



# HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

## Military Officers Association of America

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

Number 5

May 2021

## Mel Carney, Vietnam Combat Veteran, To Speak About His Book “Command At Dawn”



Mel Carney was an Army Infantry Officer in Viet Nam. He arrived in country on Feb 4, 1968 and served as a platoon leader and then as a company commander in the field for six to seven months. He earned the Army Combat Infantry Badge, and was awarded a Purple Heart. His unit received a Valorous Unit Award. He spent the last few months in Chu Lai as an operations officer for the Chu Lai Defense Command. He completed his tour on February 4, 1969. In November of 2019, he published the book, **Command At Dawn**. The story is about command and leadership. He was in the field during the second Tet Offensive which started on May 5, 1968. On that day, the NVA struck 119 times the length of South Vietnam. Before June 1<sup>st</sup>, his company went from 115 men to 79 and on June 1<sup>st</sup>, they were hit with a massive mortar barrage. The book covers this battle and the impact that military training

and accepting responsibility had on the outcome. Mel has dedicated himself, and **Command At Dawn**, to helping veterans communicate better with their families and friends. The more the family knows about what their veteran has been through, the better that they will know their veteran. Mel only wishes that his fellow veterans not leave the legacy: *“Dad never talked about the war.”*



### 2021 Meeting Calendar

23 January*	No July Meeting
27 February	28 August*
27 March *	25 September
24 April	23 October* (4th Sat)
22 May *	27 November* (4th Sat)
26 June (Chapter Picnic)	4 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)indicated

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

### Meeting Information

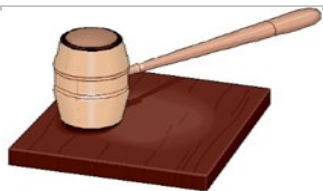
TOPIC; Vietnam  
 SPEAKER: Mel Carney  
*Saturday, May 22 2021*  
 TIME: 1030 Executive Board Meeting  
 12:15 p.m. - MOAA Lunch  
 MENU: Robbins Famous Fried Chicken , Mashed Potatoes/gravy  
 .Vegetable, Salad/ Roll/Butter/ Coffee/Tea and dessert

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

LOCATION:  
*Disabled American Veterans 14605 . Highway  
40 Kansas City, Missouri 64136*

*Call David or Emma Toops at 913-967-9745 or email them at [info@toopsconsulting.com](mailto:info@toopsconsulting.com)*

**Notes  
From  
The**



**Jerry Magliano**

**President's Message**

May is the gateway to Summer and is the month during which we stop complaining about the cold weather and start complaining about the hot weather. On a more serious note, May, is also a month of remembrance. On May 9th, Mother's Day, we remember and honor our mothers who gave us life and raised us to be who we are. On May 15th, Armed Forces Day, we remember and honor members of our military who are serving at home and abroad to defend our freedoms as well as their families who endure the sacrifices of family separation. On May 31st, Memorial Day, we honor and remember the members of our Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country and pray for those they have left behind. The Gold Star Mothers have a special place in our hearts especially this month. The month of May gives us plenty of opportunity to reflect on the blessings we have been given by the sacrifices of others. Our speaker this month embodies much of what we honor this month. He is a Vietnam Veteran who witnessed the death and destruction on the battlefield up close and personal and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds he received. I hope you will consider reading his book, the content of which he will be discussing at our luncheon. On a final personal note, I want to thank my wonderful wife for the love and support she has given me throughout our 50 years of marriage. Coincidentally, our anniversary is on May 22nd, the same day as our luncheon. Hope to see you all on the 22nd. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy and remember in your thoughts and prayers Chapter members enduring health issues and families who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

**Heart of America Chapter**



*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*

**2021 Heart of America Chapter Officers**

POSITION	RANK	OFFICER	PHONE
President	Maj	Jerry Magliano	913-530-1761
1st Vice President	LTCol	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 Pres	COL	G. Bruce Eveland	609-238-6141

**APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Chaplain	MS	Mary Ellen Davis	816-554-9018
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**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Finance	Col	Garey Reeves	816-524-5571
Legislative	Maj	Bill Tudor	816-365-6148
Social Sec / Editor	Maj	Gary J. Fox	816-525-3592
Programs	Capt	Don Dawson	816-741-4027

**2020 Heart of America Auxiliary Officers**

POSITION		NAME	HOME
President	MS	Tina Dawson	816-741-4027
1st Vice President	MS	Susan Eveland	816-309-6182
Secretary	MS	Mary Treu	913-815-3390
Treasury	MS	Terrie Jo Fox	816-525-3592

*Unlike many veteran's organizations, National MOAA and Local Chapters collect yearly dues independently. Chapter Dues are due in January and are currently \$25 The Auxiliary Dues are \$10. 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!***

**Auxiliary News**

**Auxiliary President's Message**

Wishing all mothers a Happy Mother's Day. Also, wishing everyone a Happy Memorial Day. Our weather has been getting warmer and May is bringing us much needed rain. Our landscapes are getting more colorful as we plant our gardens and flowers. Please pray for our members who are having health issues and those that have lost loved ones. Our hostess for May is Madelon Kadlic. Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting on Saturday, May 22, 2021. Thank you.

Tina Dawson  
Auxiliary President  
MOAA HOAC



APRIL MOAA GUEST SPEAKER



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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle one) RENEWAL or APPLICATION

NAME: OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_ PRIMARY PHONE: Cell or Home or Work (circle one)

MAME AUXILARY \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Dues are \$25/yr (January to December) Auxiliary Dues are \$10/Yr Checks payable to HOAC-MOAA

MAIL TO : Treasurer HOAC-MOAA

10635 Hwy D

Napoleon, MO 64074

Heart of America Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
Keith Pechak, Membership  
16404 Spring Valley Road  
Belton, MO 64012  
(Address Correction Requested)