THE ALBUMOAA

The Military Officers Association of America
Albuquerque, New Mexico Chapter

FIVE STAR CHAPTER
2002 - 2013

February 2016—March 2016 Volume XXXVII, No. 1

Printed Newsletter Awards: Winner 1983, 1991, 1992, 2007, 2008;
Printed Newsletter 1st Runner Up: 1993, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2011
Electronic Newsletter Awards: Winner 2003; First Runner Up 2004
Web Site Awards: Winner 2003, 2004, 2007 - 2009; First Runner Up 2006; 2nd Runner Up 2011

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President's Message

Happy New Year to all of you. We look forward to a very productive 2016. As always the beginning of the year brings us a legislative session which our legislative team is working hard to make the most successful in years. More on the legislative session later in the Newsletter from Dave Coulie our legislative board member.

We have set ourselves some major goals for 2016:

- John Wirth, our Membership Recruiting board member, is already working on this years recruiting campaign. You can help by encouraging your friends and neighbors to join our membership.
- Mike Cochrane, our Awards board member, has already contacted all the High School and University ROTC programs to nominate their recipients of this years MOAA awards.
- Roger Mickelson, our Past President and Vice Chair of the NM Council of Chapters, is working with Col Jeffrey White, Commander 377th Medical Group on the issues retirees face using the Kirtland AFB Pharmacy.
- The Tours and Ski club are in full swing with their 2016 trips (more later in the Newsletter).
- The Breakfast Club has moved to the LAST Tuesday of the month and the Board thanks Marsha Thole for taking over the coordination of this program.
- In October our Chapter will be hosting the semi-annual Council of Chapters meeting at the Marriott in Albuquerque. We hope many of you can join us and members of the other NM Chapters.
- Our big project in 2016 is the modernizing of our website. It will still be at www.albumoaa.org but it will have a new look and functionality.

As you can see your Chapter has been busy, continues to grow as an

(Continued on page 3)

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(Vacant)

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(Continued from page 1)

organization and is very active in the community. This is mainly due to your support and participation.

Sincerely,

Walter

Walter Paul, LTC (USA Retired)
Chapter President

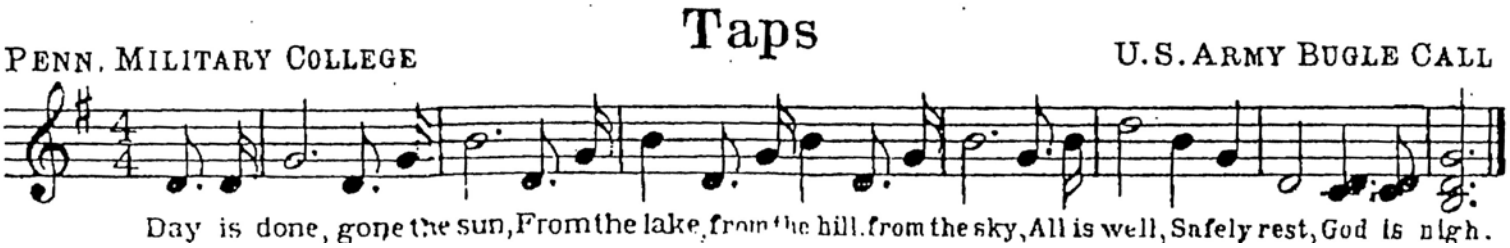
Endowments

In 2012 Chapter established the Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA Endowment at the Albuquerque Community Foundation (ACF) to enhance our current, and especially our future, ability to contribute to worthy charitable organizations that help our military personnel, veterans and their families. The endowment was initiated in late January of 2012 and has grown well as a result of contributions and the growth in the investments. The Board has adopted a policy of using the annual distributable amount to increase our Giving in each year. For those who are so inclined, gifts can be made to the Chapter Endowment as a part of a member's estate or as part of a yearly donation. More information about the annual performance and use of the distribution will be published in a future ALBUMOAA. For questions, the Chapter point of contact is the treasurer, Clint Whisonant, ClintWhiz@hotmail.com or 505-410-1417 (cell).

MILITARY Coalition Luncheon

Please visit the link below for information about the Military Coalition Luncheons.

Link to web site calendar:
http://albumoaa.org/modules.php?name=Event_Calendar



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of those who have passed to their eternal rest. May all those who grieve be comforted.

Michael D Barfield – December 2, 2015 (son of Nancy Barfield)

Zanier Vivian – November 23, 2015 (wife of LCDR Richard W Vivian, USN Ret)

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NCUA

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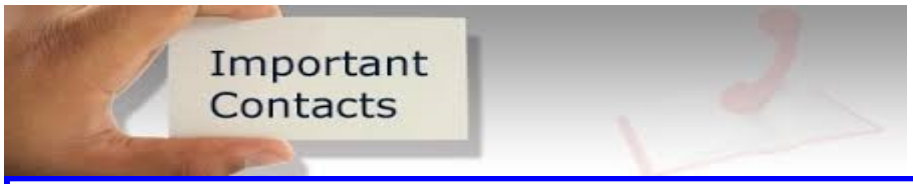
All loans subject to qualification and require Sandia Area membership. Annual Percentage Rates may change at any time without notice. Consult your tax advisor about deducting the interest you pay from your taxes. See sandia.org, or contact a Sandia Area Member Service Representative at 505-292-6343 ext. 5. Get a $75 Home Depot gift card when your loan closes of $5,000 or more. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender.



Congressional Switchboard –toll free– provided by MOAA **1-877-762-8762**

Senator Martin Heinrich ..... http://heinrich.senate.gov/
Washington Office: B40D Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510 **(202)224-5521**
(800)443-8658
Albuquerque Office: 625 Silver Ave. SW Ste 130, Albuquerque, NM 87102 ..... **(505)346-6601**

Senator Tom Udall ..... http://tomudall.senate.gov/
Washington Office: 110 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 Washington, DC 20510 ..... **(202)224-6621**
Albuquerque Office: 219 Central Ave. NW Ste 210, Albuquerque, NM 87102 ..... **(505)346-6791**

Congressman Michelle Lujan-Grisham ..... http://lujangrisham.house.gov
Washington Office: 214 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 ..... **(202)225-6316**
Albuquerque: 505 Marquette NW Ste 1605, Albuquerque, NM 87102 ..... **(505)346-6781**

Congressman Steve Pearce ..... **http://pearce.house.gov/**
Washington Office: 2432 Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 ..... **(202)225-2365**
Los Lunas Office: 3445 Lambros Loop NE, Los Lunas, NM 87031 ..... **(855)473-2723**

Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, Jr. ..... **http://lujan.house.gov/**
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Rio Rancho Office: 3200 Civic Center NE Ste 330, Rio Rancho, NM 87144 ..... **(505)994-0499**

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MOAA Legislative Alerts ..... **http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/**

Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA ..... **http://www.albumoaa.org/**

DD-214 On line…… ..... **http://vetrecs.archives.gov/**

Kirtland AFB ……..http://www.kirtland.af.mil/ …….…… ..... **(505)846-0011 OR (505)853-0011**
Pharmacy Refills: **846-5770**
Casualty Assistance: .....
Kirtland Casualty Assistance Office: **846-5508**
Retiree Office (BRAVO): **846-1536**
Military ID Card Service: (serving all branches, military retirees, dependents and survivors) **846-5431**
Will Preparation/Change: (retirees, dependents, survivors by appointment only) **846-4217**

The New Mexico Legislature opened its 30 day session on January 19. Hundreds of bills have been filed and, as always it will be a very hectic 30 days. In my humble opinion there has to be a cap on bills filed particularly in the 30 day sessions. There is so much to do and so little time and quite often serious hearing are not afforded to deserving bills. That said, there are many important bills on the docket and we as citizens can express our thoughts and opinions on these proposed measures to our legislators. Phone calls, e-mails and personal contact are all highly encouraged.

If you want to see a listing of all bills that will be heard go to http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/bill_locator.aspx?year=16 You might be amused by what some would consider "frivolous" legislation but there are also some very important proposals critical to our state.

There is also a new, enhanced, web site for the legislature that can be accessed at: http://www.nmlegis.gov:8080/ At the site you will find a link to connect with web casts of various committee hearings and also sessions of the full House and Senate.

Our number one priority bill this session remains the NM Personal Income Tax exemption for retired pay of uniformed services members and their survivors. You can track this bills progress (Or lack thereof) on the web site at: http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/billfinder/number.aspx

Veterans Day at the Legislature is set for February 15. Ceremonies in the Capitol Rotunda go at 1100 Hours. This year the NM National Guard will be recognized and honored. Hope to see many of you there.

Any questions? Want to ride to Santa Fe to support a bill and join the "fun"? Call me at 505-293-0996 or e-mail at: davecoulie@aol.com.

Dave

Legislative Chair

The Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA is not associated with the Department of Defense. This Newsletter is published bi-monthly. Views expressed in articles or editorials in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Chapter nor do they reflect its policies. Publication of advertisements or mention of any commercial businesses does not constitute Chapter endorsement. Comments , suggestions and articles of interest are welcomed.

Send to: Bill Walters, 6629 Orphelia Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109; phone 822-0899 or by e-mail: captainbillyw69@gmail.com

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MEMBERSHIP: Karen Brown, kmbrown8@comcast.net

This winter is providing unparalleled skiing with more snow than ever. We just completed Steamboat this past weekend and experienced the "champagne powder" that they are famous for. The location at the Ptarmingan Inn on the slopes is a keeper. Crested Butte is coming soon and they are also experiencing a great year.

Please note that the end of year ski party has moved to May 1st at the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial. Please mark this on your calendars.

COME JOIN US!!

February 21-24, 2016 (Sunday a.m. – Wednesday)
CRESTED BUTTE:
Coach transportation, lodging at Old Town Inn, Crested Butte, CO
Trip Chair: Jack Menako, 797-1935; jamenako@centurylink.net
Co-Chair: Tonya Bush, 807-1270; tonyalbush@hotmail.com

March 4-6, 2016 (Friday p.m. – Sunday) – **MONARCH MOUNTAIN**:
Coach Transportation, lodging at Gateway Inn & Suites, Salida, CO
Trip Chair: Ron Salley, 798-9904; jrsalley@me.com
Co-Chair: Jackie Sommers, 857-0154; sidro577jax@gmail.com

New Mexico Veterans Integration Centers

The New Mexico Veterans Integration Center provides transition and training services to assist homeless veterans to become productive members of our community. This is a 501 (c) (3) charitable service organization highly worthy of our support. They seek monetary and other donations for those who qualify for acceptance into their intense training program, including:

***Men:**

Underwear (new, size medium-2XL)
Socks (new)
Shirts (dress and casual) (Medium-5XL)
Pants (Medium-5XL or 32-50)
Shoes (Gently used dress and casual) sizes 7.5-14

***Women:**

Underwear (new, size 5-9)
Socks (new)
Shirts (dress and casual) (small-2XL)
Pants (small-2X or 4-24)
Shoes (gently used dress and casual) sizes 5-10

Toiletries:

Any travel size

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We hope you will join us on our upcoming 2016 trips/events (details below). Couples & singles are welcome! We are a very fun & friendly group!

April 16-17, 2016 (Saturday-Sunday) – **SPENCER THEATER/ FT STANTON/LINCOLN, NM**: The double occupancy cost is **$235/person**, which includes coach transportation, 1 night at the **MCM Elegante Lodge & Suites**, formerly **The Lodge at Sierra Blanca** (near Ruidoso), **SPENCER THEATER** performance of ***PAPA DOO RUN RUN*** (one of California's legendary "beach party" bands) with Tortilla Crusted Tilapia Buffet Dinner. We will also have guided tours at the **New Mexico Historic Sites** of **LINCOLN** and **FORT STANTON**, which will be hosting a living history event (re-enactment). A deposit of **$100/person** will hold your space; **final balance is due February 15**. *Non-members please add $5/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest. To date, we now have 33 participants with 9 spaces available.*

New * **April 24, 2016** (Sunday), 6:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – ***Joseph, the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*** (Broadway Musical**): "*Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's irresistible family musical about the trials and triumphs of Joseph, Israel's favorite son.*"** Discounted group cost for Premium seats 201-202 in Rows D & F and seats 119-120 in row I is **$74/person** (including fees). Second Price seats in rows K-M (middle orchestra) cost **$54/person** (including fees) – only a limited number of seats available! **Payment is due ASAP or NLT March 10**. *Non-members please add $2/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest.* To date, 9 participants.

New * **June 21, 2016** (Tuesday), 7:30 p.m. Popejoy Hall – ***Disney's Newsies*** (Broadway Musical): **"*Filled with one heart-pounding number after another, it's a high-energy explosion of song and dance you just don't want to miss.*"** Discounted group cost for Premium seats in rows D & E is **$79/person** (including fees). Second Price seats in rows K-L, 303-304 (left side) & rows N-P (middle orchestra) cost **$58/person** (including fees). **Payment is due ASAP or NLT May 2**. *Non-members please add $2/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest.*

New * **July 20, 2016** (Wednesday) – **SANTA FE OPERA** – **"*Roméo et Juliette*"** (Sung in French): **"*Charles Gounod was a master of graceful melody, French elegance and superb musical craft. But in the lush tunefulness of Roméo et Juliette, we hear some-thing more: the sound of youth and of overwhelming love.*"**

This opera is sung in French with **Opera Titles** on a display screen in front of every seat, offering instant translations in your choice of English or

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Spanish. We have reserved 40 seats in Section 4 for the 8:30 p.m. performance. Group cost is **$189/person**. Cost also includes coach transportation plus **Preview Buffet Dinner**, including wine and dessert, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the SFO's open-air cantina on the beautifully landscaped rehearsal grounds. A guest speaker offers an informative preview talk about the evening's opera during the dessert course. A deposit of **$75/person** is due NOW to hold your space. The balance will be due NLT June 1, 2016. ***Non-members pay an additional $2 guest fee, unless family or houseguest.*** We depart Tanoan Country Club at ~4:30 p.m.

Mid-September 2016 – **RIO GRANDE SCENIC RAILROAD/ ALAMOSA:** This new adventure will include the Saturday Evening's San Luis Valley Sunset Dinner Train (3-hour round-trip from Alamosa to Antonito with cocktails, appetizers, gourmet dinner, dessert, etc.) plus Sunday's Mountain Rails Live Concert at the Fir Summit Amphitheater at 9400 ft. (accessible only by train). There will be coach transportation, & we will overnight 2 nights at Alamosa. Cost & more details to follow.

*** Mail above payments (made out to Albuquerque MOAA Tours) to Karen Brown at 962 Antelope NE, 87122. For further information, call Karen at 856-1927; email kmbrown8@comcast.net or Judy Keppler at 293-5274.**

Cancellation of any trip/event may result in loss of money, unless space is filled. Travel Insurance is a good idea! Note: These prices/itineraries are subject to small changes. You will be notified of any change.

2016 MOAA TRIPS PLANNED BY SUN TOURS FOR MOAA: All payments go to SUN TOURS, 4300 San Mateo NE, Suite B155, Albuquerque, NM, 87110. For reservations & information, please call 889-8888. Cancellation insurance is recommended.

August 22-28, 2016 – **NEW YORK CITY - DELUXE THEATER TOUR**: Cost is **$2695/person** (double occupancy) which includes airfare from Albuquerque**, 6 nights'** lodging at the **Millennium Broadway Hotel**, admission to 2 performances: ***An American in Paris*** (songs by George & Ira Gershwin) & ***Beautiful, The Carole King Musical*** (we walk to shows). There are 2 city tours with Local Guide, which include the following sights: **9/11 Memorial & Museum**, **Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island**, **One World Trade Center** (just opened), Radio City Music Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, and much more! **Final payment is due May 18**. This trip is now full & taking a waiting list. For detailed New York City flyer, click on **http://www.albumoaa.org/Documents/DocsList3/New%20York%20City%20-%20MOAA.pdf**

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Food Items Needed:

Non-perishables

Dairy

Breads

Fresh fruit and vegetables

Furniture and Household Items:

Beds (to include: box springs and frames), (gently used) Twin-Queen

Dressers

Side Tables

Lamps

Couches (size: 2-3 cushion)

Sofa beds (size: 2-3 cushion)

Chairs

Kitchen Tables and Chairs (up to 4 people)

Pots and Pans

Dishes

Silverware

Small kitchen appliances (to include but not limited to the following: microwaves, coffee pots, can openers)

TVs (27" to 32" only)

Any donated items that can't directly be used by veteran-trainees are offered for sale in periodic "garage sales" conducted at their facility just west of Tramway Blvd on the south side of Central Avenue (13032 Central Ave SE). Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Hi,

We have Luncheons each month celebrating all of the uniformed services. Check with Frances and Marvin Spallina and they will tell you who the speaker is and what will be served for lunch. Their email is franspal@aol.com and telephone number is: 822-9642.

The Retired Officer's Women's Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at Pelican on Eubank and Montgomery. All are welcome. Call me and I will give you the person in charges number.

I am available at 505 836 7840 anytime you have questions or want to talk. (If I am away, I will get back to you)

Karen Brown and I have started to collect dues for 2016. As Widows/Widowers of Officers your dues are 12.00 and you can donate extra for our Scholarship fund. You are also welcome at all of our activities.

It is time to write to your State Senators and Congress people. They are looking again at the Personal Income Tax. The bill is SB16 and we are one of 22 States to not honor our Retirees with a tax break. It is time!

Remember your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren who are Seniors in High School this year are qualified through you to try for our $2000. Scholarship. Its on the Web Site: AlbuMoaa.org.

Next month we may have a new representative for Surviving Spouses. We are here to help.

Mary Kay

Your Auxiliary Representative:
Mary Kay Olson
505-836-7840
makatie5@msn.com

Link to ALBUMOAA web site Tours and Events Information:
http://www.albumoaa.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=7

The Firkin

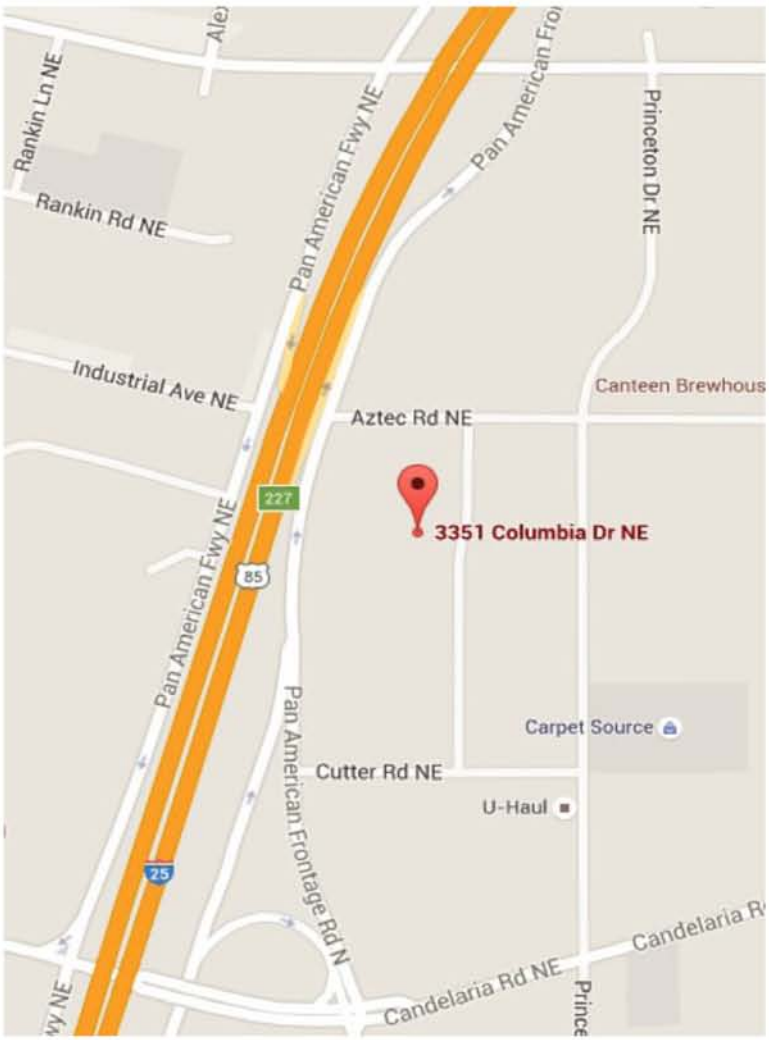
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE BEER

Brewhouse and Grill

Hours

Sun 1200-1000
Mon 1130-1000
Tue 1130-1000
Wed 1130-1000
Thu 1130-1000
Fri 1130-1200
Sat 1130-1200

Craft Beer & Food Menu



Enjoy top quality craft beers, in a relaxed prohibition themed setting. Meet friends have lunch or dinner. The best beer, the best service and the best location is at The Firkin Brewhouse & Grill located at **3351 Columbia Dr NE** between Comanche and Candelaria just off I-25N. All our beers are brewed in house.

DAILY MIRROR

FINAL

PROHIBITION ENDS AT LAST!

Bring this flyer in, give it to your server and receive 10 percent off your entire order.

Ski Club Pictures

Purgatory Skiers - Celia, Margaret, Jim, Kathryn, Greg, Gene

Purgatory Skiers - Joanne, George, Reg & Bev

Wolf Creek Apres Ski Party - Len, Maryjane, Bob, Rick, Melody & others

Ski Club Pictures

Wolf Creek Apres Ski Party - Bev, Karen, Tonya, Joanne

Wolf Creek Apres Ski Party - Chansi, Charlie & others

Wolf Creek Lunch - Diana & Tom

Membership Stats (as of January 27, 2016)

Regular – 303
Auxiliary/Survivors - 53
Associate - 85
Total – 441

A warm welcome to the following new member:

Auxiliary/Survivors
Frances (Fran) A Myers

Membership Dues for 2016 are now due. Thanks to everyone who has already paid!! If you have not paid your dues yet, please do so as soon as possible. Please fill out the application on the last page of this issue & mail it along with your dues payment (check made out Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA).

If you would like a hard copy of our Chapter's Membership Directory mailed to you, please include $5 to cover printing/mailing. Remember that you can also access the Member Directory online at www.albumoaa.org after you login. Be sure to let Karen know if you have any problems logging in.

When: Tue, February 23, 2016
Tue, March 22, 2016
7:30am – 9:00am
Where: Weck's at Louisiana Blvd and Montgomery
Cost: Individual checks
Hosted: MOAA
Reservations not required.
Contact: Phil Messuri, 798 6942
messurip@ceteranetworks.com

Speakers:

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 – - Greg Lobberegt, Real Estate Broker, Coldwell Banker Legacy. Greg will give an update on the real estate market, tips for people who want to downsize (and the shock that the smaller house will cost you more than your current house), things people are doing to stay in their houses, and
more.

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 - Peter Tras, Volunteer Coordinator, Alzheimer's Assoc, NM Chapter: 24/7 Helpline 800.272.3900 - Every 68 seconds, someone in the U.S. develops Alzheimer's.

Know of a Possible Speaker? Please contact Phil Messuri, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) at: messurip@ceteranetworks.com or at work at 798-6942.

Separate checks
CHECKS NO LONGER HAVE THE TIP INCLUDED

MOAA Legislative Action Alerts: http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/

The Albuquerque Chapter has been approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Each year the program has grown as the Ski Club, Tours, special projects, and individual donors contribute sizable amounts. Many members donate in conjunction with their dues payment. Donors may contribute to the overall Giving Program, or they may specify their donation to one of the causes listed below.

Charitable Giving Program (Unspecified)
General John S. Lekson Memorial ROTC Awards Fund
ROTC Senior MOAA Memberships
Blue Star Mothers
Gold Star Mothers, Albuquerque Chapter
Honor Flight of Northern NM
NM VA Medical Center
The Wounded Warriors Project
NM Fallen Warriors Ceremony
Chapter's Endowment Fund (ACF)

Since the last edition, the Charitable Giving Program received another $1160 in donations, associated with 2016 dues payments, from the following 36 donors:

Ambos, Brooks L
Askew, Mary H (Penny)
Baker-Brown,O Marilyn
Balmer, Dale R
Benedict, Rettig P
Blackledge, Michael A
Boedeker, Robert F C
Clark, Bonnie
Coulie, David A
Dexter, George E
Dubois, Jules E
Ernst, Larry
Houck, Michael C
Kemble, C Robert
Kluck, William G
Knowles, D Mike
Kontny, Rodney A
LeClaire, Ross D
Leech, Frank J
Loftis, Donald D
Mattox, Harry W
Messuri, Philip J
Mingo, Louis E
Nye, Francis W
Opuszenski, Joseph M
Plikerd, Quinten T
Renegar, Mary D
Rider, Reg C
Rimson Ira J
Scott, Hanson L
Sheppard, Jack W
Smith, Mark E
Thompson, Olen D
Williams, Charles P
Wood, Chuck E
Wright, Richard A

In Memory of Col Frederic M Brown, USAF (Ret), our Chapter also received an additional $946 for our Charitable Giving Program from the following 15 donors:

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Many thanks for all your contributions!

Please send donations to
Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA
P.O. Box 5071
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5071

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Albuquerque Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America

Eligible for membership: Commissioned or Warrant Officers, or their Surviving Spouses
Army—Marine Corps—Navy—Air Force—Coast Guard—Public Health Service—National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Regular-Reserve-National Guard-Active Duty-Retired-Former Officers
Please Print Clearly

_____Enroll me as a REGULAR MEMBER at $24.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me as an AUXILIARY MEMBER (as the surviving spouse of a deceased officer) at $12.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me as a ASSOCIATE MEMBER (non-military) at $15.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me for FREE Membership for remainder of current year as REGULAR or AUXILIARY applicant who will receive the Newsletter only electronically.

I wish to donate $_____ to the Chapter's Giving Program, and my check includes this amount. I realize that the donation is Federal and State tax-free.

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First Name Middle Initial Last Name Rank Service Spouse's Name

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E-Mail Address: _____ National Membership Number: _____

(___Active Duty, ___Retired, ___Former Officer) (___Regular, ___Reserve, ___National Guard) (___Male, ___Female)

Would you be willing to assist in the operation of the Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA? If so, what would be your main area of interest?
___Legislative Affairs, ___Public Relations, ___Membership, ___Scholarship & Award, ___Personal Affairs, ___Legal Counsel

___Newsletter, ___Chaplain, ___Finance, ___Programs & Activities, ___Data Processing ____ Other _____,
Other_____,

Do you have an interest in any of the following clubs: ___Breakfast Club, ___Ski Club, ___Tours/Events, ___Golf

Please make check payable to: **Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA**

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Applicant's Signature:_____ Date:_____

MOAA Membership Application Form 01-10