Chapter Bylaws Of The Heart of America Chapter Military Officers' Association of America

ARTICLE I-Name

The name of this organization shall be: "The Heart of America Chapter, Military Officers' Association of America", herein referred to as HOAC.

ARTICLE II-Purpose

The purposes of this Chapter shall be: To promote the aims of the The Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA), as stated in the preamble to the Bylaws of the MOAA.

To further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA.

To encourage and facilitate patriotism and camaraderie among retired, active, and former commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services.

To provide useful services for, and to protect the welfare and interests of members, their dependents and survivors.

To promote and participate in community activities deemed worthy by the Chapter.

The terms, "he", "his", "chairman", and other such gender based terms used in these Bylaws shall be understood to include both the male and female genders.

ARTICLE III-Status

<u>Section 1</u>. This Chapter shall be a non-profit organization, operated exclusively for the purposes specified in Article II above.

<u>Section 2</u>. Officers shall receive no compensation for their services; however the president may authorize reimbursement of expenses incurred in performance of their duties.

<u>Section 3</u>. Nothing herein shall constitute members of the Chapter as partners for any purpose. No member, officer, or agent of this Chapter shall be liable for the acts or failure to act on the part of any other member, officer or agent. Nor shall any member, officer, or agent be liable for his acts or failure to act under these bylaws, excepting only acts or omissions to act out of his willful misfeasance or malfeasance.

Section 4. The Chapter shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified in

Article II above, and no part of said funds shall inure, or be distributed to members. Monetary assistance for community activities will be approved by the Executive Board.

<u>Section 5.</u> In the event of dissolution of the Chapter and after the discharge of all liabilities, the remaining assets shall be given to National MOAA Scholarship Fund.

ARTICLE IV-Membership

<u>Section 1</u>. The membership of this Chapter and voting rights shall be composed of men and women who are, or have been commissioned or warrant officers of the seven uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, NOAA and Public Health Service and the Reserve and National Guard components of these services).

<u>Section 2.</u> Complimentary memberships may be granted by the Executive Board to recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor and to certain other individuals eligible for membership whose extraordinary services to the nation, state or community warrant special recognition.

<u>Section 3</u>. Honorary membership may be granted by the Executive Board to certain individuals not otherwise eligible for membership. Such membership may be tendered in recognition of their services to the nation, the retired officer community, this Chapter, or certain foreign officers. Honorary membership shall not convey voting rights nor require payment of dues.

<u>Section 4</u>. Elective officers of this Chapter are required to hold membership in the national association (MOAA). All members are encouraged to hold such membership.

<u>Section 5.</u> Any member may be dropped for good and sufficient cause by the Executive Board after being given an opportunity to be heard.

ARTICLE V-Dues

<u>Section 1</u>. Annual dues for HOAC membership for the next calendar year shall be determined by the membership at any regular meeting, after receiving such an Executive Board recommendation.

<u>Section 2</u>. Annual dues for the calendar year shall become due on 1 January of that year. New Members joining after 1 June will pay 50% of annual dues. Those joining after 1 November shall pay full dues to be applied on the next calendar year.

<u>Section 3</u>. Members who fail to pay their annual dues by 1 May shall be notified by the Membership Secretary, and if they fail to pay without good cause, shall be dropped from the rolls and forfeit all rights and privileges of membership.

<u>Section 4</u>. Members who have been dropped for non-payment of dues may be reinstated upon reapplication for membership and payment of dues for the current year.

ARTICLE VI-Officers

<u>Section 1</u>. There shall be six elective officers: President, First Vice president, Second Vice-president, Secretary, Membership Secretary, and Treasurer. The Chaplain shall be appointed by the President.

<u>Section 2</u>. The elective officers shall be elected annually by the membership at the regular meeting in November, after the proposed slate of officers has been presented at the October meeting. Officers shall be installed at the regular December meeting. Officers shall assume their duties at the first meeting of the New Year, and shall serve for a term of one (1) year.

<u>Section 3.</u> No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms as President.

<u>Section 4</u>. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the First Vice-president. A vacancy in the office of First Vice-president shall be filled automatically by the Second Vice-president. Vacancies in the other offices shall be filled as the Executive Board may decide.

<u>Section 5</u>. The President shall be the principal elective officer of the Chapter, and shall preside at regular meetings and at the meeting of the Executive Board. The President shall be an ex-officio member, with voting rights of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall meet with the Nominating committee and present names of members for consideration. The President shall from time to time make proposals for the improvement of the welfare and purposes of the Chapter. The President shall be responsible for the publication and mailing of a monthly newsletter announcing the time and place of the monthly meetings, speakers, and other appropriate information. This newsletter shall be mailed or delivered electronically to all members as listed on the Roster and members of the Auxiliary in time to arrive at least one week prior to the monthly meetings.

<u>Section 6</u>. In the event of the President's absence or disability, the First Vice-president shall perform the duties of the President. In the event the President's and First Vice-president's absence or disability, the second Vice-president shall perform the duties of the President. The Vice-presidents shall perform such other duties as the President may assign.

<u>Section 7</u>. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the organization and shall keep a record of all proceedings. The Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Executive Board and shall maintain the Chapter correspondence files and provide safekeeping for all important documents and records of the Chapter. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as are commensurate with his office, or as may be assigned by the President.

<u>Section 8</u>. The Membership Secretary shall maintain all membership records. Any member receiving an application for membership and dues shall forward the same to the Treasurer. The Membership Secretary shall prepare and publish the annual directory of members and the Auxiliary. The Directory shall be the source document for the delivery of newsletters. The Membership Secretary shall keep the membership mailing list up to date, including changes of addresses.

<u>Section 9</u>. The Treasurer shall maintain a record of all monies received, held and expended by the Chapter and shall make disbursements authorized by the Chapter or approved by the President. The Treasurer shall deposit all monies received into a financial institution approved by the Executive Board. Funds may be drawn from the Investment Account(s) only upon the signature of both the President and the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall make reports to the Chapter as designated by the President, and shall always make a recorded report to the Secretary as of the start of the November meeting. Chapter fund records, books, and vouchers in the custody of the Treasurer shall be audited annually in January prior to the first regular meeting by a member appointed by the President. Additional audits may be made at any time when ordered by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII-Meetings

<u>Section 1</u>. Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held the fourth Saturday of every month at noon, unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board. Notice of each meeting, time and place shall be published in the newsletter as stipulated in Article VI, Section 5, above.

<u>Section 2</u>. There shall be a regular meeting of the Chapter during the month of November for the election of officers, determination of annual dues, receipt of annual reports and transaction of other business.

<u>Section 3</u>. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern Chapter proceedings where applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws or other special rules the Chapter may adopt.

ARTICLE VIII-Boards

<u>Section 1</u>. The Executive Board shall be composed of: The President, Vice-president, Second Vice-president, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, immediate past President, Chaplain and the chairs of standing committees. The President shall chair all Executive and Joint Board meetings. The President of the Auxiliary or her designee shall be an *ex officio* member of the Executive Board without vote.

<u>Section 2</u>. The business management and affairs of the Chapter shall be under the direction of the Executive Board, and it shall have authority to expend funds, incur liabilities, authorize contracts, order audits or reviews of funds and to attend to such other matters as they may occur. No amount of funds in excess of \$2,500, shall be obligated or expended, except for social functions and meetings to the extent reimbursed by the members, without prior approval of the members present and voting at a regular meeting.

<u>Section 3</u>. The Executive Board will meet bi-monthly starting in January. The President, or a majority of the Executive Board may call for a meeting at any time, provided all members thereof are notified of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting

<u>Section 4</u>. A majority of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. Each attending member shall be entitled to one (1) vote, except that only elected officers and the immediate Past President may vote to recommend changes to the Bylaws, approve the annual budget, approve appointments to standing committees or make expenditures of funds not included in the budget. In joint Board meetings, members of the Advisory Board shall be heard on all questions, but they shall not vote or be considered in the quorum.

<u>Section 5</u>. The Advisory Board, appointed by the President and consisting of a maximum of six past Presidents, not counting the immediate past President, being interested in the affairs of the Chapter, shall advise, counsel, and make recommendations to the President and the Executive Board as they deem advisable. They shall appoint their own chairman for the purpose of calling and chairing their meetings.

ARTICLE IX-Committees

<u>Section 1</u>. The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall annually appoint such standing and special committees and the committee chairpersons as may be required by the bylaws or as he deems necessary.

<u>Section 2</u>. The Standing Committees of the Chapter shall include: Membership Committee, Program Committee, Legislative Committee, Personal Affairs Committee, Scholarship Committee and Finance Committee.

<u>Section 3</u>. At the September meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) members, not currently holding elective office, to nominate candidates for elective offices of the Chapter. This Committee shall include two (2) past presidents. The committee shall notify the President, in writing, the names of the proposed candidates at the October meeting. The President shall present the proposed slate of candidates to the Chapter at this time and further cause the names of the candidates to be published in the November newsletter.

Section 4. The Finance Committee shall assist in the preparation of the annual budget

and advise and make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding the finances and investments of the Chapter. The Treasurer shall be a voting member of the committee.

ARTICLE X-Revisions and Amendments

<u>Section 1</u>. These bylaws may be amended, altered or repealed, in whole or in part by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any regular Chapter meeting; provided the proposed changes are read at the prior meeting, described in the newsletter for the voting meeting, and re-read just before the vote.

ARTICLE XI-The Flag And the Charter

<u>Section 1</u>. The American Flag and the Chapter Flag shall be displayed and honored at all meetings of the Chapter. The Charter or a copy thereof shall be displayed at all meetings of the Chapter.

This is to certify that these bylaws were approved and adopted 17 January 1976, at Richards-Gebaur AFB MO by a majority vote of the membership attending, and have been amended 15 September 1990 and 17 September 1994, 24 August 2002, 27 February 2010, and October 25 2014 by a majority vote of the membership in attendance at a regular Chapter meeting at The Disabled American Veterans' Building, Kansas City, Missouri.

Is/ Gerald R Magliano, Major USMC (Ret)

President

AUTHENTICATED: January 24, 2015

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Roger J. Davis, Captain USCG (Ret) Secretary