

**August 2023**

**Website: <http://lincolnlandmoaa.org>**

**Upcoming Events**

- August 11, 2023, (outdoors) Island Bay Yacht Club, Springfield
- August 26, 2023, Saturday, Fifth Annual Golf Outing at Shambole Golf Course, Petersburg
- October 13, 2023, Northfield Center, Springfield
- December 8, 2023, Northfield Center, Springfield
- 2024 dates are to be determined—more later.

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# **THE SALUTE—Never Stop Serving...**



**Next Meeting Information**

**Dinner Meeting - Friday, August 11, 2023**

**Location: Island Bay Yacht Club (Outdoors on the Back Patio)  
76 Yacht Club Road, Springfield, IL 62712**

**Social Hour at 6:00PM, Dinner at 7:00PM**

**Cash Bar Available During the Evening at the Dockside Bar  
Cost: \$33.00 per person  
Dress: Nice Casual**

**PROGRAM:**

*Award of MOAA Lincoln Land Chapter Scholarship —  
Recipient will be Allison Blade (Grandaughter of COL Blade)*

**Membership Update Information**

**Menu: Buffet Style Dinner**

**Salads: Caesar Salad and House Made Picnic Potato Salad Garnished with Bacon and Chopped Hardboiled Eggs**

**Platters: Fresh Fruit Platter and Sliced Tomatoes Drizzled with Balsamic and Sprinkled with Parmesan Cheese**

**Entrees: Smoked Barbecued Ribs with Sweet Baby Rays Barbecue Sauce and Fried Chicken**

**Side Dishes: Sauteed Green Beans, Cheesy Casserole Potatoes, Brown Sugar Baked Beans, Sister Schubert Rolls and Butter**

**Desserts: Peach Cobbler; Texas Sheet Cake Squares with Walnuts**

**Drinks: Iced Tea, Water and Lemonade**

**Register Online <https://www.lincolnlandmoaa.org/aug11dinnermeeting>**

**Or Contact Dave Knieriem**

**Phone: 217-899-5526**

**Email: [dknieriem@casscomm.com](mailto:dknieriem@casscomm.com)**

**NLT Tuesday, August 8, 2023**

## President's Corner:

Our Chapter has a Facebook page presence on the web:

<https://www.facebook.com/MOAAincolnland> Check it out—Also, it may be accessed through our website by clicking the “F” logo near the top of the home page.

Please help us with the following major tasks we have in Lincolnland

## Chapter:

1. Talk up the Chapter Golf Outing—August 26, 2023 at Chambolee Golf Course on Lake Petersburg, Illinois. We need more golfers and sponsors.
2. Help us RECRUIT new members. Members are our best recruiters. Please talk to potential members within your Sphere of Influence about joining us as we NEVER STOP SERVING.
3. Please attend our meetings—We Need Your Support!



## Legislative Liaison Update

Congress has taken its summer recess and is back working on the appropriation bills.

MOAA has reported several “successes” in the draft NDAA bill moving through Congress.

Even so, we need to be vigilant as the Congressional Budget Office has suggested to the members that Tricare for Life (TFL) should have enrolment fees and co-pays.

Please go to the MOAA “Take Action Link” on the MOAA website to send the suggested emails to our Senators and your Representatives.

On the state level, in the waning moments of the legislative session, we managed to correct the language protecting property tax exemption for disabled veterans.

This clarification legislation was necessary because of a misinterpretation by a single county tax assessor.

***This was another example of needing to be a voice of experience for our veterans, and to remaining vigilant as our legislators work veteran issues.***

So as always, let’s “Never Stop serving”!

Semper Fi – Bob

## From The Chapter Chaplain

### **The Chaplain Corps is as Old as the Revolutionary War**

A few days from today, on July 29, we will commemorate the 244th year since the birth of the Army Chaplain Corps. Older even than the United States, the Chaplain Corps was—and is—integral to the fabric of our nation, and instrumental to our military's success. As we prepare to mark this historic milestone, let's take a look at the story of how the Chaplain Corps' was formed—and the risks military chaplains face today when it comes to carrying out their duties and living out their faith.

### **George Washington's First Request**

In the summer of 1775, the Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia. Though members of the Congress would not sign the Declaration of Independence for another year, the colonies were already engaged in a difficult and bloody war against the most powerful military in the world, Great Britain. But they were determined to stand up for their God-given rights.

With violence escalating and the war becoming even more gruesome, Congress commissioned George Washington as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. Less than a month after taking charge, Washington made one of his first requests, something he knew would be a vital and necessary component for his military operation.

As a military commander, Washington anticipated the toll war would take on his troops, especially knowing the incredible effort on the part of the colonists to defeat a formal standing army. Of course, he knew how important it was for his soldiers to be physically prepared, but he also understood that he would need something more in the face of such odds: spiritual fortitude, and the moral strength to persevere. Though many ministers were already volunteering alongside colonial troops, Washington wanted their services recognized and financially compensated, and for them to become an official part of the army.

On July 29, 1775, Congress granted Washington's request and the Chaplain Corps was born. There would be one chaplain for each regiment in the Continental Army. Receiving a captain's pay, they would attend to the spiritual, emotional, and even physical wellbeing of the troops.

### **A Legacy of Spiritual Fitness**

Since the inception of the Corps, chaplains have served in every American war. Though the Army Chaplain Corps is the oldest branch of its kind, the Navy and Air Force later established their own chaplaincy programs. Throughout American history, over 400 military chaplains have died in war, sacrificing their lives for their troops, many of them receiving recognition for their valor. Today, chaplains corps have withstood the test of time as a valuable asset and a necessary institution critical to each branch of the U.S. military.

In addition to looking after the spiritual wellbeing of military troops, chaplains are tasked with upholding religious freedom, ensuring that the individual beliefs of military members are respected. Today, a diverse and expanding group of religions are represented among military chaplains, ranging from majority faiths like Christianity to minority religions like Judaism and Buddhism.

Regardless of a service member's personal religious beliefs, faith continues to be a source of strength, comfort and inspiration for those who risk life and limb to defend our most cherished freedoms. As First Liberty Institute client and retired Navy Chaplain Wes Modder put it, "when people come into the military they don't leave their faith, they bring their faith with them."



## PROVIDING **CRISIS RELIEF** TO OUR NATION'S HEROES

Together, we can offer support and stability to the uniformed services and veteran communities during a crisis.



### OUR GOAL

Our goal is to raise \$1 million to endow The MOAA Foundation's Crisis Relief Fund and continue our great work.



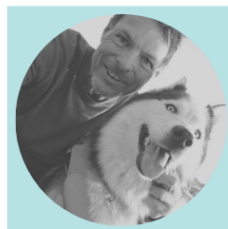
### WHY CRISIS RELIEF?

More than 12 million veterans without a VA disability rating have virtually no support when disaster strikes.



### CAN YOU HELP?

Our hope is your generous contribution will help us reach our goal to fund this program in perpetuity.



## READY TO ASSIST

In April 2020, The MOAA Foundation launched an emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund to support uniformed services families impacted by the pandemic.

**As the pandemic has ebbed, we know crisis-related needs of uniformed services families and veterans still exist.**

To answer the call for help, we established The MOAA Foundation Crisis Relief Fund — an enduring emergency relief fund to assist uniformed services personnel, veterans, and their families (including caregivers and survivors) in the midst of crisis.

## WHAT SETS US APART



Our streamlined application takes less than 20 minutes to complete, saving applicants the time they need to address other urgent priorities.



Funds reach an approved applicant's bank account within days of approval — timely relief when it can have the most impact.



Financial grants are awarded to qualifying applicants to help with housing costs, utilities, medical and insurance bills, groceries, and more.



100% of our Crisis Relief applicants would recommend our program to others in need.



(800) 234-6622



[moaa\\_foundation@moaa.org](mailto:moaa_foundation@moaa.org)



[charities.moaa.org/crisisrelief](https://charities.moaa.org/crisisrelief)

## **MOAA Accomplishments in 2022**

### **Active Duty**

**Executing a Credible Game Plan for Health Care Oversight --**

This issue also impacts Families, Retirees, and Survivors.

**Maintaining Pay Raise Comparability**

### **Families**

**Securing Comprehensive Privatized Military Housing Reform\***

**Securing a Basic Needs Allowance for Families Facing Food Insecurity**

**Temporary BAH Increase for High Cost-of-Living Areas**

**Enhanced Leave for Military Families**

**Support for Public Schools Serving Military-Connected Children**

### **Guard & Reserve**

**Securing Major GI Bill Upgrades to Include Transferability and Improving Benefits for Those on Title 32 Orders\***

**Improving Guard and Reserve TRICARE Coverage (and Securing a Premium Cut)**

**Ensuring Guard and Reserve Retirement Age Credit for Active Duty Service**

### **Retirees**

**Protecting TRICARE For Life\***

**Lessening the Impact of TRICARE Fee Hikes**

**Defeating 'COLA Minus 1 Percent'\***

**Boosting Compensation Significantly for Retirees With 50% VA Disability (and Fighting for Full Concurrent Receipt)\***

**Ensuring TRICARE Coverage Evolves to Keep Up With Commercial Plans and Other Government Payers**

### **Survivors**

**Repealing the SBP-DIC Offset ('Widows Tax')**

### **Veterans**

**Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform**

**Providing Wounded Warrior Protections and Caregiver Enhancements\***

**Expanding Veterans' Health Care, Benefits, and other VA Compensation and Support Programs**

## Lincoln Land Chapter MOAA

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Springfield, IL 62791-9435

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[http://  
lincolnlandmoaa.org](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.

Now and Always  
We'll be There.



90228

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### 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](mailto:takeaction.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.

**\*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Webmaster, Dinner/contracts, BOD:** David Knieriem, Maj USA, Ret, dknieriem@casscomm.com.

**\*2<sup>nd</sup> 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, Colphdbob@gmail.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



2023 Lincoln Land Chapter

MOAA Meeting Dates

February 10, 2023—Northfield Center, Springfield

April 14, 2023—(indoors) Island Bay Yacht Club, Springfield

June 9, 2023—The Beach House, Decatur

Fifth Annual Golf Outing— August 26, 2023—Shambolee Golf Course, Petersburg, Illinois

August 11, 2023—(Outdoors) Island Bay Yacht Club, Springfield

October 13, 2023—Northfield Center, Springfield

December 8, 2023—Northfield Center, Springfield—Annual Christmas Meeting/Member Auction



## **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.



# Fifth Annual 2023 Golf Outing Honoring our Military Heroes and Families

AT SHAMBOLEE GOLF COURSE IN PETERSBURG

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

**Saturday, August 26, 2023**

442 South Shore Drive, Petersburg, IL 62675

\$75.00 per player: 18 hole shotgun start

Cart and two drinks per person

11:30 sign in, lunch, and 12:00 noon start

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

Sponsoring organizations:

**MOAA**

Minority Officers Association of America

Lincoln Land Chapter

[www.moaa.org/chapter/lincolnlnd](http://www.moaa.org/chapter/lincolnlnd)



**GOLD  
STAR  
MISSION**

[www.GoldStarMission.org](http://www.GoldStarMission.org)



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 26, 2023  
Shamblee 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