



HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

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

Number 2

February 2016

Gold Star Mothers to Speak at February 27th Meeting

Our February 27th Luncheon speaker will be Debbie Austin, President of the Northeast Kansas Chapter of the Gold Star Mothers.

She will be joined by several other members. The Gold Star Mothers are a national organization of mothers whose sons or daughters served and died that this world might be a better place in which to live.

Natural Mothers, who are citizens of the United States of America or of the Territorial and Insular Possessions of the United States of America, whose sons and daughters served and died in line of duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America or its Allies, or died as a result of injuries sustained in such service, are eligible for membership in American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Adoptive Mothers and Stepmothers who reared the child from the age of five years whose natural mother is deceased, are also eligible under the above conditions.

Our Meeting will be held February 27, 2016 (4th Saturday) at the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) building at 8787 Old Santa Fe Road. The Auxiliary Luncheon begins at 1145 hours with the MOAA Luncheon beginning at 1215 hours. Cost of the lunch is \$12.00.



To get to the DAV, exit off I-435 at 87th Street (close to Bannister Mall), and drive east to Old Santa Fe Road, turn right for one block, or drive on Blue Ridge to 87th Street and turn west, go one block to Old Santa Fe Road, turn left and go approximately one block. The DAV is at the rear of Loma Vista Shopping Center.

Everyone must have a meal reservation by Wednesday of the week before the luncheon. Those on the permanent list need to call only if they will be absent. Substitute meals must be made at time of reservation. Cancellations must be called in by 9:00 a.m. Saturday of the luncheon. Reservations are imperative in order to provide meals for all who attend.

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: Gold Star Mothers

SPEAKER: Debbie Austin, President
Northeast Kansas Chapter
Saturday, February 27, 2016

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

MEAL COST: \$12.00

MENU: Italian Steak, Pasta/Sauce, Vegetable,
Garlic Bread, Butter, Coffee, Iced Tea,
Cherry Desert
(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

2016 Meeting Calendar

23 January*	23 July*
27 February	August (No Meeting)
26 March *	24 September*
23 April	22 October
28 May *	19 November*
18 June (Chapter Picnic)	10 December (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 10:00 am)

Web Site: www.moahoa.org/

Notes from the President



by G. Bruce Eveland



This has been a wonderful challenge for me in introducing some new ideas and program changes for this year. Of course I am going very slowly and carefully to make certain we are successful with each of our endeavors.

So far, our membership program and the team have been very successful. We are especially grateful for those who have come

forward and provided the team with individual candidates or National Guard and Reserve units, in the vicinity, who they feel would be interested in having the team visit these units. It's really exciting to witness this enthusiasm in our chapter.

Our second challenge is creating a Family Support Program so our chapter can support our community active duty, National Guard and Reserve veterans and their families. We want to ensure we are doing it right and of course meeting the family's needs. As a side note, we would appreciate if a few of our members would come forward in assisting with this program planning. There may be a couple of meetings and over the phone discussions to get this program initiated. Don and Tina Dawson have stepped up to lead this very important program. We are looking for the chapter auxiliary to contribute in the planning process as well. For those who are interested or wanting to receive more information about this program, feel free to call Tina & Don at 816-741-4027.

Lastly, for those in our ranks I want you to know our new Chaplain, Navy CMDR Rod Kelly who recently joined our chapter. Chaplain Alan Davis elected to move to the position as Personnel Affairs and Assistant Chaplain. Chaplain Kelly will be assuming a more personal role. He will be notified when members and immediate family members are sick and/or passed on. He will make every effort to reach out and communicate with the family, offering any assistance our chapter might provide them. Chaplain Kelly's number is: 816-560-4512.

Lastly, I want to reach out to my fellow officers, regardless of what portion of our military you served/retired; I encourage you to attend our monthly luncheons and meetings. I am very sure once you see and feel enthusiasm of our members and their families, you will definitely want to join and be part of this wonderful group of American patriots.

Thank you so much.

NEVER STOP SERVING

Scholarship Fund Drive for School Year 2015 - 2016

We like to thank you for your continued support for this very worthy cause.

Our scholarship donations much better than last year and it looks like we will be able to make our goal of \$5000.00. Your funds provide worthy JrROTC Seniors and members' grandchildren and children the needed funds to help them attend college.

Please continue to support this worthy cause so that we can continue this program by sending your donation to MOAA – HOA, Emma Toops, Treasurer 22804 W 73rd St Shawnee, Ks 66227

Thank you again for donating to this worthy cause.

Victor Christianson, Major, USAF (Retired)
Scholarship Program Coordinator

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 MOAA Military Officers Association of America.

2016 HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER OFFICERS

POSITION	RANK OFFICER	HOME
President	COL G. Bruce Eveland	609-238-6141
1st Vice President	COL Celia A. Allman	816-320-3464
2nd Vice President	Maj Gary J. Fox	816-525-3592
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 President	Maj Jerry Magliano	913-261-9957
Auxiliary President	Mrs. Susan Eveland	816-309-6182

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Chaplain	CDR Rod Kelley	816-560-4512
----------	----------------	--------------

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS):

Finance	Col Garey Reeves	816-524-5571
Legislative	Maj Bill Tudor	816-380-6363
Membership	Maj Gary J. Fox	816-525-3592
Program	Capt Don Dawson	816-741-4027
Scholarship	Maj Victor Christianson	816-240-8315
Newsletter Editor	LTC Leslie C. Hobbs	816-830-5309

Auxiliary News

Happy Valentine's Day Auxiliary Members!

Hoping that you have enjoyed some of the spring type temperatures we have had lately. Having said that I am certain that winter is not finished with us and will rear its ugly head once again.

We had a great January meeting; it would be wonderful if we could have 90 members at each of the MOAA luncheons.

I want to encourage and invite any relative of an MOAA member to join us at our auxiliary meeting; we meet at 11:30 am at the DAV (just prior to the MOAA luncheon) and then we join the MOAA for the program and luncheon at noon.

As you can see our meetings are brief, but important in assisting the MOAA with their programs throughout the year.

We would love to see some new faces and welcome any input to help us reach out to active military, veterans and their families. Our dues are very affordable, \$5.00 a year.

If you are a member and have not paid your dues as yet please make the check payable to MOAA and mail to:

Terrie Jo Fox, Auxiliary Treasurer

3724 Stanton St. NE

Lee's Summit, MO 64064

Our next meeting will be February 27th; our hostess will be Tina Dawson. Until then be safe, we need each of you!

Susan

Susan Eveland
Auxiliary President
Cell: 816-309-6182

Heart of America Chapter – MOAA Participates in USAR Yellow Ribbon Event for the 451st ESC Deployment

Heart of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association participated in the USARC's Yellow Ribbon Event for the 451st ESC held at The Westin Kansas City; 1 East Pershing Rd, Kansas City, MO 64108, January 9-10. The objective of the Yellow Ribbon event is to inform the National Guard and Reserve service members and families of the benefits, resources and contacts available to help overcome challenges throughout the deployment cycle.

During the day and a half, the attendees were given classes on a wide variety of subject matter pertinent to sustaining a healthy military and family life style. Between classes and during breaks the attendees had an opportunity to visit with representatives for community partners that provide information and service to the military community. For example Veterans Affairs, Vets Warriors, TRICARE, Employer Support of Guard and Reserve, Association of the United States Army, American Legion, Military Officers Association... over 18 community partners were available with informational handouts.

A total of 277 Service members and 361 family members attended the two day event and Heart of America Chapter had a total of twenty eight officers completed MOAA membership registration cards.



Heart of America Chapter Members manning the MOAA information table during USAR's Yellow Ribbon Event, January 9-10 at The Westin Kansas City. MAJ (Ret) Keith Pechak, COL (Ret) Bruce Eveland, Maj (Ret) Jerry Magliano.

On the Lack of Heroes

by Dr. Cris Kuehl

It can be pretty disillusioning when one searches for those who would be worthy. Once upon a time we had heroes aplenty although this may be due to the fact we didn't know all that much about them. Sports figures were only known for their exploits on the field and politicians were still seen as leaders. We had media heroes because they were the only way we knew anything about the world at all.

Today we have traded Chet Huntley and David Brinkley for Twitter and YouTube. The definition of a hero (according to Webster) is a person who is admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities. There do not seem to be many in the public eye who quality these days.

I am given the opportunity to interact with people who do fit this definition and I am always reminded what real heroism is. I speak to a group of retired military officers every year – Military Officers Association of America (usually joined by the Military Order of the World Wars). These are the men and women who chose a self sacrificing career serving the country we all call home. Some faced combat and some didn't. Some lost friends and suffered injury but all did what they did for something far greater than themselves. Many built great careers after retiring and it is clear they could all have made a lot more money doing something other than serving. That is the key word here – they served. Their motivation has been patriotism and a desire to protect as opposed to self aggrandizement. In my opinion these are the heroes and it is our fault that we don't see them among us. They are there and they always have been. They have been the bulwark of our way of life in big and small ways and they have never asked for more than the opportunity to continue doing exactly that.

I am always honored to be invited into their midst – they really are my heroes.



Heart of America Chapter (HOAC)

Chapter and/or Auxiliary Membership Application/Renewal or Scholarship Donation

Name: _____ Date: _____

Membership Dues: Chapter \$20 Year

Auxiliary \$5 Year

Scholarship Donation?

Write in the Amount _____

Primary Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Best way to reach you? Phone or Email If phone, best time to call you? AM or PM or other _____

Make checks payable to:
Heart of America Chapter MOAA

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