

MOZARK MOAAGRAM

June 2013

President's Message

As our Mozark Chapter begins a new year, we need to spend a moment or two remembering the good times as well as the losses that our group experienced during the past year. It is also appropriate to thank all those who played a role in the life of our chapter during that time. Special thanks go to Dave and Barbara Porter for going the extra mile for us on many occasions.

As your new president, I want to say that my goal is to maintain the standards and traditions that have been established for the chapter over the years. There are always opportunities for improvement as times change, but ours is a good organization with a history of service to our members and to the community. If you have comments or questions, please bring them to my attention.

As usual, we are seeking recommendations for programs and also volunteers are needed to be hosts.

Enjoy the picnic and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Garry A. Scharberg, LTC. (Ret.)

President, Mozark MOAA

Legislative Report, Don Bishop, Maj. (ret.)

Hello Everyone!! Been told this is my last update that will be due until next fall. With that I would like to wish everyone to have a wonderful and safe summer. Currently the lake is up, temps have been nice, and so a little summer fun should be in order! At Major Don's Army we continue at a record breaking pace of applications with now a family from Mississippi applying. So in addition to our main feeder of referrals, Kansas City Children's Mercy Hospital, we are getting referrals from Cardinal Glennon Hospital in St. Louis and the various clinics and St. Jude hospitals. It has turned into what I do after a full-time "job" to where the one legged man can barely keep up.

On the legislative front, the first bit of news I hope you are tracking along with me is where the 2013 COLA is currently. April's numbers brought us down to only a 0.9% increase for next year if we stopped now. Not much of a raise when they keep jacking up gas prices for no reason.

Next a bit about our favorite word that we have learned – Sequester. About 800 THOUSAND DoD civilians will be forced to take 11 days of non paid furlough the last three months of this Fiscal Year. I'm sure this will have a direct negative affect especially on the service which we retirees normally need. The Sequester also continues with across the board cuts to all of the Federal agencies, but especially the DoD budget. It just amazes me, even though not very well mentioned, but we are still conducting combat operations and soldiers are being killed in Afghanistan. We need to bring them home now is my personal opinion but it would save money which they are all after.

Finally when it comes to legislative “stuff”, keep your eye on the next ball – 2014 Defense Budget. DoD has been directed to go “find” another 52 billion in cuts over what the administration has asked for just in case the sequester continues to keep rearing its ugly head. There is much talk about the increase in LARGE TRICARE hikes to all of us, since so many think we received such a sweet deal when it comes to healthcare. Many counters to that but I think most of you know what they are.

So have a GREAT summer! And if you can HELP out MAJOR DON'S ARMY in any way we can always use your assistance or donations!

Treasurer's Report—Alan Catron, LTC (Ret.)

Bank Balance-----\$1126.

Installation of New Officers for 2013-2014 year

President---COL Garry Scharberg, USA

First Vice President—CDR Aryl Clason, USN

Second Vice President—COL Buff Ness, USA

Secretary—COL Paul Vicalvi, USA

Treasurer—LTC Alan Catron, USA

Member-AT-Large—CAPT Paul Goodspeed, USPHS

All of the Service Representatives are shown on the front page of this Moaagram. The new officers and the Service representatives constitute the Chapter's Administrative Board.

Welcome to our new members—

CAPT Frank & Luanna Herbert, USN (Ret.), 23455 Green Shores Drive, Shell Knob, MO 65747

(417) 858-0390 ferbert@centurytel.net

LTC Jack & Dalphna Henry, USAF (Ret.), 1380 N. Sandy Creek Circle #1, Nixa, MO 65714-9096

(417) 725-5367 jhenrysr@juno.com

W/O Burnell (Bernie) & Loretta Jiles, USA, 548 Wisconsin Road, Hollister, MO 65672

(417) 336-2984 bandljiles@suddenlink.net

Memorial Day Activities at Ozarks Memorial Park Cemetery

American Legion, Pemberton Jennings Memorial Post 220 Memorial Day Ceremony

Invocation-COL Buff Ness

Speaker-COL Paul Vicalvi

Dr. Lana Ness-Sang the National Anthem

Military Officers Association of America -----(national)

Sometimes prospective members of our local chapter mistakenly assume they are joining the NATIONAL organization. Our local organization, Mozark Chapter, is affiliated with the national but membership does not make you a member of the National MOAA. Everyone is encouraged to also join the national because you get a subscription to MILITARY OFFICER, an excellent monthly publication which has a host of valuable information for military retirees, including full reporting on congressional activities on our benefits. For more information go to www.moaa.org (not to be confused with our own web site www.mozarkmoaa.com).

Future Events—

Annual Picnic at Tablerock State Park Pavilion

Date:-----Saturday June 15, 2013

Time: -----12:00 (come a little earlier if you can, for meal preparation)

Hosts:----- Dave Porter and Chapter Board

Past President Dave Porter has requested that we bring a dish to compliment the hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks furnished by the chapter. Baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, potato chips, relish plate of tomatoes, carrots, celery, sliced onions, or dessert will be greatly appreciated.

Cost-----No Charge

Due to summer vacations, our next meeting will be September 21, 2013.