

Mozark Moaagram
October 2014

President's Message

Fall is upon us bringing autumn colors and falling leaves. Karen and I are looking forward to the coming holidays and wish the best for you. Many have asked about our Hummingbirds. It appears that as of Oct 6th they have vacated the premises for hopefully warmer climates. Research indicates they can be expected to return in Southwest Mo as early as April Fool's Day.

It is hoped that our recent epidemic of health issues within the Chapter are behind us and that the future will bring better times. It is also clear that our prayers are believed to have been effective.

Looking forward to the next chapter meeting and seeing you at the School of the Ozarks, Keeter Center, for camaraderie, good times and to hear a young lady talk to us about the weather and climate which should be very interesting and educational. We will all learn something to take home with us.

Another coming event that is worthy of note for you is that our MOZARK Chapter has been invited to participate in an early morning Veterans Day Ceremony. It is to be held at the Branson Jr. High School in the Gymnasium/Auditorium. We are to provide a participant representative from each branch of the Armed Forces. All Chapter members and spouses are invited to attend. There is a possibility that the event will be filmed for a television news article. Gary Scharberg and I visited the school in preparation of this. The school is beautiful. It will be a delight to see the students and faculty conduct the event including the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterwards the students are to be released to observe the Branson Veterans Parade downtown.

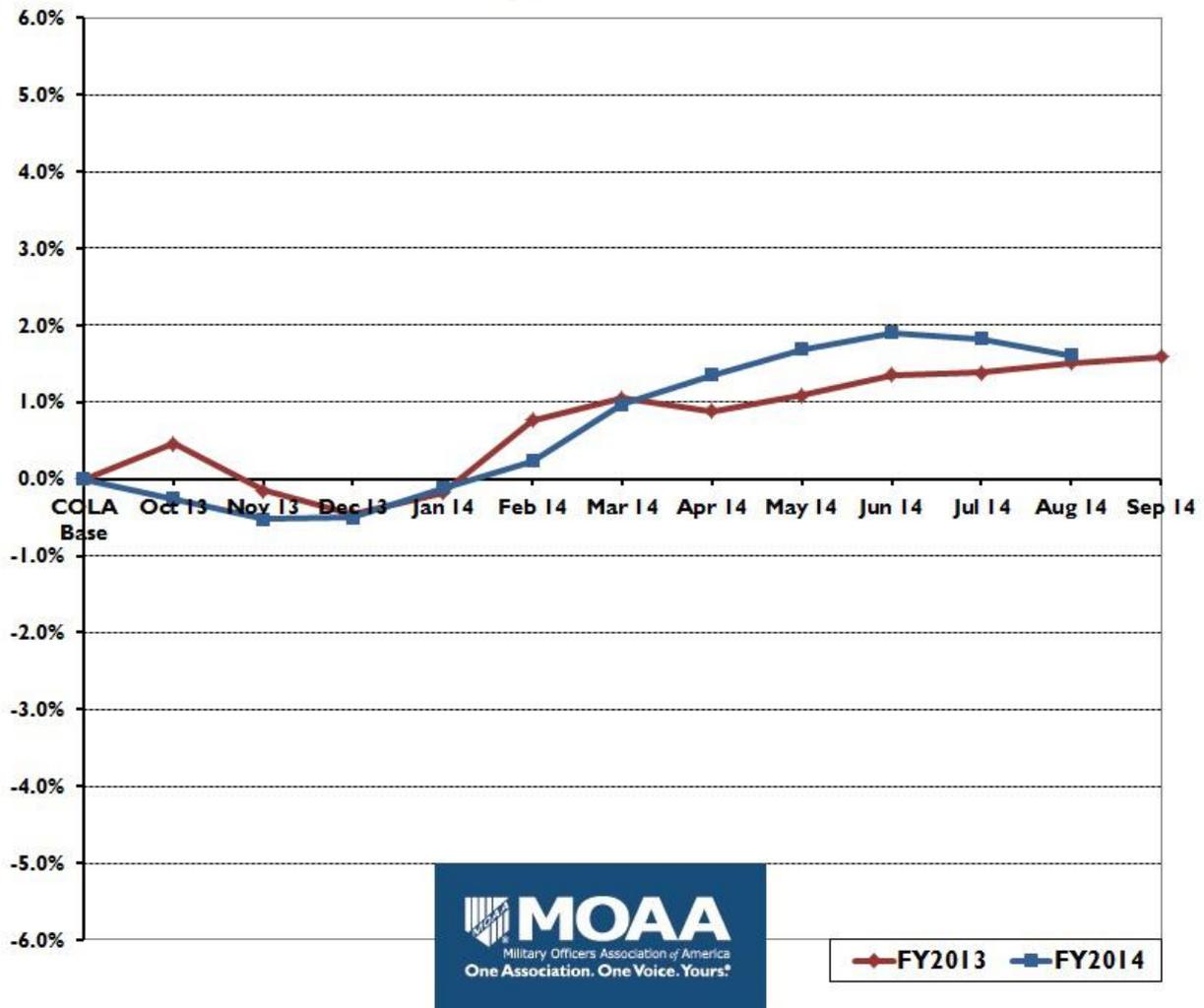
Aryl Clason, CDR, USN (ret.)

President, Mozark MOAA

Legislative Report by Major (Retired) Don Bishop

I would think everyone is watching what the 2015 COLA is doing pretty closely as it affects us all. I have inserted now that I am thinking this update is electronic, the chart once again, that was sent out by MOAA National. Sounds like it will be somewhere around 1.7 pay increase. However with the price of oil going down not sure how much of an impact that will have on the Consumer Price Index in the past couple months. We should know soon.

Change in Inflation



I would also like to bring up my old favorite word once again – Sequestration. Unless world peace should break out around the world in the next several months, in 2016 Army Chief of Staff briefed the numbers to Congress on what it would mean to the Army. The high points I picked up on was an end force of 420 thousand soldiers. To put that in my prospective in 1990 when I was on active duty and Desert Shield broke out, we had 1.5 million soldiers on active duty thereabouts. We have been slashing ever since. To the point where they are telling soldiers serving in a combat zone they are being fired. Just hard for me to imagine. Levels that will be less than pre-WWII forces. And we were the least prepared going into that requirement. What civilians continue to NOT understand is once we get rid of mid and senior level NCOs and officers we can't just go hire some combat MOS leaders in the case of an emergency. It is already a sad day hearing what our soldiers have been going through the last 10 years. Oh that's right we are quitting those two wars, oops my bad, now they want to do the ISIS thing around the world. Actually there isn't any humor here as it will be our sons, grandson's daughters and granddaughters etc. **that** will pay for this combat ineffectiveness with their lives. This country

has so many smart people, but sadly none want to get involved with Washington D.C. and I can't blame them.

Finally, an amendment to the Defense Authorization Bill has been introduced to stop the pharmacy copays from tripling on us in the coming years. Long way from being law. Least it is a start. Also ask your doctor the next time you go in for a check-up, what scares him the most about the upcoming Affordable Care Act and implementing regulations in 2015 and 2016. You might come away being very concerned about your health care. Keep your ears open and your keyboards ready to go with an email to all of our elected leaders. And oh, our right to vote is coming up shortly

**Treasurer's Report
Bank Balance**

\$1120.26

Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) requires everyone to have "minimal essential coverage" otherwise you might have to pay a fee for each month not covered. Tricare for life qualifies for that and those of us on it do not have to do anything. For official information you should go to www.tricare.mil/certificate

Illnesses

Marguerite Steffen undergoing therapy 3 times weekly, according to her daughter, who is with her. Still unable to walk alone.

Don and Kay Johnston improving. Don finished his chemo and radiation treatments nearly two weeks ago and has only minor after effects which are slowly improving. Kay is about half way through her radiation treatments and other than tiredness is doing OK.

Taps

Major John McGuire, US Army (ret.) passed away September 7, 2014. Interment was at Missouri Veterans Cemetery with full military honors. John and our member LTC. "Ike" Eike were both in the Chosen Reservoir battle in the Korean War.

Pictures

If you have not received the September pictures already, let Winsor know and he will email them to you. Also be advised that Keith Oxby has them on the mozarkmoaa.com website along with many of the previous ones. Be sure to check the website regularly.

Next Meetings

Date: October 18, 2014 (Saturday)
Place: College of the Ozarks, Keetor Center (Herold Room)
Time: Sign in 11:00
Lunch Buffet: 1200
Cost: \$20.

Speaker: Abby Dyer, KY3 Meteorologist

Abby Dyer

POSTED: 02:44 AM CST Dec 24, 2013 | UPDATED: 11:47 AM CDT Oct 02, 2013

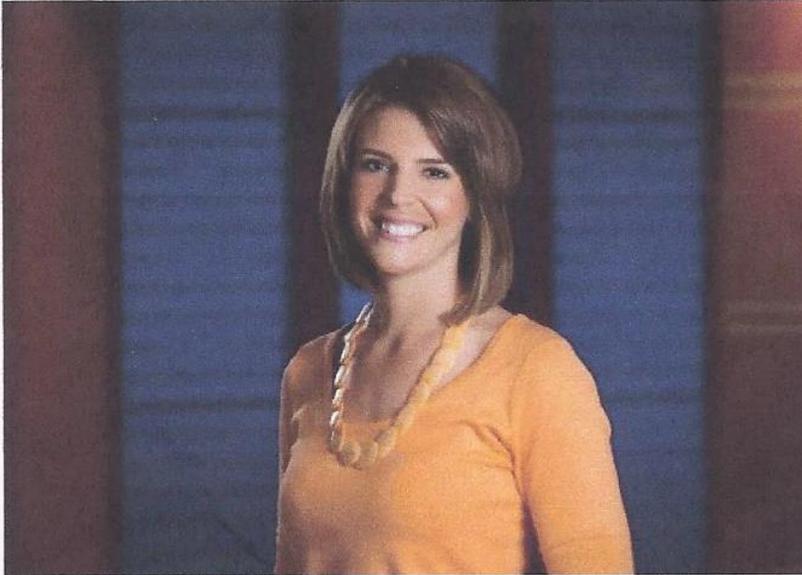
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Growing up in the Midwest, nothing was quite as exciting as watching the clouds and waiting for storms to roll through. I've been a weather fanatic since childhood and my passion for the weather has only intensified over the years.

Originally from Highland, Ill., about 20 miles east of St. Louis, I graduated from Highland High School and decided to pursue my dreams of becoming a meteorologist. I got my Bachelor's of Science in Meteorology from the University of Missouri. While in Columbia, I worked on-air at KOMU-TV.

I spent the summer of 2010 interning with the National Weather Service on the Big Island of Hawaii researching volcanic aerosols and their movement in various wind fields around the island. I joined the KY3 news team in July 2011, where I am the weekend evening meteorologist.

On any given day, you're likely to find me browsing meteorological web sites, blogging and tweeting about the weather, or outside enjoying it! Playing tennis and going to baseball games are a few of my favorite pastimes when the weather permits. And when it doesn't, I enjoy watching movies and knitting.

I hope I can bring you the most accurate and precise weather forecasts in the Ozarks, and I welcome any comments or questions you may have!

November Meeting will be November 15, 2014, 0830-1000 hours at Golden Corral in Branson. Each attendee to pay their own check. The usual door prize tickets will be available.

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