



HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

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

Number 9

September 2016

Missouri Veterans Homes is September Topic

Amber Siasoco and Renee King will be our speakers at the September 24th meeting. Their topic will be Missouri Veterans Homes.



Amber Siasoco

Renee King

Amber Siasoco, LBSW, has been employed at the Missouri Veterans Home-Cameron for over 10 years as the social worker on the secure care community. Among her duties, she provides dementia education to family members and staff and also facilitates the Alzheimer's Support Group.

Renee King BSBA LNHA has been employed at the Missouri Veterans Home-Cameron for 17 years. She was the Accountant for 12 and has been the Assistant Administrator for the last 5 years. Renee assists the Administrator with Veteran and family concerns, staffing and budget management. Through the years she has served on several committees both locally and with the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Our Meeting will be held September 24, 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.

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

Meeting Information

TOPIC: *Missouri Veterans Homes*

SPEAKERS: *Amber Siasoco & Renee King
Missouri Veterans Home - Cameron*

Saturday, September 24, 2016

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

MEAL COST: *\$12.00*

MENU: *Salisbury Steak, Vegetable, Salad,
Mashed Potatoes/Mushroom Gravy,
Roll/Butter, Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea,
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*	July (No Meeting)
27 February	27 August
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.moaahoa.org/

Notes from the President



by G. Bruce Eveland



As usual, the day after Labor Day the weather changes, Most of us are thankful that the 90/100 degree weather is now history and some cool breezes are approaching.

Someone approached me at the last meeting and asked me and Keith, our membership director, when you folks go out and recruit, how you do sell new members in becoming a member not only with national, but also the Heart of America Chapter. The chapter is easy to sell as we brag on our monthly luncheons, our

special guests, our scholarship program, military Family support Program, our summer picnics, Christmas Party and many others highlights. As for MOAA national down to chapter level, we all work extremely hard and our motto is, we NENVER STOP SERVING.

We take the time to inform them of some of the following that always raise eyebrows. As an example:

- MOAAs membership is 390,000
- MOAA is the leading organization in protecting the rights of military service members and their families.
- MOAA is very focused on National Defense
- MOAA goes to Capitol Hill three or four times a year providing pressure on our legislators to support bills that support all services, and also supports and encourages the Defense Department Annual Fiscal Budget.

I can tell you that MOAA is the leading veteran’s organization that congress and the Senate keeps a keen ear out and listens.

Membership: our membership keeps growing each month. Our current membership is 364 members. Our Auxiliary strength is: 43. As of this week we have this year recruited: 85 new members. WE have a great membership team and are always ready to go out and recruit.

And even better news; we have recruited five new members for our chapter. They are captains and majors that have decided to change careers and go in different directions. All young and energetic who wants to be part of the best MOAA chapter in the United States? We’re so pleased to have them aboard.

So as you can see, our primary staff officers and the board of directors are making a vertical positive movement in making the Heart of American even better.

As always, I invite you to attend our monthly luncheons and see for yourself the enthusiasm that is being generated. The wonderful military officers and their wives are enjoying the camaraderie.

Thank you so much for being a member of this great chapter.

Auxiliary News

Where is Fall?? I am so ready for those wonderful breezy, cool evenings. I want to thank Helen Hudgens for being our hostess last month. Instead of consuming that wonderful cinnamon roll for breakfast, I should have just rubbed it on my hips! Love those Corner Café cinnamon rolls!!

Bruce and I will be attending the MOAA Regional Council meeting in St. Louis on September 10th. They are having a special meeting concerning the Surviving Spouse Program. I plan on attending to see exactly what they intend to do with this program. I will report at our September 24th meeting.

Our hostess for September will be Erika Van Dyne. I want to thank all the ladies that have stepped up and volunteered to be a hostess for our meetings. It is always fun to see what treat or gift our hostess brings each month.

We will have our monthly meeting at 11:30 am, September 24th and then join the MOAA for the luncheon and program. Please do not forget to make your reservations. Sam and Judy will be out of town, so Don and Tina Dawson will be taking reservations. Take care, I look forward to seeing each of you on the 24th.

Susan
Susan Eveland
Auxiliary 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.

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
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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

DoD Fy 2017 Budget Submission: Blended Retirement System

According to DoD, as part of their FY17 budget submission, "In general, the Department supports the blended retirement system established by the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. However, DoD is proposing some modifications now to ensure that, when the new system goes into effect, it best meets the retention needs of the Services and our men and women in uniform."

CONTINUATION PAY: The Department seeks flexibility in the application of continuation pays in order to shape the force vice the NDAA, which provides a minimum continuation payment to all members at 12 years-of-service (YOS)

TSP MATCHING - Increase Matching to 6%: The Department seeks to increase TSP matching to 5 percent for a total contribution of 6 percent. The NDAA provides a 1 percent automatic TSP contribution to the Service member and up to 4 percent in TSP matching contributions for a total of 5 percent.

TSP MATCHING - Delay to the 5th YOS: The Department seeks to amend the start date for matching service member TSP contributions to the first day of the fifth YOS generally aligning the start date with a service member's second enlistment. The NDAA begins matching the first day of the third YOS.

TSP MATCHING (Extend to Retirement Date): The Department seeks to extend TSP matching contributions until the member's retirement, similar to civilians covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System, while the NDAA ceases TSP matching contributions at 26 YOS.

Army Announces Long-Anticipated Family Program Cuts

I have no idea how the other sisters service are planning in cuts into the Family Programs. The Army's Installation Management Command has announced that they are giving warnings that major cuts in the Army Family Programs will take place soon.

I think our new chapter Family Support Program which we are presently preparing in draft form will certainly be very beneficial in supporting all services families here in the Greater Kansas City area.

We are looking for members to volunteer in preparing our program to get off soon. I know there are many of you who have during your careers have been actively or partly active in services family support programs. We encourage you to come forward and please provide assistance.

Thanks much.

Example Current Blended Retirement: Contributions would begin at the 3rd year of service but would stop at the 26th year for those individuals staying in for retirement.

Example DoD Proposed Changes to Blended Retirement: Contributions would be delayed until the 27th year of service and only those individuals staying in for retirement would see contributions extended after serving 26 years or more of service.

BOTTOM LINE: 83 percent of the force loses the opportunity to receive matching contributions and let their money increase over a 45-48 year time span. Additionally, their 20 year retirement will only have 15 years of matching contributions.



Chapter President G. Bruce Eveland congratulates August speaker Michael Tritt for his excellent presentation.

Chaplain's Corner

Your Heart of America Chapter Chaplain is available to serve Chapter Members and their families in times of need. Appropriate reasons for contacting the chaplain might include:

1. The death of a chapter member or one of their family members.
2. Serious illness or hospitalization of a chapter member or one of their family members.
3. Member or family member needing confidential guidance with a personal situation.

Please consult the Chapter Roster for the Chaplain Kelley's email address or phone number.

Chaplain Rod Kelley



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