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

# PRAIRIELAND BULLETIN

Volume 30 Number 8

(DBA Reserve Organization of America)

NOV 2026

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



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## Joint Chapters Meeting Notice
## CIROA IL33 & HOIMOAA IL09

**Date:** 17 NOV 2026

**Location:** Lariat Steakhouse, 2232 W. Glen Ave, Peoria, IL 61614

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

**Program:** Illinois Emergency Management

**Speaker:** Michael A. Graves, SGM (R), ILARNG

**RESERVATIONS REQUESTED!!**

**By Sunday, 15 NOV 2026, contact MAJ Jackson at 309-657-3203, or email: jacksonfinancial@yahoo.com with names and number of attendees.**

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







## *Meeting & Program Schedule 2026-2027*

**20 OCT - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**3 NOV - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**17 NOV - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**(HOLIDAY Break)**

**5 JAN 2027 - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**19 JAN - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**2 FEB - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**16 FEB - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**2 MAR - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**16 MAR - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**6 APR - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**20 APR - Joint Chapters Mtng**

**4 MAY - Joint Chapters Board Mtng**

**18 MAY –Joint Chapters Mtng**

**SUMMMER BREAK**

ntil 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

## NOV Meeting Program

Michael A. Graves, SGM (R), ILARNG, served fulltime in the Illinois Army National Guard, the Virginia Army National Guard, and at the National Guard Bureau for over twenty-six years.

He is currently the Executive Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Services Association (IESMA), an organization that fosters partnerships, outreach, and communication among local emergency managers throughout Illinois.

He is also Branch Chief for Training & Exercises for the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, which supports its 1,200-member fire departments by helping them prepare for real-world emergencies.






## TAPS
**None to Report**

**NOV Meeting Guest Speaker**

**Michael A. Graves, SGM (R), ILARNG**

## Upcoming Meeting Concerns

In a phone conversation today with the Banquet Coordinator at Lariat Steakhouse, I learned that they are having concerns about the food requests at the recent meetings.
Unlike many other locations where we could meet, the Lariat does not charge for the room, etc.. They depend on the food charges to pay for staffing, etc..
She noted that some attendees ordered Soup & Salad, even though it was not on the abbreviated menu that the board agreed to. Please keep in mind that revenue is important to our hosts! And, to us as well!!


ROA
RESERVE STRENGTH
RESERVE LIFE

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

## *Legislative Report*

**Legislation 10/26**

As you all know, nothing is happening in Congress right now. They are all out on the stump, vying for their jobs. This is the time they are most vulnerable!

It is very likely you may run into them out. Don't just say remember us vets - get specific, what legislation you are thining of - for me, it's the Major Richard Starr Act that I wrote about last month. Be specific, if you just say "veterans", it will go in the veterans pile. Rather, say the specific act, or Tricare, or VA Coverage.

The important thing is **Focus - get the word out!**

**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 Justin Wilkerson ILARNG Ret, Chair**

**LTC Steve Krippel, USA, ISU/IWU/BU 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**

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**&**
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## About The PrairieLand Bulletin

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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

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Madison, WI 53707-7890

Customer Service: 866-773-0404

**2024–2026CIROA Chapter IL033 Officers**

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**Secretary: CAPT James Tomlin, USN Ret**

**Treasurer: LTC Reginald Bernard, USA Ret**

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**LTC Justin Wilkerson, USAF Ret**