



HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

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

Number 4

April 2017

New and Updated Kansas City VA Medical Center is topic on April 22 at New DAV Hall



Two Great Reasons to Attend Our April 22nd Luncheon.

Reason number one is that we will be holding our first luncheon meeting at the brand new DAV Hall and the second reason is that we will be obtaining a wealth of information about the Kansas City VA Medical Center.

As you are aware, we have enthusiastically been waiting for the opening of the beautiful new and updated facility the DAV has built on East 40 Highway. That time has now arrived.

Our luncheon presenters, led by Aarikca Thompson, will be from the Kansas City VA Medical Center. They will be giving us an update on new construction, available resources and services and the building of an outreach center in Shawnee, Kansas.

Materials and information will also be available to enroll for care in the VA medical system. Bring your questions to this great opportunity for information about how to access this very important benefit you have earned.

Our Meeting will be held April 22, 2017 (4th Saturday) at the new DAV (Disabled American Veterans) building at 14605 East Hwy 40, Kansas City, MO 64136. 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, in Independence, Missouri, exit on Noland to go south off I-70 for 1 mile to E Hwy 40. Turn left and drive one-half mile. DAV is on the south side of E Hwy 40.

Everyone please have a meal reservation in by Monday 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 Monday before the meeting.

2017 Meeting Calendar

28 January*	No July Meeting
25 February *	26 August*
25 March *	23 September
22 April	28 October*
20 May * (3rd Sat)	18 November* (3rd Sat)
24 June (Chapter Picnic)	9 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/

Meeting Information

TOPIC: *New and Updated Kansas City VA Medical Center*

SPEAKER: *VA Speakers led by Aarikca Thompson*
Saturday, April 22, 2017

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

MENU: *Swiss Steak, Vegetable, Salad, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Corned Bread/ 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
14605 East Highway 40
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

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

Notes from the President



by G. Bruce Eveland



I recently had the honor and privilege of attending the burial of one of our chapter members who was interned in Arlington National Cemetery. It was a memorable ceremony that will be retain in my thoughts forever. It was a perfect day with the cherry trees blossoming all around us. This gentleman was a ninety-seven year old, WWII B-17 pilot. He was one of-a-kind that was a real gentleman,

considerate, and a pleasure to always be with. Susan and I considered him a national treasure and a loss to our family.

This event reminded me of one of my responsibilities I believe I have as your chapter president. We all sometimes either avoid or neglect to consider our families as we are preparing for our last PCS.

1. Making decisions ahead of time relieves the stress of making choices and arranging for spouses burial.
2. Funding for the funeral and life insurance coverage.
3. Burial in military or private cemeteries.
 - a. Regardless of location, your DD214 must be available for either spouse and in a location available for everyone. Some suggest if you know the burial location, visit that location and provide them with a copy of your DD214
 - b. Taking time to get your important papers organized, write down your desires and give guidance to your family or guardians.
4. Other things to consider:
 - a. If desired, how do I request Military Funeral Honors and how much is the cost?
 - b. How do I obtain a flag, and what is the cost?

Note: These and many more can be obtained at your nearest Veterans Administration facility, your funeral director or by obtaining a copy of your states Benefits and Resource Guide. Most states have a copy of their veterans guide or you can access this information on the web.

On a brighter side, we recently recruited twenty new members to our chapter. I have an outstanding recruiting team and there is nothing they won't do for the chapter. I am so pleased with all of them!

For those who have not attended a luncheon recently, we are now located in the new DAV facility in Independence. What a beautiful building. You must come to our luncheon to appreciate this facility.

Our next meeting/luncheon is 1200 hours, April 22, 2017. I know you have already been notified of the DAV change of address. We always enjoy seeing faces we have not seen in some time. Always remember we, "NEVER STOP SERVING"

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.

2017 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	CPT Tanner Smith	573-355-4531
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 VACANT

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS):

Finance	Col	Gary 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

Happy Easter





Dr. Hal Wert, History Professor at the Kansas City Art Institute, speaking about the chaotic situation that exists in many parts of the world



Chapter President Bruce Eveland presenting an honoraria to Dr. Wert for his very informative presentation

Are Commissaries in Jeopardy?

In March, the GAO released an overdue report required as part of commissary reform measures included in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. GAO briefed the Armed Services committees more than a year ago on their preliminary observations, but just released the report on its analysis and review of certain aspects of commissary operations. In the meantime, the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) has been moving full steam ahead on pilot programs in variable pricing and private-label products, directly impacting the experience of commissary patrons.

The GAO report concludes that certain DeCA business processes “are not consistent with those generally employed by commercial grocery stores.” This isn’t surprising, as DeCA is constrained by law regarding how much they can charge, to whom they can sell, where they can operate, etcetera. But the report identifies certain areas where the standards used by DeCA are inefficient. This leaves MOAA concerned, because during GAO’s evaluation of the processes, DeCA already was implementing new ways of doing business. Achieving data fidelity is difficult when the evaluation instrument is out of touch and out of sync with the subject.

Auxiliary News

Happy Spring Auxiliary Members! Hopefully our frost warnings are over and we can begin to think of spring flowers. I want to thank Glenna Harvey for being our March hostess. We all left with Easter décor, ready for the Easter bunny to arrive.

At our March meeting we discussed a medical test called a “cardioscan”. This test identifies plaque buildup in your

coronary arteries. This test is done at any St. Luke’s Hospital location the general scheduling phone number is 816-3-4600.

You do not need a physician’s order to have it done. You can call and schedule this test yourself. The test takes less than 10 minutes. They will call you with the results the next day and then send you a complete scan report that you can take to your personal physician. The test will cost you \$50.00. I must say it was the best \$50.00 I have ever spent. Do yourself a favor, schedule the test, what do you have to lose?

We will be in the new DAV building for our April 22nd meeting. The address of the new DAV is 14605 E. US Hwy. 40, Kansas City, MO 64136. Our meeting will begin at 11:30, prior to the luncheon. Our hostess for April is Mary Ann Robker. I look forward to seeing you in our next meeting room!! Wishing you and your family a blessed Easter.

Susan

Susan Eveland
Auxiliary President
Cell: 816-309-6182





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