



# Ozark Empire News

Volume 10

December 2009

**Ozark Empire Chapter, Military Officers Association of America  
1304 E. Republic Road, Box 212, Springfield, MO 65804**

## **President's Remarks**

The December meeting coming up in only two weeks is our annual Christmas meeting. The entertainment this year will be provided by the Kickapoo Chamber Choir. This select group of very talented students is directed by Mr Nathan Cornelius.

Remember if you can, Dress Uniform is encouraged.

If you RSVP to our Christmas Party, this is a firm commitment for the cost of your meals even if you do not attend.

The slate of officers for 2010:  
President, Col Hank Meyer  
1st VP, Maj Bryan Hutchings  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Capt Charley Hawkins  
Secretary, Maj Phil Dixon  
Treasure, Col Mike Murphy

One final note, 2010 dues are now due.

## **December Meeting**

**December 04 (Friday)  
Doubletree Hotel  
2431 N Glenstone, Springfield, MO**

Banquet Room  
Social Hour: 6:30PM  
Dinner: approximately 7:00PM

Menu: Baked Ham, Beef Medallions, Green Bean Casserole, Sweet Buttered Corn,, Salad, Dinner Rolls, and Assorted Deserts

There will be a cash bar (provided by the hotel) with drinks costing between \$4.00 and \$6.00 per drink

The cost will be \$25.00 per person. Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, December 1 to Maj Jim Echols, (417) 882-4724 or E-mail to [jcechols1@mchsi.com](mailto:jcechols1@mchsi.com) or text msg to (417) 988-2222 - Thanks

## **Space-A travel an option for retirees**

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFRNS) – Retirees who dream of climbing an Egyptian pyramid, schussing down a black diamond ski slope in Bavaria, or walking on a Hawaiian beach can make these dreams come true with space-available travel.

Typically, these dreams require a lot of money; however, Space-A travel is free with the exception of customs or federal inspection fees on some chartered commercial air service missions.

Air Mobility Command aircraft fly all over the globe and often have open passenger seats available. An AMC aircraft takes off every 90 seconds. More than 130,000 Space-A travelers take advantage of this military benefit each year.

Retired Airmen with a retiree ID card and who are eligible to receive retired or retainer pay, fly as Category VI passengers. Since missions can be rerouted, delayed or cancelled for a variety of reasons -- weather, maintenance issues or higher priority missions – retirees need to be flexible. They need to plan for any potential delays and added expenses for stays, especially in high-cost areas.

There are four different methods for signing up for Space-A travel: in person at the passenger terminal or remotely via telephone, fax or e-mail. Sponsors must provide their name and information on all traveling dependents, and their desired destination(s).

Retirees can also use the DOD-chartered airlift missions for Space-A travel, if seats are available. Although retirees cannot visit their grandchildren in Iraq or Afghanistan, they can travel to Germany if the aircraft transitions there.

If traveling overseas, retirees should know the restrictions of the host country. For example, retirees traveling to Germany are not authorized to purchase items in the base exchange, but they can go off base and shop in the local community. Status of Forces Agreements restrictions, U.S. State Department Travel Advisory guidelines, the Foreign Clearance Guide and passport and visa requirements are all necessary items to research.

For more information on Space-A travel, visit the AMC travel Web site at [www.amc.af.mil/amctravel](http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel). (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

## **MOAA Charter Signed Into Law**

On November 6, 2009, President Obama signed the MOAA Federal Charter legislation into law. This constitutes formal congressional acknowledgment of the public service role of certain patriotic and national organizations. At least 10 states require a Federal Charter for participation in state-level veterans; advisory panels.

***OEMOAA dues are \$15.00 for a regular membership and \$5.00 for an Auxiliary membership. 2010 dues may be paid to the treasurer during meetings or mailed to OEMOAA at the address shown on page one.***

## Come to a Meeting

The Ozark Empire Chapter meets monthly except for the months of July, August and December, at the Mid-America Cancer Center, 2055 S. Fre4mont, Springfield, MO. We meet upstairs on the second floor. Both the entrance and the meeting room are wheel chair accessible. Parking is available on the east side (front of the building). We encourage you to attend

## Meeting Dates for 2009/2010:

**Dec - Friday, 04 December (Double Tree Hotel)**

**Jan - Friday, 15 January**

**Feb - Friday, 19 February**

**Mar - Friday, 19 March**

**Apr - Saturday, 17 April**

**May - Friday, 14 May**

**Jun - Friday, 18 June**

**Sep - Friday, 10 September**

**Oct - Friday, 15 October**

**Nov - Friday, 19 November**

**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 Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America. To learn more about MOAA, visit their website at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

## Chapter Officers

### President

Col Henry Meyer, USA (Ret)

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### First Vice President

Maj Bryan Hutchings USAF (Ret)

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### Second Vice President

Capt Charley Hawkins, USN (Ret)

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### Acting Secretary

Maj Jim Echols, USAF (Ret)

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### Treasurer

Col Michael Murphy, USA (Ret)

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