

MOZARK MOAAGRAM October 2016

Chapter Presidents Message for MOZARK Chapter, Moaagram, October 2016

The MOZARK Chapter started off the new program year with an excellent presentation from Chief Preston Schmidt, of the Hollister Police Department. He shared some very insightful information on current attacks by terrorists, as well as how all of us can be aware and know what to do in an “active shooter” situation. Chief Schmidt served in the U.S. Army as a Military Policeman in Germany from 1989 to 1993.

Our Vice President, Dave Porter has lined up a fantastic list of guest speakers and different venues for our 2016 – 2017 program year. We will be sharing the full schedule with you. Our program for Saturday, October 15th (Pirates Harbor at Stormy Point) is Bryan Cizek, Director of Patriotic Activities at College of the Ozarks.

On membership, we welcome a new member to MOZARK Chapter, COL Richard “Dick” Burkhalter, U.S. Army (Ret.) and his wife Margaret. Dick is a professional Chemical Engineer and owns a consulting firm, “Covenant Engineering” in Branson.

On the legislative side, I’m sure everyone is watching the presidential race, as well as our state elections and ballot initiatives. I would encourage everyone to get out and exercise our constitutional right to vote. Please educate yourselves on all the candidates and issues. There are also many legislative issues at the national level that have been “left on the table” while our elected officials have taken time off until after the elections. One in particular is the “Veterans First Act” (S. 2921). This bill has received full bipartisan support from the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, but has languished without being brought to the floor for a vote. This bill would allow the VA to provide better service to more veterans, and no one is taking any action to get this bill adopted.

If you have not already, I would encourage all our members to sign up for the MOAA Weekly Legislative Updates. You can do this at www.MOAA.org. After you have signed-up, there is also a section where you can “Take Action” and send messages to our legislators on key issues. We are at the grassroots level, and have the capability to positively influence key legislation that affects, our active military, retirees, veterans and their families. There are currently many negative proposals that are being proposed by the pentagon bureaucratic bean-counters and congressional staffers who have no idea about our military and the effects that will be detrimental to our national security.

Following are some items of information for you:

- Time Change, November 6th.
- The board does want to create awareness, that when we have visitors and guests (particularly potential new members), we should make everyone feel welcome and part of our family. Please make sure you circulate and get to know everyone.
- Please note that MOAA has changed “Auxiliary” membership to “Surviving Spouses”. Barbara Walker has agreed to be our Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison.
- We will be taking special voluntary contributions at our meeting on October 15th to provide any assistance to the Michael Rousselot Family.

It is with great sadness that we announce the following members who have recently passed away:
Col Don Johnston, U.S. Air Force (Ret.) October 2, 2016, surviving spouse is Kathleen (Kay).

Maj Bob Rose, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), Oct 3, 2016, surviving spouse is Elsie.
MAJ Don Bishop, USA(Ret.) passed away October 3, 2016. Surviving Spouse is Elise (pronounced E-lease).

Marguerite Steffen, Surviving Spouse of LT Larry Steffen, U.S. Navy (Ret.) (Larry passed Nov. 28, 2015). Marguerite passed away on October 6, 2016.

Our hearts and prayers are with the families of our departed members. And the Surviving Spouses are forever continued as part of our Chapter and MOAA.

Please continue your prayers for: Laverne Baker and Don Bishop. We all should keep John, Susan and especially Michael Rousselot, and his family, in our prayers. We look forward Michael's speedy recovery and health.

Respectfully,
John Hathcock, President

The True American Hero has been selected and approved by the Board. His name will be announced at the award presentation at College of the Ozarks November 12th.

Next General Meeting:

Date: Saturday October 15, 2016

Time: 11:30 check in--- Lunch Buffet: 1200 hrs.--\$20.

Speaker: Dr. Byron Cizek, Director of Patriotic Education at College of the Ozarks.

Place: Stormy Point Village, Pirate's Cove Club (ask Gate Officer for directions)

(for directions to Stormy Point Village, go to intersection of Hwy 376 (near IHOPs) and Hwy 265. Turn west at the light and go 100 yards west and take the only street to the LEFT. Go down the drive to the gated entrance and the guard will direct you to Pirate's Cove).

Upcoming Events:

October 15th, 1130 Hrs., MOZARK Chapter, Stormy Point, Guest Speaker is Bryan Cizek, Director of Patriotic Activities, College of the Ozarks

November 11, 1100 Hrs., Branson Veterans Day Parade

November 12, Saturday, Membership Meeting and True American Hero Award at College of the Ozarks.

1130 Hrs., Luncheon, Herold Room

1345 Hrs., Royal Oak Forum for presentation of TAH award.
1400 Hrs., "Railway to Heaven" stage play

Officers 2016 -2017, MOZARK Chapter, MOAA (Prepared by President John Hathcock)

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Chaplain (COL) Paul Vicalvi, U.S. Army (Ret.), True American Hero Award Committee
Chair