings

SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: Margaret Maulin, LCDR, USN, Retired

WEBMASTER: Keith Oxby, W/O, British Navy

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: (Position Open)

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: Frank Bridges, LTC, USA, Retired

NOMINATIONS CHAIR: Steve Vanderhoof, COL, USA, Retired

AMBASSADOR: Michael Murphy, COL, USA, Retired

AMBASSADOR: David Reed, CDR, USN, Retired

2020 OEMOAA Monthly Meeting Dates

All meetings on **3rd Friday**, Twin Oaks Country Club, Oak Room, unless otherwise noted

17 January 2020 Speaker: Clif Smart, MSU President

21 February 2020 Speaker: Kristy Frans

20 March 2020 Speaker: TBD

17 April 2020 Speaker: Marc Fulgham, Self-Defense for Seniors

15 May 2020 Speaker: TBD

19 June 2020 Speaker: TBD

(No Chapter meetings in July, August)

18 September 2020 Speaker: TBD

16 October 2020 Speaker: TBD

20 November 2020 Speaker: TBD

11 December 2020 (2nd Friday) Christmas Party.
Mulligan Room, Twin Oaks

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 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.

2020 Dues Notice

OEMOAA Chapter dues are on a calendar year basis and 2020 dues are now being collected. Please complete this form and: (1) send it with a check payable to OEMOAA to **OEMOAA; Box 164; 2132 West Republic Road; Springfield, MO 65807** or bring the completed form with you and pay at the next meeting. 2020 dues remain \$25 and covers the member **and** spouse. Auxiliary dues for a member's surviving spouse are \$5. Thank you.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Rank _____

Please Indicate: Retired, Active, Other;

Circle: USA, USN, USMC, USAF, USCG, USPHS, NOAA.

Phone _____ Email _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address (**skip if on check**): Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapter Dues: Member \$25 (includes member & spouse); **Auxiliary \$5**

2020 DUES: _____

2020 Voluntary Charity Donation: _____

(currently earmarked for Honor Flight of the Ozarks)

Total: _____