



# HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

## Military Officers Association of America

(Visit our Web Site at [www.moaahoa.org](http://www.moaahoa.org))

Number 3

March 2019

# Field Representative Michael Clarke is March 23rd Speaker

Our speaker at the March 23 luncheon meeting will be Michael Clarke. Michael Clarke is a field representative for Senator Roy Blunt in his Kansas City district office. He has been with Senator Blunt's office since Veteran's Day of 2013, with a short hiatus to work on Senator Blunt's re-election campaign in 2016. Prior to that, Michael worked with Congressman Billy Long in Springfield, MO and was a regional field director for Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential campaign. Michael has worked extensively on a range of issues for the Senator's office, most notably VA and veterans issues, and liaising with Kansas City's growing tech community.

Our Meeting will be held March 23, 2019 (4th Saturday) at the 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 from Independence, Missouri, exit off I-70 onto Noland to go south 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 must have a meal reservation by Monday of the week before the luncheon. Substitute meals must be

made at time of reservation.

Cancellations must be called in by 9:00 a.m. Saturday of the luncheon.

To make reservations, contact Samuel or Judy Leonard by telephone at 816-792-0744 or by e-mail at [jlynn2@kc.rr.com](mailto:jlynn2@kc.rr.com) by Monday before the meeting.



## Meeting Information

**TOPIC:** VA and Veterans Issues

**SPEAKER:** Michael Clarke  
Field Representative for  
Senator Roy Blunt

Saturday, March 23, 2019

**TIME:** 10:30 a.m. - Executive Board Meeting  
11:30 a.m. - Auxiliary  
12:15 p.m. - MOAA

**MENU:** Corned Beef/Cabbage, Horse Radish,  
New Potatoes/Carrots, Corn Bread/  
Butter, Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea,

(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](mailto:jlynn2@kc.rr.com)

## 2019 Meeting Calendar

|                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 26 January*              | No July Meeting            |
| 23 February              | 24 August*                 |
| 23 March *               | 28 September               |
| 27 April                 | 19 October* (3rd Sat)      |
| 18 May * (3rd Sat)       | 16 November* (3rd Sat)     |
| 22 June (Chapter Picnic) | 7 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 10:30 am)

**Web Site:** [www.moaahoa.org/](http://www.moaahoa.org/)

# Notes from the President



by Jerry Magliano

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, MOAA members from across the nation will participate in the annual “Storm the Hill” event with the objective of visiting every Congressional legislator’s office. This event will be especially important this year given the large turnover in members of Congress who need to be educated about our concerns.

Legislative advocacy at the Chapter and National levels are two of the most important functions MOAA performs each year. We are successful because of our strength in numbers which politicians pay attention to.

That is why your membership is very important. If you haven’t already done so, please take a moment to renew your National and Chapter memberships and consider a contribution to our scholarship program.

It is unlikely any of us can make it to Washington, D.C., however, you can make your voices heard by emailing your representative, calling his or her office and by sharing MOAA posts on Facebook or other social media.

The latest issue of the MOAA monthly magazine contains letters addressed to Senate and House leaders. Take a few minutes to read them and place them in the mail.

The speaker at our March 23<sup>rd</sup> luncheon will be Michael Clarke who is the Kansas City Field Representative for Senator Blunt. Bring your questions to this excellent opportunity to learn more about what the direction appears to be on Capitol Hill regarding active duty, veteran and retiree benefits.

Hope to see you on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. With a little luck, it might be Spring by then.

## Auxiliary News

### March Time

Here comes March in like a lion.

This is our 18<sup>th</sup> snow event. What a winter!

A big thank you to Tina Dawson for our bag of goodies including candies and lotion. You are always so good to us.

Susan Eveland will be our hostess for our March 23 at 11:30.

Come join us for some fellowship at our next meeting. We would love to have you join us. Hope to see you then.

Diane Christianson  
Auxiliary President  
MOAA-HOAC

### 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.

#### 2019 Heart of America Chapter Officers

| POSITION             | RANK | OFFICER             | HOME         |
|----------------------|------|---------------------|--------------|
| President            | Maj  | Jerry Magliano      | 913-530-1761 |
| 1st Vice President   | LTC  | Grant Montgomery    | 816-832-1733 |
| 2nd Vice President   | COL  | Mike Neer           | 913-908-6621 |
| Recording Secy       | COL  | Bud Frye            | 913-685-4171 |
| Membership Secy      | MAJ  | Keith Pechak        | 913-915-2131 |
| Treasurer            | Maj  | Victor Christianson | 816-240-8315 |
| Immed Past President | COL  | G. Bruce Eveland    | 609-238-6141 |
| Auxiliary President  | Mrs. | Diane Christianson  | 816-240-8315 |

#### APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Chaplain VACANT

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS):

|                   |      |                     |              |
|-------------------|------|---------------------|--------------|
| Finance           | Col  | Garey Reeves        | 816-524-5571 |
| Legislative       | Maj  | Bill Tudor          | 816-365-6148 |
| 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 |

Unlike many veteran’s organizations, National MOAA and Local Chapters collect yearly dues independently. Chapter Dues are due in January and are currently \$20. The Auxiliary Dues are \$5. If there is an “\*” after your last name in the address bar, we have not received your dues for the current year. Please send your Dues payment to TREASURER, Vic Christianson, 10635 Hwy D, Napoleon Mo 64074. Thank you for continued support!

# Military Retirement Benefits

by [MilitaryBenefits](#)

Military retirement marks a point in transitioning that requires a bit more planning and preparation than other milestones. Luckily, the military is on your side and does its best to prepare military and families for that ultimate transition to civilian life: military retirement. After all, it has likely been at least 20 years since families of a career-driven service member lived in one location for more than three years.

While a few VA retirement benefits will overlap with common veteran's benefits, retirees receive a few extra benefits that only 20 years time in service can grant.

First things first: don't forget to apply for a veterans retirement ID card. Unlike veterans serving less than 20 years, who have limited options in obtaining a veterans ID card, retired military veterans can be eligible to receive a DD Form 2 ID card, which is blue in color. See the Military and Veteran ID cards page for more information.

Next are military retirement benefits. Detailed information about these VA benefits can be found at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Anything that requires a form for enrollment, such as VA Health Care and the GI Bill, can be found at eBenefits.

**Retirement Pay** – Military retirement pay is dependent on the number of years served and when the service member enlisted. A breakdown of how military retirement pay is calculated can be found at "Understanding Military Retirement Pay." This also includes a breakdown of retirement COLA and CBS/Redux. Military retirement pay can be managed on the DFAS website.

**Disability** – All disability is calculated on a per case basis. Disability claims must be submitted to the VA and processed; one claim per separate injury.

**Veterans Group Life Insurance** – The VGLI is just one type of life insurance available to retired veterans. The VA also offers Service-Disabled Veteran Insurance, or S-DVI, as well as Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance, which aids in the settling of a mortgage in the event of death. There is also Financial Aid Counseling for beneficiaries as well as assistance in online will preparation.

**VA Home Loan** – The VA Home Loan is not only available to veterans, but to their surviving spouses as well. Active duty service members may also be eligible for this loan, which may be something to consider when approaching retirement.

**VA Health Care** – Enrollment can be done online or in person at a local VA Medical Center, at which time eligibility is determined. This health care is only coverage for the veteran. Additional health insurance would be necessary for dependents.

**VA Dental Care** – Although dental care through the VA is limited, it is available to veterans with a service-connected dental disability. A single visit is also available through for veterans within 180 days of discharge if a full dental examination was not conducted prior to discharge.



## February Meeting Photos



Speaker LT COL John (Jack) H. Adams (l) with Chapter President Maj Jerry Magliago (r)



LT COL John (Jack) H. Adams speaks to the MOAA members attending the February meeting



# Heart of America Chapter (HOAC) Chapter and Auxiliary Membership Application or Renewal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this Renewal or Application Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Dues are \$20/Yr

Auxiliary Dues are \$5/Yr

Checks payable to: HOAC/MOAA

Mail to: Maj Victor Christianson  
10635 Hwy D  
Napoleon, MO 64074