

MOZARK MOAAGRAM

Chapter Presidents Message – October 2017

Greetings Chapter Members:

We do look forward to seeing everyone at our **October meeting**. **Our meeting will be held at the Keeter Center, College of the Ozarks. Saturday, October 14th. Gathering and luncheon will begin at 1130 Hrs. Buffet luncheon is \$22 per person.**

Our speaker is Kearby Bridges, a Missouri Department of Conservation Agent, who will relate her sometimes, tense experiences. She is also a College of the Ozarks graduate.

I attended and represented our MOZARK Chapter at the MOAA East South-Central Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop in Memphis, TN September 15 – 16, 2017. I also attended the Missouri Council of Chapters meeting in Springfield, MO on September 23d. Following is a report from our chapter and notes from the MOAA Leadership Workshop:

MOZARK Chapter Report to Missouri Council of Chapters

September 23, 2017

1. Membership – 35 Active, 6 Surviving Spouses. Three active members are relocating out of area by end of September. Our Chapter is having trouble in attracting new and younger members, as is being experienced nationwide.
2. Summary of meetings – In May, Steve Presley provided an overview of “Welcome Home – America’s Tribute to Vietnam Veterans” to be conducted in June 2019. Steve also founded the MOZARK Chapter True American Hero Award, and is a current chapter member.

We also had Angela & Tim Hadler, founders of “GUMI Camp” (Glad U Made It). GUMI Camp USA is a special place where US Veterans can go to heal at their own pace.

In August, we had our annual picnic which is always well attended.

3. ROTC Awards – In 2017, MOZARK Chapter re-initiated participation in the MOAA ROTC Awards program. We covered JROTC at Branson High School (Air Force), Forsyth High School (Marine Corps) and the senior ROTC program at College of the Ozarks (Army, and satellite of the MSU ROTC).

4. Upcoming Activities:

The MOZARK Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) announces the twentieth presentation of the True American Hero Award. The award ceremony will be taking place at the Keeter Center, College of the Ozarks, beginning with a private reception and lunch on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, followed by the True American Hero Award Presentation in the Royal Oak Forum at 1:40 p.m. Guests/honorees will then observe the theater production of “Flames of Freedom”. Cost for lunch is about \$22, inclusive, per person.

For additional information, contact Dave Porter, (417) 335-5708.

All MOAA Chapters and members are invited for lunch and play.

5. MOAA Leadership Workshop, September 15 and 16, 2017 in Memphis

COL John Hathcock represented the MOZARK Chapter.

Lt Gen Dana Atkins, President and CEO of MOAA, was fully involved and gave some very useful information.

- Chapter Recruiting Incentive, for every new MOAA member, MOAA will reimburse chapter dues.
- MOAA is 4th largest Veterans Service Organization
- MOAA initiated and overturned the “CPI -1” budget proposal, resulting in a lifetime benefit of \$124,000.00 for retirees. Compare this to cost of 1-year membership in MOAA of \$45!
- Mike Turner is POC for MOAA Grants.

MOAA East South-Central Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop in Memphis, TN, where 54 council and chapter leaders from Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Missouri attended. Each attendee received a Leadership Workbook that included best practice checklists and a resource guide of pertinent MOAA national issues. MOAA will continue to improve the workbook with input gained from future workshops so that it serves as a “living” Council and Chapter resource document for affiliate leaders. Copy this link (and must sign in to MOAA website):

<http://www.moaa.org/Content/Chapters-and-Councils/Chapters-and-Councils.aspx#Council-and-Chapter-Management>

to access the Leadership Workbook and Workshop resources.

Legislation:

The Congress is back in session, so I would encourage everyone to follow the budgetary impacts on our servicemembers, retirees and families. Please follow the MOAA Legislative updates and “Take Action” on those key issues that affect all of us. Major priorities are to eliminate Sequestration, protect our TRICARE earned benefits and prevent proposed massive increase in TRICARE Fees. We do have an impact on how our elected officials vote. Following is a link on the MOAA website. You may also sign-up to receive automatic legislative “alerts” from MOAA. <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>

Membership:

The board encourages all our members to be on the lookout for potential new members. We do seem to have many eligible MOAA members moving into our area. *MOZARK Chapter pays meal costs for first time prospective members and their spouse.*

During the past few weeks, we have learned that several of our most loyal members will be departing the area. Of those are: Aryl & Karen Clason, Alan & Grace Catron, and Garry & Kathleen Scharberg. We will miss them greatly, and we truly appreciate all their past support.

We do need to maintain our membership, and this can be done through invitations to friends who are eligible. Please invite them to our meetings. We

are also working with MOAA national, on prospective member invitations. We are open to any ideas you may have.

TREASURER UPDATE:

Approximately \$873.48 in bank.

Next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, October 25th at 0900 at Donnie's, Branson West. Arrive early if you desire to eat. All MOZARK members are always invited to attend.

Our November regular meeting/luncheon will be Saturday, 7 November 1130 Hrs. at Keeter Center.

Respectfully,

John Hathcock, President

Illness and prayers:

John Rousselot, recovering from back surgery and Ann lee who Has moved to Colorado to be near a relative who can care for her.

Upcoming Programs:

November 7, (Tuesday) 1130 Hrs., Meeting and True American Hero Award, Keeter Center, Royal Oak Forum

November 11, Saturday – Veterans Day Parade. If you would like to volunteer, please call John Hathcock at (417) 230-9187.

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers - membership is open to all current and former commissioned officers, commissioned warrant officers, and warrant officers — of the regular, National Guard, Reserve, and other components of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.



Add:

Alan & Grace Catron address after October 20, 2017 will be
1510 Chesapeake, FL 32940