



January 2018 Newsletter

KC AUSA

Volume 1, Issue 1
January 2018

Happy New Year in 2018!!

Hello, KC AUSA Chapter Members! Welcome to our inaugural KC AUSA Newsletter!

First off, THANK YOU for being an AUSA member. Each of us join for our own reasons but we all share the purpose of providing a Voice for the Army and Support for the Soldier.

KC AUSA has been through a lot of transition in the last few years as we evolve to meet the interests and needs of our community and membership.

If you haven't been to a KC AUSA event or activity in awhile (or ever), now is a perfect time to check out what we're doing and meet some great folks!

Engage with us at one of our events this month!

THE PURPLE CONNECTION

Looking to network with other veterans or with the military-support community?

Then TPC is an event you need to attend!

When: Wed, Jan 10, 6—9 PM

Where: The Grid, OP, KS

Check out all the details at the following link and to RSVP!

It's FREE and TOTALLY FUN!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-purple-connection-january-2018-tickets-41359653838>

OFFICER INSTALLATION / AWARDS RECEPTION

Our President, Emma Toops, and Executive Vice President, Scott Weaver, will be installed



Mini-streamers of KC AUSA's Awards in the 2016—2017 operational year.

for their 2018—2020 term. See the enclosed invitation for all pertinent event information and how to RSVP / Register.

When: Mon, Jan 22, 5—7 PM

Where: Kauffman Foundation Conference Center

Attire: Business

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Special points of interest:

- **SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 9, 2018** for the 2018 Army Birthday Celebration.
- The Young Professionals Transition Course needs your support! Contact us at info@kcausa.org to learn about the program or how you can help.

From the Chapter President.



Emma Toops
Major, US Army, Retired

Hello! I am very pleased to be starting a second term as KC AUSA Chapter President! The chapter membership, programs, and community network and influence have grown and evolved significantly in the last couple years and I am excited to continue to be part of the transition!

KC AUSA is a strong and vibrant chapter and getting better! If you are interested in becoming part of the leader-

ship team, please let me know! We are always looking for willing and strong leaders who want to volunteer to support the continuing growth and evolution of the chapter!

If you haven't met the team or engaged with the chapter in awhile, PLEASE join us at an event soon!

I look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Emma

Membership Update

*“Support for our Soldiers—
Active, Guard, Reserve,
Retirees, Veterans, Family
Members, and Department
of the Army Civilians”*

Membership is more than just about paying dues. It serves a greater purpose and allows our voices to be heard on issues affecting our military. Your membership enables us to educate, inform, and connect national security issues across a spectrum that includes our members, communities and elected officials—Thank You!

In 2017, AUSA National began creating individual member partnerships with other Military Support Organizations (MSO). Some of our new MSO partners are the

Warrant Officers Association (WOA), Civil Affairs Association, and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS).

These partner memberships provide reciprocal benefits to the member and the associations, helps diversify membership, and increases capacity to provide professional development to our members.

As of January 1, 2018, there were also some changes to organizational membership. Corporate Members are now called “Community Part-

ners” and Sustaining Members are “National Partners”. National Partners are also now allowed to affiliate with up to three Chapters as a Community Partner of the chapter.

Organizational membership rates have increased slightly and membership benefits greatly improved.

Contact us at info@kcausa.org for more information regarding membership procedures and benefits or go to www.ausa.org/membership

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! (too many MSO members to name you all!)

CPT Chemitra Glen
CSM Ralph George
Amy Rodgers

COL Don Maccuish III
1SG Clayton Lavine
CMSgt Brian Saunders

TSGT Jamie Behl
SGT Aaron Ewing
Vernon James

MAJ Steven Ferrell
Henry Pendleton
LTC Ben Sunds

LTC Lawrence McCarthy
MSG Kenneth Cline
SFC Jimmy Lumpkin

SSG David White
Cadet Drue C. Hoagland
SPC Larry Maloney

Community Partner Spotlight: Hollis + Miller Architects

*“We needed to pull
everybody together to
better address cultural
issues, relationship issues,
and stuff like that”*

[KC Business Journal article
on Hollis + Miller](#)

Hollis & Miller Architects has been a KC AUSA Corporate Member for 11 years, a relationship that started through Bob Maggio, KC AUSA Chapter Treasurer, who is an Operations Director at the firm.

This spotlight is to recognize them for their continued support to KC AUSA programs,

Bob’s longevity as chapter treasurer, and highlight that they were the Runner-Up in the 2017 Kansas City Business Journal Contest for Coolest Office Space!

Their support to chapter programs has included sponsorship to the June Army Birthday Celebration and most recently,

hollis + miller architects®

they sponsored our Intro to Middle Eastern Culture Lunch & Learn events in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017.

We first saw their awesome office space when the firm hosted a chapter officers’ meeting, and again for the latest Lunch and Learn, so their near-win in the KCBJ contest was no surprise!

THANK YOU HOLLIS + MILLER FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT!

Individual Member Spotlights: COL Lou Rago and COL Marshall Dougherty



Colonel Lou Rago
Defense Coordinating Officer, FEMA VII

Colonel Lou Rago and Colonel Marshall Dougherty are KC AUSA chapter members who were vital to the success of our Meet Your Army (MYA) Breakfast on December 14th.

The program for the MYA event was a focus on Defense Support to Civilian Authorities and FEMA response in the 2017 hurricane season.

Coordination began in October with

COL Dougherty, Defense Coordinating Officer (DCO) for FEMA VII. Later, we learned that he was retiring on November 30, 2017.

COL Rago, the new DCO, quickly picked-up the reins to be our featured presenter for the breakfast.

As an AUSA Life member already, COL Rago transferred his membership to KC AUSA and delivered an

informative and engaging program. In the future, he looks to get involved in the chapter’s efforts with supporting military members in transition from Active Duty.

COL Dougherty has retired and continues to remain engaged with the chapter!

THANK YOU BOTH FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT!



Programs Update:

Young Professionals Leadership Transition Course



KC AUSA, in partnership with the Center for Transitional Leadership (CTL), launched a Young Professionals Leadership Transition Program in 4QTR 2017 that is tailored to meet the needs of the 25 to 40 year old veteran cohort. CTL is a nonprofit helping military personnel find meaningful leadership positions in the private sector.

This new program reflects 18 months of research, focus

groups and course preparation and is modeled on CTL’s highly successful Executive Leadership Transition Program.

The pilot course was conducted at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center.

The program includes a personality profile, development of a personal brand, connection with a business leader for an informational interview, personal coaching sessions, and classes on resume writing,

interviewing skills, business culture, and salary negotiation.

Funding to support the pilot course was secured from VFW National Headquarters, AXA Financial Services, JE Dunn Family Foundation, and Breidenthal-Snyder Foundation.

We will refine the course based on feedback from the pilot course cohort and plan to make this program available for AUSA members in the Spring of 2018.



The Young Professionals Leadership Transition Course Pilot Program participants, Instructors, and special guests.

From the Young Professionals Vice President.

“Your network is your net worth” — Tim Sanders

What is social capital and why is it important?

Investopedia.com defines it as “an economic idea that refers to the connections between individuals and entities that can be economically valuable.”

Social networks with people who trust each other are powerful and are where people help each other.

In the YP Leadership Transition Course, instruction focuses on gaining meaningful employment through building social capital.

Our Young Professionals Network (YPN) is growing. Get involved and let us help you build your social capital!

Check for other YP groups that may interest you here:

<http://www.thinkkc.com/life/careers/get-involved/young-professional-groups>



Matt Lawson
Sergeant First Class, US Army Reserve

1QTR 2018 Events / Community Activities

KC AUSA continues to grow in membership and community influence and thus our programs and activities evolve to meet the needs of both!

Join us, meet with us, or come out to learn something!

Detailed event announcements will also be published in emails, FB, and on the website.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

- Jan 3 ExCom Meeting
- Jan 31 ABC Committee
- Feb 7 ExCom Meeting
- Feb 28 ABC Committee
- Mar 7 ExCom Meeting
- Mar 28 ABC Committee

CHAPTER-ORGANIZED EVENTS

- Jan 10 [The Purple Connection](#)
- Jan 22 Officer Installation & Awards Reception
- COMMUNITY / PARTNER ACTIVITIES**
- Jan 9 [KC Chamber Edgemoor / KCI Workshop](#)
- Jan 18 [CGSCF Interagency Brown Bag](#)

- Jan 20 Wreathes Across America Wreath Pick-up & Luncheon
- Jan 24 [KC Veteran Career & Transition Fair](#)
- Jan 25 ACA Club Social
- Jan 27 MOAA Luncheon
- Feb 22 ACA Club Social
- Feb 24 MOAA Luncheon
- Mar 22 ACA Club Social
- Mar 24 MOAA Luncheon

KC AUSA

Voice for the Army and Support for the Soldier

PO Box 3335
Shawnee, KS 66203

info@kcausa.org

Facebook.com/kcausa

Facebook.com/thepurpleconnection

LinkedIn.com/company/kcausa



We're on the web!
kcausa.org

Executive Committee

President	Emma Toops	Executive VP	Scott Weaver
VP Development	Bob Ulin	VP Membership	Jose Davis
Secretary	Grant Montgomery	VP Young Professionals	Matt Lawson
Treasurer	Bob Maggio	Assistant Treasurer	Brogan Farren
Communications	David Toops	General Counsel	Tom Meier
VP Programs	VACANT	Immediate Past President	Mike Symanski

Please return the included insert to confirm / provide changes regarding your contact and membership information.

Also provide us with your preference for future newsletter delivery and any other feedback or questions you may have for communicating or engaging with the chapter leadership or becoming involved in chapter events and activities.

Feel free to contact Emma directly at emmatoops@gmail.com or send a note to info@kcausa.org if you need to communicate with another chapter leader.

AUSA Membership Benefits. Renew or have new members join at www.ausa.org

DO YOU SUPPORT THE ARMY'S VOICE & THE SOLDIER IN KC?

Members of AUSA are part of a national organization comprised of over 75,000 people in 121 chapters around the world! As a resident of the KC Metro area, the local chapter with whom you are associated is KC AUSA.

As a current member of AUSA, we want you to engage with us and also introduce AUSA to others who value the strength of our national military and support our men and women who serve!

KC AUSA's programs are developed to serve the needs of our members and community. As we engage with new members and increase our network, we evolve our programs and activities as applicable.

Our premier program event each

year is the Army Birthday Celebration in June. Other chapter programs include Meet Your Army; The Purple Connection; the Young Professionals Leadership Transition Course; and our Support to ROTC.

Our community partners include corporate companies, small business owners, educational institutions, and other non-profit organizations. Our events include support to their interests and needs by way of symposiums, networking and community events, and recognition events.

Our chapter leadership participates every Spring and Fall in leadership and training opportunities at the AUSA Region 5 and AUSA National Meetings, respectively. We learn best practices from other chapter leaders and the national staff on ways to improve our pro-

	INDIVIDUAL MEMBER	LIFE MEMBER
BENEFITS	2yr - \$40 5yr - \$75	Life - \$400
Individual Members with Full Benefits	1	1
Local Chapter Affiliation	1	1
Professional Network of 75,000+	✓	✓
Career Development Fora (Livestream Available)	✓	✓
AUSA Educational Materials	✓	✓
Ticket Discounts on AUSA Domestic Events	✓	✓
Independent Army Periodicals	✓	✓
Access to Army & Family Programs	✓	✓
Representation on Capitol Hill	✓	✓
Discounts on Office Supplies, Car Rentals, and More	✓	✓
Entry to the Largest Land Power Expo in North America	✓	✓
10% Discount at AUSA Store		✓
Exclusive Welcome Kit		✓

grams and better serve our chapter members and community.

CONTACT US if you have any questions regarding your individual or community partner membership.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU SEEK TO SERVE YOUR INTERESTS IN SUPPORTING THE ARMY'S VOICE AND THE SOLDIER IN KC METRO!

WE ARE YOUR CHAPTER IN AUSA!