



HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

(Visit our Web Site at www.moahoa.org)

Number 4

April 2015

Victor Christianson covers History of Aerial Surveillance and Air Battle Management

Our speaker for the April 25th meeting is Victor Christianson. He will be talking about the history of Aerial Surveillance and Air Battle Management from the Civil War to the present with an in depth look at the E3, better known as the Airborne Warning and Control System.



US Navy Grumman E-2C Hawkeye carrier based AEW&C

Victor Christianson, Major, USAF, (Ret) served over 16 years in Air Battle Management, from Mobile Radar in northern Germany during the Cold War, to his final assignment as an Airborne Warning and Control System Mission Crew Commander during Provide Comfort and Northern watch after the first Gulf war.

His assignments included Air Battle Manager at the Republic of Korea Battle Management Command Center

in Osan, Korea and directing HQ PACAF's enhanced Counter Narcotics Support for the Drug Enforcement Administration and other Federal Agencies.

His awards include the Air Force Air Medal, Air Achievement Medal, Meritorious Service Medal plus many more. He graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City with a BA in English Literature and from Oklahoma State with a Masters of Science in Consumer Services. He is presently employed by the General Services Administration as a Building Manager of the Robert J Dole Federal Courthouse. He is married to Diane Chistianson and they have two daughters, Sheri and Kimberly.

To make reservations, contact Samuel or Judy Leonard by telephone at 816-792-0744 or by e-mail at jlynn2@kc.rr.com by Wednesday before the meeting.

PLEASE — No reservations can be accepted after 1000 on Wednesday especially requests for substitute meals.

Meeting Information

TOPIC: *History of Aerial Surveillance and Air Battle Management*

SPEAKER: *Victor Christianson
HOA MOAA Scholarship Chairman*

Saturday, April 25, 2015

TIME: *11:30 a.m. - Auxiliary
12:15 p.m. - MOAA*

MENU: *Orange Roughy, Tartar Sauce,
Wild Rice, Peas, Salad, Roll, Butter,
Coffee, Iced Tea, Dessert*

*(Substitute Meals of Baked Chicken Breast or
Hamburger Steak must be requested at Time of
Reservation)*

LOCATION:
*Disabled American Veterans
8787 Old Santa Fe Road
Kansas City, Missouri*

*Call Sam and Judy Leonard at 816-792-0744 for
Reservations or e-mail jlynn2@kc.rr.com*

2015 Meeting Calendar

25 April	26 September*
23 May *	24 October
20 June (Picnic)	21 November*
25 July*	12 December
22 August	(Holiday Party)

NOTE: All Meetings are on the 4th Saturday EXCEPT as indicated. They vary according to a holiday or available date.

* (Exec Council meets at 10:30 am)

Web Site: www.moahoa.org/

Notes from the President



by Maj Jerry Magliano

Many thanks to the 243 current Chapter members who have renewed for 2015 and a much appreciated welcome to new members who have joined during the past year. A very special thanks to those who have contributed to our scholarship fund. Contributions can be made at any time. Please make checks payable to Heart of America Chapter MOAA and mail to:

Emma Toops
22804 W 73rd Street
Shawnee, KS 66227

Each year we fund three college scholarships in the amount of \$2500, \$1500 and \$1000 to deserving high school students who have demonstrated the academic and leadership skills that best meet the criteria put forth in our application letter. We also fund a \$500 stipend for the child or grandchild of a Chapter member to assist with college expenses. None of this would be possible without your generosity. Our scholarship committee will be reviewing the applications this month and recommending their selections to the Executive Council.

You may also want to consider donating to another worthy cause, the American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation (AFWMF). Mr. Jack Barnes spoke to us at our February meeting about this organization which has the goal of building a National Memorial to honor our Fallen Warriors from the Gulf War to present date and is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. More information is available at www.afwmf.org.

We continue to enhance and add information to our Web site at www.moahoa.org. Our current and past monthly newsletters will continue to be linked. Shortly, there will also be a link to the recently revised Chapter By-Laws. I hope you will take advantage of the information that will be available to you through the Web.

Vic Christianson will be our speaker at the April 25th meeting and will use slides and videos to show us the capabilities of AWACS. Our May 23rd speaker will be Jackson County Executive Mike Sanders. I wish you happiness and good health and hope to see you at our next meeting.

Auxiliary News

Hello Auxiliary Members,

Easter has come and gone, I am hoping this was a wonderful time for everyone to spend time with family. Thoughts and prayers go out to two very vital members of the MOAA, Rev. Alan Davis and John Hansford for healing and rapid recovery.

If anyone hears that one of our member is ill or having difficulties please let us know, we want everyone to know we are here to help and thinking of them. The Officer's phone numbers are listed in the newsletter on the page with the MOAA President's message.

Spring is here and we all begin to work outside. Be cautious of all insects that love to come out this time of the year.

We will have our meeting at the regular time 11:30 am on April 25th at the DAV. I look forward to seeing everyone. We will soon begin our planning for the June picnic.

Susan Eveland
President
Cell: 816-309-6182

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER Military Officers Association of America



Opinions expressed herein are those of the editor or columnists and are not necessarily those of the Heart of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.

2015 HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER OFFICERS

POSITION	RANK	OFFICER	HOME
President	Maj	Jerry Magliano	913-261-9957
1st Vice President	COL	G. Bruce Eveland	609-238-6141
2nd Vice President	COL	Celia A. Allman	816-320-3464
Recording Secy	CAPT	Roger "Jim" Davis	816-373-1523
Membership Secy	MAJ	Keith Pechak	913-915-2131
Treasurer	MAJ	Emma Toops	719-200-9530
Immed Past Pres	Maj	Bill Tudor	816-365-6148

APPOINTMENTS:

Chaplain	LCDR	Alan Davis	816-554-9018
Legislative Affairs	Col	John R. Hansford	816-942-4466
Scholarship	Maj	Victor Christianson	816-240-8315
Program Chairman	MAJ	Emma Toops	719-200-9530
Finance Committee	COL	G. Bruce Eveland	816-635-3577
Judge Advocate	CAPT	Charles Harvey	913-851-1008
Surgeon General	COL	Linda Crosser	913-712-8751
Placement (MOPS)	Maj	Jerry Magliano	913-261-9957
ROTC Liaison	LTC	Norman E. Sowell	816-628-5005
Social Secretary	Maj	Gary J. Fox	816-525-3592
Historian		VACANT	
Newsletter Editor	LTC	Leslie C. Hobbs	816-830-5309

e-mail: leshobbs@swbell.net

2015 HEART OF AMERICA AUXILIARY OFFICERS

POSITION	OFFICER	HOME
President	Mrs. Susan Eveland	816-309-6182
1st Vice President	Mrs. Diane Christianson	816-240-8315
Secretary	Mrs. Mary Ellen Davis	816-554-9018
Treasurer	Mrs. Terrie Jo Fox	816-525-3592

Commissaries Targeted Again

Why are the commissaries under attack by the Department of Defense (DoD) yet again?

The FY 2016 defense budget proposal continues the plan to ultimately reduce the annual commissary subsidy by \$1 billion.

According to a recently released report by the RAND Corporation, "Past and recent proposals to eliminate the subsidy, have been made in the name of reducing the DoD budget."

The National Defense Budget Estimate for Fiscal Year 2016 is approximately \$585 billion. With the proposed commissary cuts only saving .05% of the budget, why does the DoD continue to look at this "important non-pay benefit" as a cost saving measure? These cuts hurt the very people DoD needs to re-enlist at a time when retention is becoming increasingly challenging and those that have already sacrificed and devoted their entire adult lives in service to our nation: retirees.

DoD solicited the expertise of the RAND Corporation to review how price increases have effected grocery retailers in the private sector. RAND used this data to analyze how this might translate into changes in sales and revenue at the commissaries.

Guess what the RAND report said?

Commissary patrons typically buy more groceries than customers of comparable civilian supermarkets. They also travel greater distances to take advantage of this benefit and frequently remain on base to shop at the exchanges after shopping at the commissary. The report

also found that half of eligible commissary shoppers are retirees and one-quarter are active-duty personnel, E-1 through E-3.

RAND's conclusion was not surprising: "If the appropriation is eliminated, prices at the commissaries will likely rise and/or stores may no longer be financially viable." The report went on to say that, "raising overall price levels will not be a successful strategy to cover the shortfalls in costs caused by the elimination of the annual Department of Defense appropriation."

In an opinion piece in the Wall Street Journal, MOAA President, Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, USN (Ret) said, "Congress should take a critical look at waste in the Pentagon's acquisition programs. In 2013 alone, the Government Accountability Office reported that the Pentagon's top 85 major defense-acquisition programs experienced overruns of nearly \$411 billion. Reporter Andrew Tilghman of the *Military Times* observed that this amount in itself is almost enough to cover the entire cost of sequestration for the Defense Department."

The \$411 billion in acquisition program overruns would cover the entire cost of sequestration or pay for the commissary subsidy for nearly the next 300 years.

With the proposed cuts only saving the DoD very little, you need to ask your elected officials why the commissaries are repeatedly the target of DoD budget cuts, especially when they provide such a significant benefit that is highly valued by so many.

Membership News

Under the revised Chapter Bylaws the Membership dues for calendar year are considered delinquent 1 May and the member is subject to being dropped from the Chapter Membership rolls.

If you receive the Chapter Newsletter by ground mail, on the address label above your name is the word "Current" or "Due". If you see "Due", please submit your \$15 dues using the form on the back of the Newsletter. Delinquent Members receiving the newsletter by email will receive notice by email.

Your dues are important to the Chapter and I thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Birthdays in April (day)

Keith Schmedemann (1)	James Harrison (15)
Gary Welch (1)	John Dixon (19)
Gary Fox (2)	Melvin Miller (22)
Robert Lachance (5)	Janis Miller (22)
Eugene Herndon (6)	Jeffrey Woythal (23)
Hugh Mills (8)	Eugene Caylor (27)
Cecil Barnes (9)	Irvin Chronister (28)
Werner Gregg (11)	Wayne Coulter (28)
Thomas Walsh (14)	Barry Pechak (28)

Keith Pechak, Membership Secretary
913-915-2131
keith.pechak@gmail.com

Veteran Status for Reserve Component Members

Congress should confer Veteran status for purposes of federal hiring veterans' preference on Reserve Component members after 180 "cumulative" days on active duty versus "consecutive" days on active duty.

Reserve and Guard members meet operational requirements by performing duty on a frequent basis but often for short periods of time. Often, they are mobilized for less than 180 days at a time; many reservists have served an entire career without serving 180 contiguous days on active duty and thus achieving "veteran" status for purposes of veterans' preference in federal hiring.

The proposed change would ensure Reserve Component members meet the same levels of service required for veteran status as active duty members. It would also keep the flexibility the services need to use Reserve and Guard on an as-needed basis for peacetime operations and to meet surge requirements.

Having achieved veteran status, RC members would be among a group the federal government is incentivized to hire. Unemployment has been steadily higher for veterans than nonveterans, especially those from the current war. Of that group, 30 percent of both Gulf War-era I and Gulf War-era II veterans were reported to be current or past members of the Reserve or National Guard.



Heart of America Chapter (HOAC) Military Officers Association of America

Membership: Application Renewal

Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____ E-Mail _____
 Active Retired Former AUX Reserve National Guard

Address: _____

City/St/ZIP: _____ Phone #: _____

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. How would you like the Newsletter delivered: e-mail website ground mail
2. In the Chapter Membership Roster, can we publish your e-mail address? Yes No
3. In the Chapter Membership Roster, can we publish your phone Number? Yes No

Chapter dues are \$15 per year Ladies Auxiliary dues are \$5 per year
Please make checks payable to:
Heart of America Chapter MOAA

Mail to: MAJ Emma Toops, Treasurer MOAA
22804 W 73rd Street
Shawnee, KS 66227