



(DBA Reserve Organization of America)

Official Publication of Central Illinois Chapter IL33,
ROA & Heart of Illinois Chapter IL09, MOAA

PRAIRIELAND BULLETIN

Volume 30 Number 2

FEB 2026

Chapter Website: <https://www.moaa.org/chapter/heartofillinois/>



Joint Chapters Meeting Notice CIRAO IL33 & HOIMOAA IL09



Date: 17 FEB 2026

Location: Lariat Steakhouse, W. Glen Ave, Peoria, IL 61614

Time: 1800 Social Time
1830 Meeting Starts; Invocation, Pledge of
Allegiance; Order Dinner

Program: "War in Ukraine. After Four Years, it's a
War of Meters"

Guest Speaker: Angela Weck, Director, Peoria
World Affairs Council.

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED!!

BY SUNDAY, 15 FEB 26, contact MAJ Jackson at 309-676-1602
(Office), 309-657-3203 (mobile), or email: jacksonfinancial@yahoo.com with names and number of attendees. **HEADCOUNT IS IMPORTANT FOR FOOD AND SEATING.**

*Volunteers needed to fill Leadership vacancies on the Board of
Joint Chapters.*



Seals shown here are to indicate membership source, but are unauthorized by the individual services

Meeting & Program Schedule 2025-26

17 FEB - Joint Chapters Meeting - Ukraine Russia War

3 MAR - Joint Chapters Board Mtng

17 MAR - Joint Chapters Meeting - TRICARE Update

7 APR - Joint Chapters Board Mtng

21 APR - Joint Chapters Meeting - ROTC Update

5 MAY - Joint Chapters Board Mtng

19 MAY - Joint Chapters Meeting - AI as a Class of Potentially Disruptive Technologies

(June - August Summer Break)

Until further notice, Board Meetings will be held virtually by Zoom at 1900 hrs on the first Tuesday of the month, and Membership Meetings in person, at Lariat Steakhouse, 2232 W. Glen Ave., Peoria, IL 61614, on the third Tuesday of the month at 1800hrs.(Zoom available to those who can't attend in person.)



Remote Zoom Meeting Instructions

To join the meeting online from home, click on link below.:

Meeting ID: 863 9521 9434

Passcode: 123123

For those without internet:

Audio only: 1-312-626-6799 or 1-309-205-3325

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86395219434?pwd=EC5FZ38F9zQcgKpbvLRWXMtRpWOlx7.1>

FEB Meeting Program

“War in Ukraine. After Four Years, It’s A War of Meters”

(Be sure to attend the meeting, in person, or virtually via Zoom to get the full message!) You will not want to miss out on what she has to share, especially with the current Eastern European situation.

TAPS

None to Report

FEB Meeting Guest Speaker

Angela Weck

Professor Angela Weck teaches Bradley University’s International Studies courses on Russia (Imperial Russia and Russian Foreign Policy). She is also Executive Director of the Peoria Area World Affairs Council and a member of the Board of Directors of the World Affairs Councils of America.

Professor Weck received her B.A. Degree from Iowa State University and an M.A. from University of Minnesota in Russian and Eastern European Studies and hold a Special Certificate from the Moscow Institute of Timber in Mytyschi, Russia.

She has presented to our chapters several times in the past, and is highly regarded!

This will be another interesting program!!

Dinner Menu for 17 FEB

**BBQ Baby Back Ribs: 1/2 Rack \$28/
Full Rack: \$36
Chopped Sirloin: \$27
Pork Chop: \$35
Prime Rib: Petite \$36 Regular \$41
Large \$46
Deep Fried Catfish: \$27
Includes Salad & Sides**

***20% Gratuity & Tax Added to Bill
Deserts Extra***



**Standing with you
at every stage.**

1-800-247-2192
www.moaainsurance.com/plans

100392





*Are you a Life Member? If not,
WHY NOT??*



Legislative Report (Repeat)

The Military Coalition, a coalition of 33 of the leading veterans and uniformed services organizations that represent more than 5.5 million members, organized the press conference to demand an end to the government shutdown. The shutdown has been devastating for the nation's military readiness and for the veterans, service members, families and survivors in the uniformed services community.

Veterans who receive disability and GI Bill benefits and survivors who rely on survivor benefits don't know if they'll get their next check. National Guard and Reserve monthly training has been cancelled, affecting critical troop readiness and pay. Many services that military families count on daily are suspended. Veterans make up 27 percent of the federal workforce and don't know when they will get to go back to work. The 435,000 veterans in the VA disability claims backlog have to wait even longer.

Members are urged to help build on the momentum of this crisis by reaching out to their representatives in Congress and demanding action to end the government shutdown now. Despite that retirees still get paid, we owe it to our brethren to work for those that don't!

Reginald Bernard, LTC USA Ret - Acting Legislative Chair



New TRICARE Contact

Here's how to keep receiving important TRICARE news and information!

- Add: tricare@news.dha.mil to your address book or safe sender list.
- Resubscribe through the new email platform. A link to resubscribe will be available on: tricare.mil/subscriptions soon.



CIROA-HOIMOAA Committee Assignments:



ROTC/JROTC

LTC Reginald Bernard, USA, Chair

LTC Steve Krippel, USA, ISU/IWU/Bradley U AROTC OIC; MAJ Paul Baumgartner, USA Asst. PMS

SGM David Merritt, Pekin HS AJROTC

1SG Holly Donald Peoria Manual Academy (HS) AJROTC

1Sgt Shawn Martin, Richwoods CHS MCJROTC

(Monthly Reports Requested)

NEWSLETTER: MAJ Jerry Jackson, USA

ESGR: LTC Dick Franzen, USA

Historian: Vacant

MEMBERSHIP: LTC Reginald Bernard (Acting)

PROGRAMS & Website: CAPT Bob Yonker, USN

LEGISLATION: LTC Reginald Bernard, USA (Acting)

PUBLICITY/Photos Vacant

To Update DEERS



Call: 1-800-538-9552

FAX address changes To DEERS at: 1-831-655-8317

Mail address Changes to: Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office Attn: COA, 400 Giggling Rd, Seaside, CA 93955-6771


To Update TRICARE: Update addresses online: www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERS

PrairieLand Bulletin
Editorial Office
C/O Jackson Financial Services
1017 N. Maplewood Avenue
Peoria, IL 61606

Official Publication
Of Central Illinois
Chapter IL033, ROA
&
Heart of IL Chapter IL09
MOAA

Postage Here



Mail To:



About The PrairieLand Bulletin

PrairieLand Bulletin is published monthly, except June, July, August and December, and is the official membership newsletter of Central IL Chapter 33, Reserve Organization of America and Heart of IL Chapter 09, Military Officers Association of America.

Editorial offices: c/o Jackson Financial Services

Street Address: 1017 N. Maplewood Ave, Peoria, IL 61606

Phone number is 309-657-3203 (Mobile)

Email: jacksonfinancial@yahoo.com.

MAJ Jerry D. Jackson, USA Ret, Editor/Publisher.

ROA Charter from the Congress (SEC190102)
 "the purposes of the corporation are to support the development and exercise of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security. ROA was for a long time the exclusive military organization created by Congress to advise Congress on military matters, with the more recent addition of MOAA., formerly known as TROA.

Notice of Disclaimer

Publication of articles written by individual members of ROA, CH33 and MOAA CH09 does not necessarily reflect the opinions and/or views of the chapters, or the national organizations.

Publication does not constitute an endorsement of views expressed.

TRICARE

TRICARE West Region
 TriWest Healthcare Alliance (Includes Illinois)

Toll-free Telephone Number (888) 874-9378

Website: <https://tricaretriwest.com>


Claims Website: www.mytricare.com

TRICARE For Life (TFL)
 Claims information online at: www.tricare4u.com (WPS)

Send claims to:

WPS/TRICARE For Life
 P.O. Box 7890
 Madison, WI 53707-7890

Customer Service: 866-773-0404



2024-2026CIR
 Chapter IL033
 Officers


President: Capt Richard Brenneman, USAFR (Former)

Vice President: VACANT

Secretary: CAPT James Tomlin, USN Ret

Treasurer: LTC Reginald Bernard, USA Ret

Immediate Past President: LTC Richard Franzen, USA Ret



2024-2026HOIMOAA
 Chapter IL09
 Officers

President: MAJ David Zabinski, USA Ret

Vice President: LTC Nate Williams, USA Ret

Secretary: CAPT James Tomlin, USN Ret

Treasurer: LTC Reginald Bernard, USA Ret

Immediate Past President: CAPT Robert Yonker, USN Ret

Joint Chapters Board Members:
 MAJ Jerry Jackson, USA Ret