Military Officers Association of America

Issue #2022-04

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LINCOLN LAND CHAPTER

August 2022

Website: http:// lincolnlandmoaa.org

Upcoming Events

- August 12, 2022-Outdoors-Island Bay yacht Club, Lake Springfield. (Present Chapter Scholarship).
- Fourth Annual Golf Outing, 27 August 2022, Shambolee Golf Course, Petersburg. (See flyer in this newsletter).
- October 14, 2022, Northfield Center, Springfield.
- December 09, 2022, Northfield Center, Springfield

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THE SALUTE—Never Stop Serving.... | MOAA LINCOLN LAND CHAPTED

Next Meeting Information

Our next meeting will be 12 August 2022 at the Island Bay Yacht Club on the back patio Cost for the meal will be \$32.00 per person

Menu will be:

<u>Salads:</u> Caesar Salad, Sliced Tomatoes Drizzled with Balsamic and Parmesan Cheese, Cole Slaw and House Made Picnic Potato Salad Garnished with Bacon and Chopped Hardboiled Eggs

Entrees: Smoked Barbecued Ribs with Sweet Baby Rays Barbecue Sauce (2 two rib pieces per person) and Fried Chicken (2 pieces per person)

<u>Side Dishes:</u> Sauteed Green Beans, Cheesy Casserole Potatoes, Brown Sugar Baked Beans, Sister Schubert Rolls and Butter

<u>Desserts:</u> Peach Blueberry Cobbler; Texas Sheet Cake Squares with Walnuts (one 2"x2" square per person) and Lemon Bars (one 2" x 2" per person)

Drinks: Iced Tea, Water and Lemonade

NOTE: We need a FINAL MEAL count NLT Wednesday, Aug 10 at 5pm.

Cash Bar is at 6pm ... Dinner at 7pm On the back patio (as usual)

Topics for the dinner/meeting:

Social Event

Presentation of the Scholarship

General Update to the membership-By Law Changes vote.

Communications Awards

You can sign up on the Chapter website or phone Dave Miller or Dave Knieriem at the below numbers: 217 529-8014 or 217 899-5526.

You can also email Dave Miller at miller 42@aol.com or

David.b.miller32.nfg@army.mil

Island Bay Yacht Club is located at: 76 Yacht Club Road, Springfield, Illinois 62712.

President's Corner:

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Topics for the dinner/meeting:

Social Event

Presentation of the Scholarship—LTC (USA, Ret) DePue

General Update to the membership-By Law Changes vote—By Law recommendations were sent out to all via email. Please come prepared to have a quick vote on these proposed changes.

Communications Awards—COL (USMC, Ret) Tyler

Don't forget our fourth annual golf outing will be <u>August 27th at Shambolee Golf</u> <u>Course</u> on beautiful Lake Petersburg. Please invite your friends and attend if at all possible.

Chapter Recruiting effort

We have a recruiting effort underway and would like to see maximum participation! We are asking each chapter member to bring a fellow veteran officer—Members who get a new member to join, get a complimentary 1-year extension on their Chapter membership! And of course, the new member's first year Chapter membership is also complimentary!

From the Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator

I received a very beneficial resource via email last week that I think you will find equally beneficial. It is called DoD MWR Libraries (www.dodmwrlibraries.org). It is a digital library of information for just about anything and for any age — Genealogy, gardening, peer-reviewed research, travel, culinary arts, entrepreneurship, do-it-yourself instruction for many topics, tutoring, learning a new language, digital and audio books, and music, plus much more!

Since this is a collection of resources created by the Department of Defense (DoD), you can rest assured that the sites have been properly vetted. Best of all, it is free and available to military ID card holders. Below are the eligibility requirements for access:

Active-duty military (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard)

Members of the Reserve components and National Guard

Retired military, including retired from the Reserves and National Guard

Medal of Honor recipients and veterans with 100% service-connected disabilities

Eligible family members who are officially sponsored (ID card holder) by authorized patrons in the above categories

DOD and Coast Guard civilians, including appropriated and non-appropriated fund employees, when stationed outside the United States, stateside eligibility contingent upon resource availability

Since I know how busy people get, for your convenience, I have taken information directly from the website for you to read ahead of visiting the website so that you can see that it is absolutely worth a visit! Topics within the digital library include the following:

Biography & Genealogy includes:

Ancestry offers access to billions of names from more than 4,000 genealogical databases. Censuses from the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom (U.K.) Ireland, and more than 150 million military records are available.

FOLD3 allows users access to US military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of those who served from the Revolutionary War onward.

Gale in Context offers access to thousands of both contemporary and historical biographies. Children's Corner includes:

Bookflix from Scholastic is a digital literacy resource that pairs classic video storybooks with related nonfiction titles to reinforce early reading skills and develop real-world knowledge.

- **EBSCO Cricket Media** provides high-quality print and online learning products for children, families, mentors, teachers, and partners that improve learning opportunities for everyone.
- **Explora Primary** from EBSCO supports both student research and classroom instruction with rich, reliable content and easy-to-use functionality.
- **FreedomFlix** from Scholastic offers a behind-the-scenes look at the people, places, and events that shape our world. Videos are paired with nonfiction titles to capture the imagination of even the most reluctant readers.
- **Gale In Context: Elementary** provides a popular, child-friendly learning resource with a variety of subjects and an intuitive digital experience to that makes learning fun.
- **Gale In Context: Middle School** combines the best reference content with age-appropriate videos, newspapers, and magazines.
- **Miss Humblebee's Academy** offers an award-winning curriculum that prepares children ages 3 to 6 for kindergarten proficiency.
- National Geographic Kids provides interactive science and archaeology learning resources for educators and children.
- **NoveList Plus K-8** is designed for younger readers and helps children find books that are just right for their reading level and interests.
- **Scholastic Teachables** (PreK 6th Grade) Scholastic Teachables offers printable activities for any subject: math, science, reading comprehension, STEM, writing, and beyond. Download printable lesson plans, reading passages, games and puzzles, clip art, bulletin board ideas, teacher supports, and skills sheets. Over 25,000 teacher-created, vetted printables to support your instruction.
- **TrueFlix** (grades 3-5) brings award-winning True Books to Life to help students master Social Studies and Science content knowledge through literacy!
- **Tutor.com** provides online tutoring and homework help for the U.S. military, Department of Defense staff and their families 24/7.
- **World Book Activity Corner** provides thousands of fun, cost-effective, hands-on activities with easy instructions.
- **World Book Early Learning** is the perfect tool for young readers to explore with short videos, read-aloud stories, printable activities, and games kids love.
- **World Book Kids** provides ideal learning resources for elementary-aged students designed to build confidence and encourage creativity with image-driven and inquiry-based activities.

Continuing Education

ArtistWorks for Libraries is part of the *Overdrive* collections and provides world-class instruction with self-paced videos from award winning musicians and artists. Explore this resource on a mobile device with the Libby app.

- **Gale OneFile: Vocations and Careers** provides guides, specialized industry journals, and educational information for career exploration.
- **Great Courses** is part of the Overdrive collections and offers access to hundreds of courses taught by internationally recognized university faculty members. Explore this resource on a mobile device with the Libby app.
- **Mango Languages** offers over 70 languages and provides the 6 critical skills for learning a new language: Vocabulary, Grammar, Pronunciation, Culture, Comprehension, and Retention.
- **O'Reilly** provides world class business and technology interactive trainings to individuals, teams, and businesses.
- Universal Class provides online continuing education courses on a variety of subjects.
- **World Book Student** is an interactive encyclopedia that comes to life through this digital format and provides a one-stop shop for cross-curricular learning.

Do-it-Yourself

- **Gale Chilton Library** provides step-by-step automotive repair procedures. Includes manufacturer recommended maintenance schedules and recalls.
- **Gale OneFile: Entrepreneurship** provides more than 500 subject related, full-text periodicals.
- **Gale Business: Plan Builder** offers a successful step-by-step strategy for building a successful business.
- **Gale OneFile: Culinary Arts** offers more than five million articles from more than 250 major cooking and nutrition magazines.
- **Gale OneFile: Gardening and Horticulture** serves horticultural enthusiasts of all levels with more than 3.6 million articles from more than 100 journals.
- **Gale OneFile: Home Improvement** has millions of articles with topics that include DIY projects, architectural techniques, and material selections.
- **Gale OneFile: Hospitality and Tourism** offers the curious traveler information about state parks, vacationing, and travel guides.
- **Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center** provides detailed instructions and creative ideas to meet the interests of hobby enthusiasts.
- **Home Improvement Reference Center** features content from leading home improvement magazines, books, and more.
- **Small Engine Repair Reference Center** provides over 400 reference books with original photos and illustrations for small engine repair assistance and detailed, user-friendly repair guides.
- **World Book Dramatic Learning** provides a robust collection of popular plays with everything needed to put on a production.

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Gale OneFile: Science provides researchers with information on latest scientific developments in particle physics, advanced mathematics, nanotechnology, geology, and hundreds of other areas.

GreenFILE from EBSCO offers well-researched information covering all aspects of human impact to the environment. Titles include content on global warming, green building, pollution, renewable energy, recycling, and more.

Streaming Music & Video (Another favorite of mine!)

Freegal from *Library Ideas LLC* offers access to about 15 million songs and over 40,000 music videos.

Select from over 30,000 thousand award-winning films and documentaries available from *Kanopy*. Classic-films, world cinema, popular movies, plus a whole lot more educational and entertainment films to choose from. Access from anywhere, anytime, with any device.

ScienceFlix – (grades 4-10 with STEM Middle/HS focus) – Science for the Next Generation!

I hope you find this "resource of resources" as beneficial as I do. Feel free to share it with other Military ID card holders. Again, there is something here for everyone of any age!

As always, if I can be of any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Chris Milchuck
Survivor Outreach Services
217-761-3382
Christine.a.milchuck.ctr@army.mil

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Chaplain's Column

Surviving Spouse Corner: Get Involved in MOAA's Advocacy Efforts—Surviving spouses play an important role in educating elected officials about key legislation. By <u>Dr. Vivianne Wersel</u>, MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member

This spring, MOAA members contacted all 535 members of Congress during the association's annual Advocacy in Action event, conducting more than 235 meetings and sending over 7,500 letters. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the challenges of security on Capitol Hill, MOAA members met with their elected officials either in face-to-face or virtual meetings. MOAA's three legislative priorities were supporting the Major Richard Star Act, supporting the Stop Copay Overpay Act; and ensuring a competitive military pay raise.

Why get involved with Advocacy in Action? Volunteers are well trained to understand the process of setting up meetings and communicating with elected officials as well as having a better understanding of legislation. In addition, participation cultivates relationships with staffers and members of Congress from your district and state. The experience you gain is beneficial to help support other legislation as a constituent or with a group to help improve survivor benefits. Military survivors are the stakeholders to the legislation at large. Congress continuously adjusts military survivor benefits. It is important surviving spouse members exercise their rights to educate staffers and members of Congress and remain vigilant to protect and improve survivor benefits. MOAA headquarters' staff does an outstanding job educating members so they can participate in grassroots advocacy efforts.

Here are some ways to contribute and keep MOAA's priorities on Congress' radar:

Send pre-written letters to Capitol Hill using MOAA's Legislative Action Center.

- Call elected officials using MOAA's direct line to the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 1-866 -272-6622.
- Engage with congressional members via social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Stay current with MOAA's legislative efforts and subscribe to *The MOAA Newslet-ter*. Customize your letters and conversations with elected officials; embed a personal story.

Congress will act only if they are inspired by their voters. Join MOAA's effort to help improve benefits for military, veterans, retirees, family, and survivors.

Legislative Liaison Update

Toxic Exposure Reform is back on the move! After some administrative delays in Congress the House overwhelmingly passed Senate Bill 3373 which will expand VA care going back over decades including Agent Orange. Current information is available on the MOAA advocacy web page. Speaking of Congress, the Defense Authorization Bill (NDAA) is working its way through the hallowed halls. This year's Advocacy in Action issues seem to have some traction in the NDAA development, especially the 4.6% pay raise, toxic exposure, and the mental health copay. That said, we need to remain vigilant in making sure our elected officials follow through on these important issues.

At the state level, we are very pleased that the legislature passed the extension of property tax relief for disabled veterans onto their surviving spouses. If you get a chance to thank your state representative (or senator) please do so!

Finally, the primaries are over! Now is the time to lay the ground work on getting to know your next (new) elected official and to get the care of America's uniformed service members in front of those officials.

A reminder to all our folks to "opt in' to e-mail from MOAA and the Chapter and to sign up for the weekly MOAA newsletter. That way you can keep up with the issues (legislative & other), scholarships, MOAA members across the country, etc. I was surprised that only one -sixth of the MOAA members in Illinois have "opted in" to getting our info and I suspect even less are signed up to receive the weekly newsletter. As Illinois MOAA leadership, we've got to find a way to engage MOAA members more fully.

They need to know that we care and that we Never Stop Serving!

Semper Fi – Bob Tyler

Legislative Liaison Lincoln Land Chapter MOAA





MOAA's Legislative Priorities for 2022

- Sustain pay raises and adequate BAH for the troops and COLA raises for retirees.
- Ensure the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service continue to receive pay during a government shutdown.
- Protect the value of the military health care benefit.
- Protect the Military Health System pharmacy benefit, and achieve flexibility in TRI-CARE pharmacy copays.
- Address barriers to accessing care within the MHS, including TRICARE coverage gaps and mental health care access challenges.
- Protect family support programs, and ensure military-provided services (housing, PCS, child care, youth programs, financial counseling) are readily available and meet standards for quality and costs.
- Achieve equity of benefits, protections, and administrative support for Guard/Reserve members consistent with their active-duty counterparts.
- Sustain Veterans Health Administration (VHA) foundational missions and services.
- Reform the presumptive process to support veterans claiming service-connected disabilities for toxic exposures.
- Achieve concurrent receipt of service-earned retirement pay and VA disability pay.
- Protect full military honors and burial at Arlington National Cemetery for those currently eligible.
- Improve Survivor Benefits.
- Support a quality transition experience from active duty to veteran status for all servicemembers.
- Recognize the pandemic continues to affect the lives of our servicemembers.

MOAA accomplishments in 2021

- Repealing SBP-DIC offset, known as the 'Widows Tax' saving up to \$12,000 per year for nearly 67,000 surviving spouses.
- Executing a credible game plan for oversight of DoD's health care protecting continued access to quality care.*
- <u>Securing comprehensive privatized military housing reform</u> improving housing, establishing Tenant Bill of Rights, and Congressional oversight.*
- <u>Lessening impact of TRICARE fee hikes</u> (Family = \$300 vice \$900) fighting multiple efforts to end grandfathering for those who entered service before Jan. 1, 2018.*
- <u>Protecting TRICARE For Life (TFL)</u> blocked five consecutive administration budgets proposing TFL enrollment fees (2013-2017).*
- <u>Maintaining pay raise comparability</u> ensuring pay raises for our uniformed services keep pace with civilian sector increases.*
- <u>Providing Wounded Warrior protections and caregiver enhancements</u> securing multiple improvements to VA caregiver programs.*
- <u>Defeating 'COLA Minus 1 Percent'</u> ending Congressional attempts to reduce retired pay, costing an E-7 retiring after 20 years \$83,000, and an O-5 \$124,000, by age 62.*
- <u>Securing major GI Bill upgrades to include transferability</u> and improving benefits for National Guard on Title 32 orders.*
- Boosting compensation significantly for retirees with 50% VA disability still fighting for the rest to include those medically retired.*
- Improving Guard and Reserve TRICARE coverage and securing a premium cut.
- Ensuring Guard and Reserve retirement age credit for active duty service now allowing 90 days to stretch over two consecutive years.

Never Stop Serving

Lincoln Land Chapter MOAA

PO Box 9435 Springfield, IL 62791-9435

David Miller Phone: (217) 415~2837 or 217-761-3973.

Email: david.b.miller32.nfg@mail.mil

http:// lincolnlandmoaa.org



Our Purpose—Serving the entire Military Community locally & nationally

Our Motivation—Supporting our most reliable asset—the US military member

Our Means—Informing legislators, supporting local events & organizations

Our Membership—Commissioned Officers of the Eight Uniformed Services (USA, USMC, USN, USAF, US Space Force, USCG, NOAA, USPHS) who strongly believe in supporting a volunteer force for the safety and security of our country

MISSION OF THE LINCOLN LAND CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

The Lincoln Land Chapter's mission is to foster fraternal relations among the retired, active and former uniformed services and their National Guard or reserve components;

to protect the rights and interest of same to include dependents and survivors;

to further promote useful services for members of the former and current members of the Armed Forces and their dependents and survivors;

and to serve the community to the fullest extent possible.

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.

While MOAA is permitted by law to lobby—and does so actively—its status as a tax-exempt veterans organization precludes it from participating in political activities, which are defined as intervening directly or indirectly in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Stated briefly: the association may advocate issues, but it may not advocate the election or defeat of particular candidates or political parties. This newsletter follows the policies of MOAA National.



MOAA Legislative Action Center

You can help MOAA by visiting their legislative action center and contacting your elected officials regarding pending legislation MOAA is working. You can reach the Legislative Action Center at the following email address: take action.moaa.org

Reasons to Join a MOAA Chapter

You know the value of belonging to MOAA and your chapter. But when you're talking to a potential new chapter member, it's important to remember that many officers might have only limited knowledge of MOAA's chapter system.

Creating a dialogue and asking open-ended questions is the best way to find out if and how a chapter membership could help a prospective member.

Find out as much as you can about their priorities in order to tailor a response that is more likely to resonate with them personally.

Here are some aspects of membership that may appeal to them.

- 1. **Make yourself heard.** MOAA's chapters provide critical grassroots support for MOAA's national legislative agenda. Chapter members let their legislators know what's on their minds and open doors for MOAA's legislative team in Washington, D.C.
- 2. **Give back to the community.** Chapter members are MOAA's ambassadors in their communities, supporting countless programs that make a difference in the lives of others. These members continue to serve and are giving back in the truest sense.
- 3. **Value added to chapter members' lives.** MOAA chapters sponsor interesting programs and opportunities to interact with civic, political, military, and business leaders on issues important to members.
- 4. **Networking with fellow officers**. Chapters include second-career members in the work force and retired service members who have contacts in their communities that can be valuable to transitioning officers.
- 5. **Stay informed.** Chapter newsletters, websites, and meetings provide you with the latest information on local, state, and national issues and changes to military benefits.
- 6. **Influencing state legislation.** Most states have a council of chapters that unites chapters in the state. These councils, and independent chapters in states without a council, often lobby for and pass state-level legislation that affects military members and their families, such as exempting military retired pay from state income tax or increasing funding for state veterans' programs.
- **7. Camaraderie with a purpose.** MOAA chapters unite active duty, former, and retired officers from every branch of service, including National Guard and Reserve, as well as surviving spouses, offering the opportunity to connect with others with similar backgrounds and interest and develop close and lasting friendships.

LINCOLN Land Chapter Leadership 2022-2023 IL-03 Lincoln Land Chapter

- *President, BOD: David Miller, LTC USA, Ret, david.b.miller32.nfg@army.mil, or miller42@aol.com.
- *1st Vice President, Webmaster, Dinner/contracts, BOD: David Knieriem, Maj USA, Ret, dknieriem@casscomm.com.
- *2nd Vice President, Programs, Personal affairs, BOD: Nathan Clemmer, LtCol USAF, Ret, Nathan.Clemmer@gmail.com
- *Treasurer, BOD: Eugene (Gene) Bian, COL USAR, Ret, gb2416@comcast.net
- *Secretary, Communications & Publicity, BOD: Maj Kory Harms, Kory.l.Harms.mil@army.mil

Legislative Liaison: Dr. Robert Tyler, Col USMC, Ret, robttyler@msn.com

Membership Chair: David Falk, Maj USMC, Ret, falkda63@aol.com

Immediate Past President: Darrell L. Roll, COL USA Ret, darrell.roll@sbcglobal.net

Scholarships: Dr. Mark DePue, LTC USA, Ret, DePuemr@outlook.com

Surviving Spouse Representative: Christine (Chris) Milchuck, Christine.A.Milchuck.ctr@army.mil

Honorary Chapter Chaplain: Justin Everson, je3453@gmail.com

*BOD = Board of Directors



2022 Meeting Dates

Lincoln Land Chapter, MOAA

As of 26 October 2021

EXCOMM Meetings

- 13 January
- 10 March
- 12 May
- 14 July
- 8 September
- 10 November

Fourth Annual Golf Outing

27 August 2022—Shambolee Golf Course, Petersburg, Illinois

Member Meetings

- 11 February-Northfield Center, Springfield
- 8 April-Indoors, Island Bay Yacht Club, Springfield
- 10 June-The Beach House, Decatur
- 12 August-Outdoors, Island Bay Yacht Club, Springfield
- 14 October-Northfield Center, Springfield
- 9 December-Northfield Center, Springfield



All about MOAA

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military service members and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving. MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. MOAA's experts in Washington are there to support legislation that benefits the military community and are equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice. Membership is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services and their surviving spouses. MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization. With more than 350,000 members from every branch of service - including active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, former officers, and their families - we are a powerful force speaking for a strong national defense and representing the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers. MOAA's highest priority is providing first-class service to our members. We are the leading voice on compensation and benefit matters for all members of the military community. We provide expert advice and guidance to our members. While the association does advocate a strong national defense, it does not, as an association, become involved in matters pertaining to military strategy or individual weapons systems of the various services. The association's board of directors has long believed that such decisions can be made only by those who have all of the facts available to them: today's actively serving military leadership. The association plays an active role in military personnel matters and especially proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services. MOAA's overarching goals are captured in its resolutions, which reflect the views of the entire membership. The membership provides input and votes on resolutions every two years (on even years). While MOAA is permitted by law to lobby - and does so actively - its status as a tax-exempt veterans organization precludes it from participating in political activities, which are defined as intervening directly or indirectly in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Stated briefly, the association may advocate issues, but it may not advocate the election or defeat of particular candidates or political parties.

Fourth Annual 2022 Golf Outing Honoring our Military Heroes and Families AT SHAMBOLEE GOLF COURSE IN PETERSBURG

We honor all our veterans, active military and military families who have served our country.

Saturday, August 27, 2022

South Shore Drive, Petersburg, IL 62675

\$75.00 per player: 18 hole shotgun start Cart and two drinks per person 11:00 sign in, lunch, and 12:00 noon start

Proceeds benefit: Gold Star Families, Memorial Monument-Veterans,

Memorial Foundation, Springfield Youth Scholarships

Sponsoring organizations:







Send Registration and Payment to:

Lincoln Land Chapter, MOAA Attn: Golf Outing Committee P.O. Box 9435 Springfield, IL 62791-9435

REGISTRATION FORM

Honoring All Our Military Heroes Golf Outing Saturday, August 27, 2022 Shambolee Golf Course 101 South Shore Drive, Petersburg, IL 62675

Captain:	Phone#
Golfer 1:	
Golfer 2:	
Golfer 3:	
Golfer 4:	

Please remit full payment of \$75.00 per player with Registration Form mailed to:

Lincoln Land Chapter, MOAA

Attn: Golf Outing Committee

P.O. Box 9435 Springfield, IL 62791-9435

Deadline is a week prior or until full for questions contact Steve Cadle at 217-741-9297 or Dave Miller at 217-761-3973