Dear Albuquerque MOAA Chapter member:

Welcome to 2020! Here is wishing you, your family, and loved ones a healthy, safe, and prosperous new year!

2019 was an outstanding year for your Chapter. The highlight of the year was our Giving Program. Thanks to your generosity, our Chapter was able to give almost $20,000 in achievement awards, scholarships, and donations to veterans-related charitable organizations. Among those benefiting from your largess were: active duty Air Force personnel, UNM ROTC cadets and midshipmen, a descendant of one of our members, Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico, Adaptive Sports Program of New Mexico, the New Mexico Veterans Integration Centers, Blue Star Mothers of the Rio Grande and Valencia County, and Gold Star Mothers of New Mexico. Thanks to all who so generously contributed to our Chapter’s Giving Program.

Our Chapter needs your help to continue supporting worthy causes this year. I, sincerely, hope you can find it in your heart display the same generosity in 2020 as you did in 2019.

On a different front, your Chapter continues to advocate for an exemption from the New Mexico Personal Income Tax for military retired pay.

We hope that the 2020 session of the New Mexico Legislature will be the session that finally approves this legislation and allows New Mexico to join the vast majority of states in granting some form of tax exemption for military retired

Lastly, please continue to monitor your email for important messages regarding our Chapter!

Sincerely,

Michael Cochrane
Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired)
President, Albuquerque Chapter MOAA
In 2012, our 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 military personnel, veterans and dependents. The endowment was initiated in late January of 2012 and has grown as a result of contributions and the growth in the investments. The Board has adopted a policy of using the annual Endowment distribution to increase our giving 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.
The Albuquerque Chapter is an approved IRS 501(c)(3) public charity. Our Chapter’s “Charitable Giving” 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 Charitable Giving program, or they may specify their donation to one of the causes listed below:

- Blue Star Mothers (Rio Grande & Valencia Chapters)
- Gold Star Mothers, Albuquerque Chapter
- Honor Flight of Northern NM
- KAFB Quarterly Awards
- ROTC/JROTC Awards
- Veterans Integration Center (VIC)

Since the last edition, the “Charitable Giving” Program received another $126 in donations in conjunction with their 2020 dues payments from the following members:

Kenneth M Nicholson
Mary D Renegar

Many THANKS for all your generous contributions!

Please send any donations to:

Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA
PO Box 5071
Albuquerque, 87185-5071

The Chapter is sponsoring a “Name the ALBUMOAA Newsletter” contest!

Our newsletter has never had a name, and it is time to give it the recognition it deserves!

Email your entry to president@albumoaa.org not later than 06 February 2020 to enter. The Albuquerque MOAA Board of Directors will select the winning entry at the 07 February Board meeting.

The winner will receive a $25 gift card! One entry per person, only, please. The winning entry will be announced in the March – April 2020 newsletter.

Here are a few helpful suggestions for selecting a name:

- The name should be relatively short – two to three words. It needs to fit on the masthead of the current newsletter.
- It should express a relationship to our mission.
- It should be unique. We want our newsletter to have a title that is easily identifiable with our Chapter.
- If you have a design in mind for the name (e.g., a certain font), submit that as well, but it is not required.
- Be creative! A creative submission will be favored over another that may hit all these points but is not as unique.
We now have group seats available for *Escape to Margaritaville* & hope to receive group seats for *Come From Away*, June 9 or 11, 2020.

- **March 15, 2020** (Sunday): 6:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – *Escape to Margaritaville*: “Welcome to Margaritaville, where people come to get away from it all—and stay to find something they never expected.... So don’t let the party start without you.” Group cost for 2nd PRICE seats is $64/person (middle Orchestra seats in rows O-P); PREMIUM seats cost $80/person (middle Orchestra, rows D-E) – non-members please add $2/person guest fee, unless family or house-guest. **Payment is due ASAP or NLT February 1.** Limited seats available! Contact Karen at kmbrown8@comcast.net, 856-1927.

- Mail above payment (made out to ABQ MOAA Tours) to Karen Brown at 962 Antelope NE, 87122.

**MOAA MEMBERS CAN ALSO BUY THEIR OWN MOAA GROUP-PRICED POPEJOY TICKETS ONLINE FOR CERTAIN PERFORMANCES & DATES (Broadway & Ovation Series):** Here is the group link for our Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA, that you can click on to order your own seats for these specified Broadway performances or other Ovations performances at the group price. Click on [https://unmtickets.com/MOAA](https://unmtickets.com/MOAA). You can then pay for your tickets by credit card & they will be mailed to you.

**MOAA 2020-21 TRIP PLANNED BY SUN TOURS FOR MOAA:**

All payments go to SUN TOURS, 1700 Louisiana Blvd, Suite 100, Albuquerque, NM 87110. For reservations and information, call 889-8888. **Cancellation insurance recommended.**

- **August 14-28, 2020** (15 days): **SCOTTISH HIGHLAND & ISLANDS** by Globus – Cost is $6075/person (double occupancy). Deposit of $250/person needed - refundable through April 8, 2020, when final payment is due. Here is a link to the itinerary of this adventure: [Scotland, The Grand Tour Itinerary](https://unmtickets.com/MOAA). To date, we have 20 participants, & there are no more spaces available.

If interested, be sure to get on the waiting list – contact Sun Tours at 889-8888. We will possibly be joining other Globus English-speaking participants. Questions: Contact Karen at 505-856-1927, kmbrown8@comcast.net.

**Upcoming 2021 MOAA Tours** *(Details TBD):*

1. **Globus South American Getaway** (14 days), starting in Manaus, Brazil for an Amazon jungle cruise. The tour will continue to Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, and finally Buenos Aires. All of those transfers are by air. The likely dates would be March 19 to April 1, 2021.

2. **Great Lakes Cruise** (11 days) between Chicago and (probably) Toronto for September 2021.
Albuquerque MOAA Participation in Wreaths Across America Dedication at the New Mexico Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery—reported by Michael Houck, LTC USA (Ret), 2d VP – Programs.

The Albuquerque MOAA Chapter was represented and participated in the decoration of grave stones and markers, and remembering veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice and those who have passed-on and are interred at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery.

On Saturday, December 14, 2019 service veterans were honored all across America by Wreaths Across America in simultaneous ceremonies at veterans and designated public cemeteries. Deceased veterans in New Mexico were honored at four cemetery locations. The honoring ceremony in Santa Fe was followed by the placement of seasonal fir wreaths and boughs at 2,200 headstones and markers from the over 62,000 grave sites within the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery. This year there were over 2,700 donations made to support the individual wreaths honoring veterans at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery.

If you were a Wreaths Across America donor to the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery or other U.S. Veterans National Cemetery this year, thank you. If you were not a donor this year, please consider honoring and remembering a deceased veteran at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery or at any other Veterans National Cemetery next year. In doing so, you may well recognize and honor a former member of the Albuquerque MOAA Chapter.
The Breakfast Club has a full schedule of speakers for 2020, and you won't want to miss any of them. We meet 0700-0900 at Weck’s Restaurant on Louisiana, just south of Montgomery Blvd. Individual checks are issued, and you pay for your own meal, plus the tip. There is a 10% discount for seniors. Spouses are invited. We meet the last Tuesday of the month through October, and do not meet in November or December.

Please note that ONLY for this January, we are meeting on the SECOND TUESDAY. All other dates remain the last Tuesday of the month. You do not have to RSVP. However, we are taking reservations for the February meeting.

14 JANUARY:
Marvin Schott, our chapter Legislative Liaison, will update us on proposed military legislation, in preparation for contacting your rep & state senator for the 30-day session that opens this month. Come early. If we run out of room, you may have to eat in the main dining room. NOTE THE DATE CHANGE ONLY FOR JANUARY.

25 FEBRUARY:
Dr. Barry Ramo, Clinical Professor at the UNM School of Medicine and Duke University. He is also KOAT-TV’s medical consultant. February is National Heart Month, and he will be talking about heart health.

Because we expect a large turnout (max capacity is 25) for Dr. Ramo, you will need to email your RSVP between Feb 19-22 to Marsha (marshaaauthor@yahoo.com), with your name and your guest’s name (maximum of two).

Preference goes to the regular Breakfast Club attendees. If you have not arrived by 0710, I will give your seat away.

31 MARCH:
Jacqueline Murray Loring, Author of "VIETNAM VETERANS UNBROKEN--Conversations on Trauma & Resiliency." She also writes stage plays, screenplays, and poetry; and has received development grants from the state of Massachusetts, the Arts foundation of Cape Code, artist residencies in Forest Lake, L, and County Mayo, Ireland.

The upcoming schedule will be in the next newsletter.
MOAA SKI CLUB

PRESIDENT: Reg Rider, 828-3010, regrider49@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT: Ron Salley, 798-9904, jrsalley@me.com
TREASURER: Bill Dettmer, 294-0564, billdettmer@comcast.net
MEMBERSHIP: Karl Ricker, 241-9702, ksricke@centurylink.net

Our Purgatory trip still has a few spaces open. Contact Ron Salley if you are interested. Telluride, Breckenridge & Crested Butte trips have filled, but contact the trip chairs for availability as things change. Detailed flyers and updated information can be found online at https://albumoaa.org/ski-club/.

NOTE: Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and shopping are available at most locations. We welcome new skiers & non-skiers – singles, couples and families!

2020 MOAA Ski Club Schedule:

**PURGATORY** – January 10-12, 2020 (Friday PM – Sunday PM)
Coach transportation, lodging at the Best Western Rio Grande, Durango, CO
Trip Chair: Ron Salley, 798-9904; jrsalley@me.com

**TELLURIDE** – January 25-29, 2020 (Saturday AM – Wednesday PM)
Coach transportation, lodging at Victorian Inn, Telluride, CO
Trip Chair: Jack Menako, 797-1935; jamenako@centurylink.net

**BRECKENRIDGE/KEYSTONE** – February 9-13, 2020 (Sunday AM – Thursday AM)
Coach transportation, lodging at The DoubleTree by Hilton, Breckenridge, CO
Trip Chair: Karen Brown, 856-1927; kmbrown8@comcast.net

**CRESTED BUTTE** – February 23-27, 2020 (Sunday AM – Thursday AM)
Coach transportation, lodging at Old Town Inn, Crested Butte, CO
Trip Chair: Reg Rider, 944-5514; regrider49@gmail.com
Our Purgatory ski trip still has a few spaces available. Telluride, Breckenridge & Crested Butte trips are full, but need waiting lists, as cancellations often happen. Links to trip flyers are below. Note: Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and shopping are available at most locations. We welcome new skiers & non-skiers—singles, couples and families!

**PURGATORYCO:** January 10-12, 2020 (2 nights' lodging in Durango, CO, 2 days skiing) Chair: Ron Salley, 798-9904, jrsalley@me.com

Detailed flyer: Purgatory 2020 Flyer

**TELLURIDE, CO:** January 25-29, 2020 (4 nights' lodging at Victorian Inn, Telluride, CO, 3 days skiing) Chair: Jack Menako, 797-1935, jamenako@centurylink.net Co-Chair: Jim Eddings, 822-0714, jeddings@ara.com

Detailed flyer: Telluride 2020 Flyer

**BRECKENRIDGE/KEYSTONE, CO:** February 9-13, 2020 (4 nights' lodging at Doubletree by Hilton, Breckenridge, 3 days skiing) Chair: Karen Brown, 856-1927, kmbrown8@comcast.net Co-Chair: Julianne Levings, 286-6303, gjlevings@centurylink.net

Detailed flyer: Breckenridge 2020 Flyer

**CRESTED BUTTE, CO:** February 23-27, 2020 (4 nights' lodging at Old Town Inn, 3 days skiing) Chair: Reg Rider, 944-5514, rgrider49@gmail.com Co-Chair: Jim Eddings, 822-0714, jeddings@ara.com

Detailed flyer: Crested Butte Flier 2020
In November, the Interim Military & Veterans’ Affairs Committee unanimously endorsed a bill proposed by Senator Burt (District 33) which provides an exemption to New Mexico personal income tax to uniformed services retiree income.

- The bill proposes a graduated deduction from net income in three increments:
  - Beginning with tax year 2021, a deduction of 33% not to exceed $16,333 will be allowed.
  - Beginning with tax year 2022, a deduction of 66% not to exceed $33,666 will be allowed.
  - Beginning with tax year 2023 and thereafter, a deduction of 100% not to exceed $50,000 will be allowed.
- The exemption applies to retirees and the retiree’s surviving spouse.

- Uniformed services include all military services, National Guard, US Coast Guard, US Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- The Military Veterans Legislative Council (MVLC) is developing talking points for Senator Burt which supports the PIT exemption.
  - Talking points will be emailed to members.
- Information on the MVLC is available in our November—December ALBUMOAA newsletter.

The MVLC has also engaged with the New Mexico Senate and House of Representatives to improve the Expedited Licensing Program for military members, spouses and dependents moving to New Mexico.

- Rep Alcon has pre-filed HB 30 that modifies the expedited licensing process.
  - Visit the New Mexico Legislature website at [https://nmlegis.gov](https://nmlegis.gov) to review Rep Alcon’s proposed bill.

I am presenting an update to the upcoming legislature session at the **Breakfast Club on January 14, 2020 at 0700**. Please refer to the Breakfast Club section of this newsletter for more information.

Topics will include:

- Describe the formation of the Military Veterans Legislative Council
- Update the proposed PIT exemption for military retirees
- What to expect during the 2020 Legislative Session
- How to obtain information on Committee Hearings in both the Senate and the House of Representatives
- Questions and Answers

Now is the time to engage with your State Senator and State Representative on issues affecting military members and retirees.

- Proposed legislation was pre-filed beginning December 17, 2019
- Pre-filed legislation can be accessed on the legislature website: [https://nmlegis.gov](https://nmlegis.gov)

Anyone interested in actively supporting military and retiree issues, please contact me at maschott@comcast.net.
Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families of those who have passed to their eternal rest. May all those who grieve be comforted.

Lt Col Byfield D Gordon, USAF (Ret) – November 8, 2019 (husband of Dorothy Gordon)

Lt Col Richard J Keppler, USAF (Ret) – December 18, 2019 (husband of Judith A Keppler)

Letty Plikerd – November 28, 2019 (wife of deceased Maj Quinten Plikerd, USAF (Ret)
Membership Stats (as of December 15, 2019)

Regular – 231
Surviving Spouses - 45
Associate - 58
Total – 334

A warm welcome to the following new member and spouse:

Regular

Lt Col Jess Capel, USA (Ret) (Hyejin)

A big THANK YOU to all those who have already paid your 2020 Chapter dues at the October Membership Meeting or otherwise! If you have not already done so, please send your 2020 dues soon. Use the application on the last page of this newsletter. We can also take dues payments on PayPal, so if you wish to do that, please click the Renew Membership link on top of our MOAA website www.albumoaa.org. However, you will need to log in first. Username is usually first initial last name and Password is patr10t. Be sure to let Karen know if you have any problems logging in – kmbrown8@comcast.net.

We hope you have checked out our website www.albumoaa.org. You do not have to log in to see Chapter Information (Event Calendar, Officers, Photo Gallery, Newsletters, Clubs, etc.). Click on Clubs for Ski Club, Tours/Events & Breakfast Club information. Log in is only necessary to access the online Member Directory (under Members Only).

Reported by Capt. Dave Coulie, USAF (Ret)

Every Tuesday evening for the past few years K Kob Radio in Albuquerque, New Mexico has presented a show after the 6PM news to honor local veterans. When it started it was called "Honor A Veteran" and later changed to "Stars & Stripes Salute". It is a great way to recognize those who have served and are serving in military service.

It is easy to submit a nominee for the show. Go to the following web site and complete the nomination form. It does not require anything elaborate, just a few paragraphs about the nominees military service and how he/she continues to serve their community and organizations.

http://www.newsradiokkob.com/2016/03/18/salute/

Since the show started I have personally nominated 19 veterans and every one of them were selected. There is an in station, on air, interview with the show host, Brandon Vogt, A spouse of friend is welcome to accompany the selectee. It also provides an opportunity to publicize an organization, or organizations,

In my years as an ABQMOAA Chapter member I have met many outstanding veterans who completed distinguished military careers and continued to serve our local community. Take a few minutes and nominate some of these outstanding, dedicated folks.

See the following show summary: As noted the weekly honoree gets a prize package valued at approximately $500 to include a $250 VISA gift card.

For the past three years, News Radio KKOB has been privileged to honor over 120 military veterans by having them share their stories with you, our listeners, every Tuesday at 6pm. Together with our sponsors, we want to expand the stories that are shared on Tuesday evenings by also honoring the service and sacrifice of those New Mexicans that are currently serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and Coast Guard. Our new program is called Stars & Stripes Salute.

How can you help?

Please share a brief description of a New Mexican currently serving in the military or a military veteran that you feel deserves to be saluted. Every Tuesday one deserving man or woman will be saluted and tell their story on Brandon Vogt Tonight and receive a prize package valued at over $500!
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

Please Print Clearly or Apply Online at www.albumoaa.org

_____Enroll me as a REGULAR MEMBER at $24.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me as a SURVIVING SPOUSE MEMBER (as the surviving spouse of a deceased officer) at $12.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me as an ASSOCIATE MEMBER (non-military & enlisted) at $15.00 for one year.
_____Enroll me for NEW Membership as REGULAR or SURVIVING SPOUSE applicant, receiving first 2 calendar years’ membership for cost of one year.

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.

____________________________________________________     _______________     _______________         ________________________
First Name                     Middle Initial                      Last Name
____________________________________________________     ______________________   ______    _________________      ________________________
Street                              Apt                              City                      State        ZIP+4

E-Mail Address: ____________________________________________    National Membership Number: ________________________

_____Active Duty, _____Retired, _____Former Officer, _____Surviving Spouse _____Regular, _____Reserve, _____National Guard

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____________________

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

Mail to: Membership, Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA

Applicant Signature: _______________________________ Date: ____________

MOAA Membership Application Form 1-2017

Visit us on the web at www.albumoaa.org