



**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER**

**WEBSITE: [WWW.MOAAHOA.ORG](http://WWW.MOAAHOA.ORG)  
SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER**

**Chapter President: Major Jerry Magliano, USMC(Ret)  
Auxiliary President: Diane Christianson**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 LUNCHEON MEETING INFORMATION**

**TOPIC: The Heritage Foundation's Index of Military Strength**

**SPEAKER: Lt Col. Matthew Crouch USMC (Ret)**

**TIME: 12 Noon – 2 pm**

**MENU: Brisket, Au Gratin Potatoes, Baked Beans, Salad, Bread/Butter, Coffee/Tea and Dessert**

**(Substitute Meals can be Hamburger Patty, Baked Tilapia, Fried Chicken Patty or Fried Chicken Fingers. A substitute meal must be requested at time you RSVP)**

**COST: \$20 includes meal and tip**

**RSVP BY Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> by emailing to Emma Toops at [emma@toopsconsulting.com](mailto:emma@toopsconsulting.com) or calling her at 913-967-9745**

**LOCATION:**

**Disabled American Veterans Hall, 14605 East 40 Highway, Kansas City, Missouri 64136**

## SPEAKER INFORMATION



Matt is a recently retired Marine aviator with tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. He held several positions of command and staff. A graduate of the Naval Academy, the University of Maryland and the Hong Kong University-Fudan International Management, Business Administration Programme, he is an Olmsted Scholar, Former Non-resident Senior Military Fellow to the Atlantic Council, Joint Staff Strategist, and the current Assistant Director for Grassroots for Heritage Action For America. Matt is married to Jenny Marie Crouch née Charlton. Together they have seven children: Russell (22), Philip (21), David (20), Carrie (19), Evelyn (17), Christopher (14) and Daniel (13). Matt will be presenting a review of Heritage Action for America, the 501 c4 affiliate of the Heritage Foundation, their priorities and how they are working to advance the conservative agenda at the state and federal levels. He will also discuss the Heritage Foundation's Index of Military Strength and the challenges of modern DEI policies as it relates to military policy and service.

**Matthew R. Crouch** | Lieutenant Colonel, USMC (Ret.)

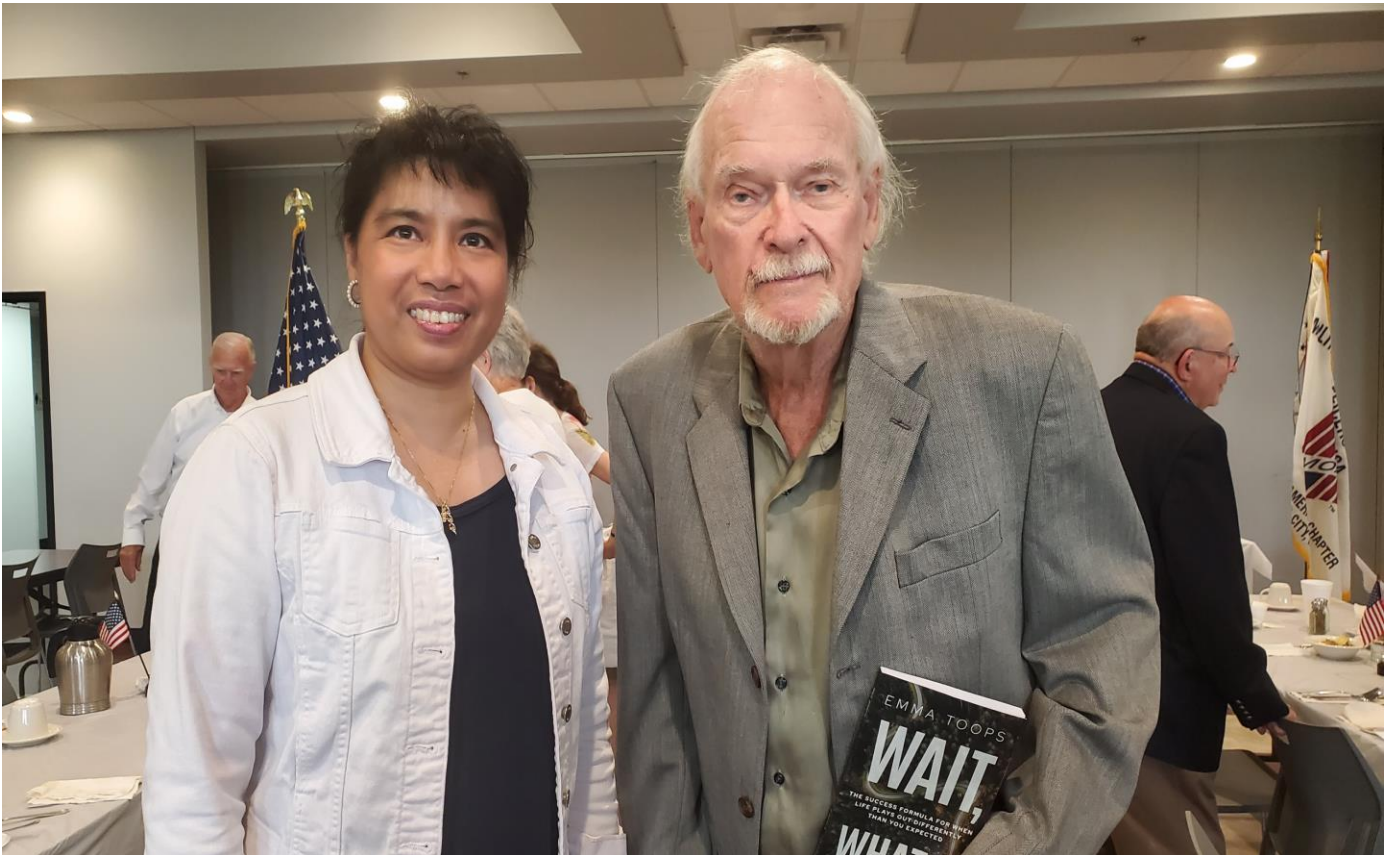
## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hope the Summer has gone well for you. By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have observed Patriot Day on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Most of us remember exactly where we were and what we were doing on that infamous day twenty-three years ago. Now that Afghanistan is governed once again by the Taliban, who harbored the terrorists who committed that terrible crime, we must be mindful of and pray for those who were tragically lost, our fellow Americans who lost loved ones and the Afghan people who are suffering under brutal authoritarian rule, that we never see a repeat of that awful day. As we move toward the end of this year, the Chapter has important business to take care of.

Most importantly, we will need to develop a slate of officers for next year. In accordance with our By-Laws (linked on our web site at [www.moahoa.org](http://www.moahoa.org)), a Nominating Committee will be appointed at our next Executive Council meeting in October. The Committee will present the slate of nominees for election to the membership present at our November meeting and additional nominees may be made from the floor. Please consider running for one of the elected positions on the Executive Council. As I mentioned in the August Newsletter, I will not continue beyond this year as Chapter President for health reasons. Those elected will be installed at our December Holiday Party. Our Chapter Treasurer will also give a Financial report at our November meeting. Finally, and most importantly, we must develop strategies to attract new members and to encourage existing members to renew their memberships. Tom Rash and Keith Pechak will be working closely with David Miller, local Navy League President, to recruit members from their Chapter. We should reciprocate, especially if you are a Navy or Marine Corps veteran. To set the example, I have become a member of the Navy League which is easy to do by going to their national website. Any thoughts or recommendations you may have are always welcome. Accomplishing all of these tasks requires members of the Chapter who are willing to step up and participate in one or more of the aforementioned activities. It can't continue to be the same people year after year. Also, if we are to continue to attract excellent speakers, your attendance at some of our monthly meetings, as time allows, would be very helpful. Think about how you might help us better meet our goal to NEVER STOP SERVING.

## August 2024 Luncheon Picture



Emma Toops gave a presentation about her book, Wait, What?!, which she recently authored and is available on Amazon

## MOAA HOAC NEWSLETTER - LADIES AUXILIARY NOTE

Welcome September!

The weather has been great. Come to our meeting and enjoy yourself. We have our meeting on Saturday September 28 At 11 : 15. Please keep Vic in your Prayers he is back in the hospital. Enjoy the fall colors. Hope to see you.

Diane Christianson, MOAA HOAC Auxiliary President.

## Chapter or Auxiliary Membership Application or Renewal

*Please fill out the below form and mail it with your dues to Membership Secretary, Keith Pechak, (see below). You may send one check for both Chapter and Auxiliary membership.*

*Thank you for supporting our Chapter and participating in our service to Active Duty and Veteran members of the Armed Forces.*

*You may also include a check for a donation to the Chapter Scholarship and/or Family Assistance Program if you desire. Place FAP or Scholarship on the Memo line of the check. Thank you for your generosity in advance.*

**FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY KEITH PECHAK AT 913-915-2131 OR EMAIL HIM AT [KEITH@KPECHAK.COM](mailto:KEITH@KPECHAK.COM).**

Chapter Member Dues are \$25/Year. Auxiliary Member Dues are \$10/Year.

**Make all checks payable to **Treasurer, HOAC/MOAA**, enclose with this form and mail to:**

Membership, Heart of America Chapter  
Keith Pechak  
16404 Spring Valley Rd  
Belton, MO 64012

----- Include the information Below with your Check -----

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Is this a Chapter Member or Auxiliary Application? \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Application \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Scholarship Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Family Assistance Program \_\_\_\_\_