Albuquerque MOAA Vision:

"Recognized as the leading Military Service Organization in central New Mexico, supporting and giving a voice to military retirees, surviving spouse, and veterans of all services."

Dear Albuquerque MOAA Chapter member:

Above all, I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones healthy!

I recently received exciting news from Jason Peete, the New Mexico MOAA Council of Chapters President.

Albuquerque MOAA has been selected by MOAA National to receive the Colonel Marvin Harris Communications Award for both our website and our newsletter!

The website has been recognized at the 5 Star Level and our newsletter at the 4 Star Level.

Our Chapter was the only chapter in the New Mexico Council of Chapters that receive recognition with these awards!

Well done to Walter Paul and Karen Brown, our webmasters and Nina Dozoretz, our newsletter editor.

Take good care of yourselves, and I look forward to seeing you when the stay at home order expires.

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 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.

Please email suggestions for newsletter format and content to CAPT Nina Dozoretz, USPHS (Ret) at president@alumboaa.org
CHARITABLE GIVING PROGRAM

The Albuquerque Chapter has been approved by the IRS as a 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.

- Charitable Giving (Unspecified)
- Blue Star Mothers (Rio Grande & Valencia Chapters)
- Gold Star Mothers, Albuquerque Chapter
- Albuquerque Fisher House
- KAFB Quarterly Awards
- NM VA Medical Center
- NM Veterans Memorial
- ROTC/JROTC Awards
- Veterans Integration Center (VIC)
- Chapter’s Endowment Fund (ACF) and more

Since the last edition, the “Charitable Giving” Program received another $604 in donations in conjunction with their 2020 dues payments from the following 17 members:

Brooks L Ambos
Larry Blair
Robert B Cates
Teresa Chanatry
James A Eddings
Linda N Eitzen
Ginger L Grossetete
Gwen R Holmes
Julia Huff
Clarice Jenkins
William G Kluck
Worth S (Dee) Lea
Lucille M Miera
Eva J Owens
Mary D Renegar
Regina M Thomas
Marion (Lani) Young

Our Chapter is matching up to $1500 in donations to the Albuquerque Fisher House. To date, the following 14 members have donated a total of $1059.49 more toward this worth-while charity, making a total of $1284.49:

Marilyn Baker-Brown
Dale R Balmer
Michael Blackledge
Edwin Brawley
William M Browning
Charles E Hammitt
Tom Haroz
Anne L Hickman
Michael C Houck
David L Jackson
Daniel R Keays
Frank J Loschke
Phillip E Oppedahl
Pete C Williams

Many THANKS for all your generous contributions!

Please send any donations to the Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA at P.O. Box 5071, Albuquerque, NM 87185-5071
We are optimistically planning the following event and tours, which all depend on whether it is safe for us to participant or travel.

*June 10, 2020 (Wednesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – COME FROM AWAY (Musical): “…the remarkable true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them.” “It takes you to a place you never want to leave!” Group cost for 2nd PRICE seats is $67/person (middle Orchestra seats in Row N); PREMIUM seats cost $84/person (middle Orchestra, rows D, F, G) – non-members please add $2/person guest fee, unless family or house-guest. Payment is due ASAP or NLT May 5. Limited seats available! To date, 12 participants have signed up.

It is possible that this performance will be canceled due to coronavirus – if so, you will be contacted & refunded your money.

* 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 unmtickets.com/MOAA. You can then pay for your tickets by credit card & they will be mailed to you.

MOAA 2021 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.

Note Change: August 2021 (15 days) – SCOTTISH HIGHLAND & ISLANDS by Globus – Cost is now $6615 per person (double occupancy), except for those who signed up this past year. Early Bird price is $500 less (more details to follow). Deposit of $250/person is required - refundable until final payment is due next spring. Here is a link to the 2020 Itinerary of this adventure: Scotland, The Grand Tour Itinerary (similar except for the cost & dates). To date, we have ~20 participants, & there is now space available. If interested, contact Sun Tours at 889-8888. Sun Tours planned this tour for our Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA. We will possibly be joining other English-speaking Globus participants.

Upcoming 2021-2022 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 departure dates would be ~ March 21, 2021.

(2) Great Lakes Cruise (11 days) between Chicago and (probably) Toronto for September 2022.
April 8, 2020

Jason Peete
MAJ USA ACT
New Mexico Council of Chapters (NM00)

Dear Jason,

Congratulations to the New Mexico Council of Chapters and its one chapter for receiving the 2019 Colonel Marvin Harris Communications Awards for one or both print/e-newsletters and websites. You are in an elite group, as just over one-quarter of our affiliates are being recognized with this award this year. As you know, I would normally be presenting the Communications Awards to council and chapter presidents in person at the annual Storming the Hill/Council Presidents' Seminar, but due to the cancellation of this event, we were unable to do so.

However, I wanted to offer my personal congratulations on this great achievement.

Good communication and active member engagement are the hallmarks of an effective council or chapter and your team has created a winning formula. Timely, accurate, and abundant communication is always important, but in these unprecedented times of mass "social distancing," top-notch communication(s), and avoiding "social disconnecting," are more critical than ever.

In closing, please accept my enthusiastic congratulations and a heartfelt "thank you" for all you continue to do to support your national association, council/chapter, and local community.

Most sincerely,

Dana T. Atkins

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editor or Webmaster Name</th>
<th>Submission</th>
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<th>Final Award</th>
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<tr>
<td>Walter Paul</td>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="https://albumoaa.org">https://albumoaa.org</a></td>
<td>5 Star</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nina F Dozoretz</td>
<td>Print/E-Newsletter</td>
<td>ALBUMOAA Newsletter</td>
<td>4 Star</td>
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All Breakfast Club events are cancelled until further notice.

Once the Governor of New Mexico issues a change in non-essential services, group size and social distancing parameters, an email will be sent to all those who are on the Master Chapter email list and a notice will be posted on our website and in our newsletter informing them of our new Breakfast Club schedule.

Until then, please stay healthy and stay safe!

Marsha Thole
PH: (505) 856—2080
(Calls after 10 AM MST, please)

The following is an excerpt from an article published by MOAA on April 14, 2020:

USPHS Ready Reserve Corps Becomes Law With the CARES Act

By: Caitlin Hamon

The CARES Act, which passed into law March 27, includes the U.S. Public Health Service Modernization Act, S. 2629, providing for a ready reserve corps to fill the need for an additional commissioned corps for emergency response missions.

The Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA congratulates the U.S. Public Health Service on this historical event and greatly appreciates their service to our Nation! 

Bravo Zulu!
Ski Club Pictures

Crested Butte Ski Trip
February 23—27, 2020

Bev, Karen and Judy

Jerry’s 80th Birthday Party

Julianne, Bev, Gene, Judy, Helena, Tony and Ron

Bev and Helena

Accordian Player, Suzan & Reinhard
The Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA donated $1000 for the purchase of KN95 and Surgical Masks for U.S. Public Health Service Officers (USPHS) detailed to the Indian Health Service in New Mexico. The masks were presented to USPHS Officers of the Albuquerque Indian Hospital (AIH), the Santa Fe Indian Hospital (SFIH), the Acoma-Canoncito-Laguna (ACL) Indian Hospital, and shipped to USPHS Officers at the Jicarilla and Mescalero Apache Service Units. COVID-19 has significantly affected Native Americans across the country and USPHS Officers often find themselves providing care without proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which include masks. ALBUMOAA is here to support our fellow USPHS officers in their mission to “protect, promote and advance the health and safety of our Nation”. Special thank you to Tracy Sanchez, MBA, PA-C, Acting CEO of the Albuquerque Service Unit, for allowing us access on Sunday, April 19, 2020 to the AIH’s parking lot for distribution of the masks and to CDR Kyle Sheffer PharmD, Secretary of the Rio Grande Chapter-Commissioned Officers Association (RGC-COA), for distributing masks to officers at the SFIH.
March 6, 2020

Some good news for military members and their families is that House Bill 30, Expedited Licensure for Military Families has passed both houses and is awaiting signature by the governor. This bill when enacted will not require any fees when applying for a license in New Mexico. Departments have 60 days to issue a license. This is a change from the original bill. The amendment was made to allow for departments to complete background investigations. In addition, a retiree must be a “recent retiree” defined as having been retired three years or less.

The Personal Income Tax Exemption initiative for retirees and surviving spouses was not as successful. House Bill 249 introduces by Representatives “Rudy” Martinez and Jim Strickler received a favorable hearing by the House Labor, Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee but died in the House Taxation and Revenue Committee. Senate Bill 169 introduced by Senator Bill Burt got no traction. However, the House Minority Leader, Representative Rod Montoya, provided some good advice. In order to improve the chances for passage next year, interim committees that meet between sessions must endorse the bill. In addition to House Labor, Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee, the initiative must be endorsed by the interim Revenue Stabilization & Tax Policy Committee. To that end, it highly encouraged that members begin contacting members on both committees now.

House Bill 192 sought $200,000 appropriation to the Veterans’ Service Department to fund four full-time veteran services officers. The bill died in the House Appropriation and Finance Committee.

House Bill 186 sought approximately $1.9 million to fund transportation for veterans to health care providers. No House committee heard the bill.

Senate Bill 25 sought $300K to provide outreach and services to homeless veterans. The Senate Public Affairs Committee recommended a Do Pass but, the bill died in Senate Finance Committee.

Relief of the double taxation standard for Social Security was summarily dismissed as being too detrimental to the revenue flow to the State of New Mexico.

In light of the largest state budget and lack of support to retirees in general and specifically military retirees, the future does not bode well for military veterans and surviving spouses in New Mexico. New Mexico is becoming increasingly less “retiree friendly.” It is already near the bottom of the best states in which to retire. It is time to bring this fact to the attention of our State Senators and Representatives.

To learn about national MOAA advocacy efforts, go to MOAA Legislative Take Action at: http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/
Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families of those who have passed to their eternal rest. May all those who grieve be comforted.

Col Robert L Rhame, USAF (Ret) – March 24, 2020 (husband of Sonia Rhame)
We regret the MOAA Chapter Annual Memorial Service scheduled to be held May 9, 2020 at the New Mexico Veterans’ Memorial, 1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108 is postponed until further notice due to COVID-19.

Membership Stats (as of April 24, 2020)

Regular – 226
Surviving Spouses - 48
Associate - 58
Total – 332

THANK YOU to all those who have paid your 2020 Chapter dues, along with donations! There are still a few who have still not paid – you will receive an email notification if your dues still need to be paid.

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 also necessary to access the online Member Directory (under Members Only).

Here is a list of those MOAA members/spouses who have passed away this past year (please let us know if there is a deceased member we did not know about):

Lt Col Byfield D Gordon, USAF (Ret) – November 8, 2019 (husband of Dorothy Gordon)
CPT Dave R Holten, USA – September 16, 2019 (husband of Bonnie Holten)
Thomas E Hooker, USA – December 18, 2019
LTC William J Huff, USA (Ret) – July 19, 2019 (husband of Julia Huff)
Lt Col Patricia A Kelly, USAF (Ret) – July 18, 2018
Lt Col Richard J keppler, USAF (Ret) – December 18, 2019 (husband of Judith Keppler)
Claudette M Pehr – December 10, 2019 (wife of Lt Col Frank J Pehr, USAF Ret)
Maj Quin ten (AJ) Plikerd, USAF (Ret) – September 28, 2018 (husband of deceased Letty Plikerd)
Letty Plikerd – November 28, 2019 (wife of deceased Maj Quin ten Plikerd)
Col Robert L Rhame, USAF (Ret) – March 24, 2020 (husband of Sonia Rhame)
Ernest Duke Shearin, USA – December 5, 2019 (son of Toni Shearin)
Marilyn T Toler – April 18, 2019 (wife of deceased James P Toler, III)
Col Wayne P York, USAF (Ret) – May 24, 2019 (husband of Charlene York)
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 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 ___________________________
Rank ___________________________ Service ___________________________ Spouse’s Name ___________________________
Street ___________________________ Apt ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ________ ZIP+4 ________ Telephone Numbers ___________________________
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
P.O. Box 5071
Albuquerque, NM 87185-5071

Applicant Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

MOAA Membership Application Form 1-2017
Visit us on the web at www.albumoaa.org