



# ALBUMOAA'S MAIL CALL

*The Newsletter of The Military Officers Association of America  
Albuquerque, New Mexico Chapter*



January —February 2021, Volume XLI, No. 1

## *President's Message*

### **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:

Greetings!

I hope our New Year finds you, your family, and loved ones healthy, safe, and prosperous!

First, a reminder to renew your membership for 2021 if you have not already done so! While renewing your membership, please do not forget to donate to our giving fund. Your generosity over the years has enabled the Chapter to contribute to the support of many local veterans' related charitable organizations.

Your Chapter continues to seek volunteers to fill positions on our Board of Directors. The Secretary and Membership Recruiting positions are vital to the Chapter's and must be filled as soon as possible.

In addition to those positions, we have other vacancies including, Awards, Personal Affairs, and U.S. Navy Representative.

I urge you to consider volunteering for one of these positions so that our Chapter can remain a viable organization.

If you are interested in volunteering to fill any of these critical positions, please contact me via email at [president@albumoaa.org](mailto:president@albumoaa.org).

As always, please continue to monitor our chapter website and your email for important information from MOAA National, New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services, Kirtland AFB Retiree Activities Office, and our Chapter.

Sincerely,

**Michael Cochrane**

Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired)  
President, Albuquerque Chapter MOAA



## OFFICERS & DIRECTORS



### President

CDR Michael J Cochrane, USN (Ret)  
[president@albumoaa.org](mailto:president@albumoaa.org)

### 1st Vice President

CWO4 James J Levesque, USCG (Ret)  
[1stvice@albumoaa.org](mailto:1stvice@albumoaa.org)

### 2nd VP-Programs

LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret)  
[2ndvice@albumoaa.org](mailto:2ndvice@albumoaa.org)

### Secretary

VACANT

### Treasurer

Lt Col Clint Whisonant, USAF (Ret)  
[treasurer@albumoaa.org](mailto:treasurer@albumoaa.org)

### President Ex-Officio

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)  
[pastpresident@albumoaa.org](mailto:pastpresident@albumoaa.org)

### Navy Rep

LCDR David E Mathis, USN (Ret)

### Marine Corps Rep

Col Charles E Wood, USMCR (Ret)

### Army Rep

LTC Warner W Talso, USA (Ret)

### Air Force Rep

Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)

### US Coast Guard Rep

CWO4 James J Levesque, USCG (Ret)

### US Public Health Service Rep

CAPT Nina F Dozoretz, USPHS (Ret)

### Surviving Spouses Rep & Liaison

Mary Kay Olson

### Ski Club Rep

BrigGen Regner C Rider, USAF (Ret)

### Breakfast Club

Lt Col Marsha L Thole, USAFR (Ret)

### Golf Club Rep

VACANT

### Tours Club Reps

Karen Brown

Judy Keppler

### Chaplain

VACANT

### Historian

VACANT



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.

## Committees

### ROTC/Awards

VACANT

### Finance

Lt Col Clint Whisonant, USAF (Ret)

### Legislative Affairs

Col Marvin Schott, USAF (Ret)

### Membership Directory

Karen Brown

Mary Kay Olson

### Nominating

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### Consumer Advisory Board

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### Veterans' Memorial Rep

Lt Col Clint Whisonant, USAF (Ret)

### Membership Recruitment

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### Personal Affairs

VACANT

### United Veterans Council

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

### Web Site

Karen Brown

### Newsletter, ALBUMOAA

CAPT Nina F Dozoretz, USPHS (Ret)



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@albumoaa.org](mailto:president@albumoaa.org)



**MOAA** MOAA and its affiliated Albuquerque Chapter are independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organizations.



## 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 \$380 in donations in conjunction with their dues payments from the following 8 members:

Noel F Austin  
Teresa Chanatry  
Michael C Houck  
David L Jackson  
James J Levesque  
Mary Kay Olson  
Mary D Renegar  
Robert E Rider

Many THANKS for all your generous contributions!

Please send donations to Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 5071, Albuquerque, 87185-5071.





## MOAA TOURS



We are optimistically planning the following “Come from Away” event and Scotland tour for 2021, which all depend on whether it is **safe** for us to participant or travel.

**\*Changed to July 21, 2021** (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 **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 June 15, 2021.** To date, there are 11 participants. For seat selection, contact Karen at [kmbrown8@comcast.net](mailto:kmbrown8@comcast.net) or 856-1927. Note: if you prefer Friday or Sunday, there are a few seats available on our group link (see below).

**\* 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 <http://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 Jenn Martinez at 889-8888 or email her at [jmartinez@suntoursus.com](mailto:jmartinez@suntoursus.com). *Cancellation insurance recommended.*

**August 18-28, 2021** (11 days) – **Scotland with Military Tattoo by Globus—** Cost is **\$5175/person**



(double occupancy) and **\$5975** (single) with \$350 savings if deposit received by April 16, 2021 (all payments by cash or check). **Deposit of \$250/person is required** - refundable until April 27, 2021. Here is the brochure for this adventure : [Scotland with Tattoo](#) To date, we have ~17 MOAA participants (members/relatives/friends). As this is a shared coach tour with Globus,

space is on an “as available” basis. If interested, contact Jenn Martinez at [jmartinez@suntoursus.com](mailto:jmartinez@suntoursus.com) or (505)582-2355 and she can quickly confirm availability.

### **Upcoming 2022 MOAA Tours**

- (1) **Globus South American Getaway** (11 days), postponed until maybe spring of 2022.
- (2) **Great Lakes Cruise** (11 days) between Chicago and (probably) Toronto for **September 2022.**



## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

### Albuquerque MOAA Participation in Wreaths Across America Honoring Veterans Interred at the New Mexico Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery

*Reported by LTC Michael Houck, USA(Ret), 2d VP – Programs*

The Albuquerque MOAA Chapter was represented and participated in the decoration of gravestones 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. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, veterans all across America were honored by the Wreaths Across America and local sponsors and volunteers at veterans and designated public cemeteries the entire week of December 12 to 19, 2020. On Friday and Saturday, December 18 and 19, 2020, interred services veterans were honored at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery. By placing sponsored seasonal fir wreaths and boughs at headstones and markers, over 2,100 interred veterans were honored from the over 62,000 grave sites withing the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery. I would like to thank the MOAA members, surviving spouses, family members, and specifically the daughters of our member veterans who came out to participate and lay wreaths on a sunny, but chilly and windy day 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. Also, please join us next year in laying wreaths to honor veterans at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery. In doing so, you may well recognize and honor a former member of the Albuquerque MOAA Chapter. Below are photos of our members and family members placing wreaths at gravesites at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery.



Pam at her Father's Gravesite



Anita & Her Sister at Family Gravesites



Mike Placing Wreaths at Gravesites



## Below is an excerpt from the announcement recently distributed regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine Trial Now Offered at the New Mexico Veteran Administration Health Care System



**Seventeen VA medical centers began a clinical trial** for the single-dose investigational COVID-19 vaccine developed by the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson. This is the fourth large-scale COVID-19 vaccine trial in the United States.

### **You can help.**

If you are interested in participating in the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial at the New Mexico Veteran Administration Health Care System, sign up for VA's coronavirus **research volunteer list** at [www.va.gov/coronavirus-research](http://www.va.gov/coronavirus-research). Anyone over the age of 18 can volunteer: **Veterans, friends and family of Veterans, and VA staff.** You may be called if you seem like a good fit for the trial.

### **What it means to volunteer.**

When you join [VA's coronavirus research volunteer list](http://www.va.gov/coronavirus-research), you're **not enrolling** in the clinical trial. You're simply making yourself available to be called if this trial or other COVID-19 research at VA seem like a good fit for you. Once you've had the chance to speak with the study team, and ask all your questions, you can decide whether or not you want to join. We want you to be informed and make the right decision for you.

You **cannot** get COVID-19 from the investigational vaccine or the placebo used as part of the study. The investigational vaccine will not increase your risk of COVID-19.

For more information about the Janssen clinical trials, including the investigational vaccine they're testing, visit [www.ensemblestudy.com](http://www.ensemblestudy.com). To learn more about other VA research efforts on COVID-19, visit <https://www.research.va.gov/covid-19.cfm>.

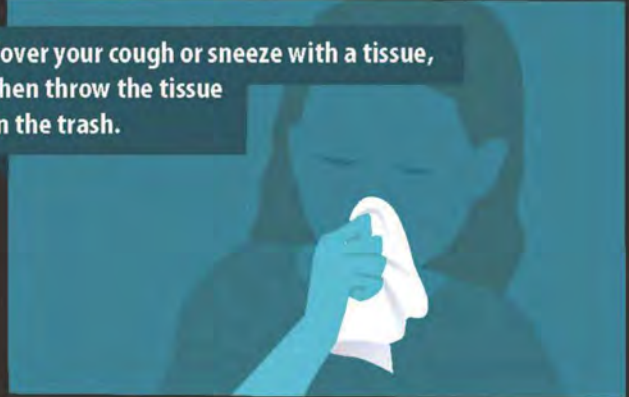
# STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

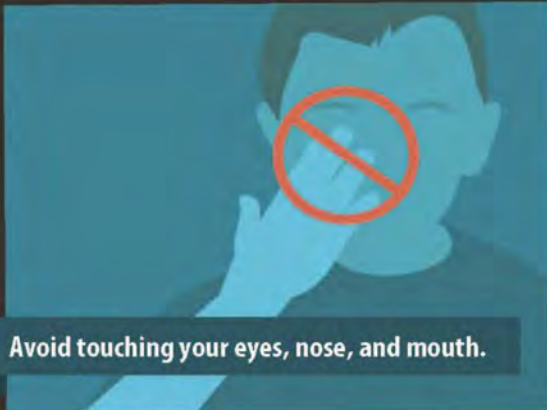
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



NEW MEXICO  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH**

For more information: [cv.nmhealth.org](https://cv.nmhealth.org)

CS314915-A





## *Ski Club Update*

*Reported by Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)*

**PRESIDENT: Reg Rider, [regrider49@gmail.com](mailto:regrider49@gmail.com)**

**VICE-PRESIDENT: Ron Salley, [jrsalley@me.com](mailto:jrsalley@me.com)**

**TREASURER: Bill Dettmer, [billdettmer@comcast.net](mailto:billdettmer@comcast.net)**

**MEMBERSHIP: Karl Ricker, [ksricke@centurylink.net](mailto:ksricke@centurylink.net)**

It will be a strange ski season without going to the slopes with all the MOAAites this year. I know a few of you have made it to Santa Fe over the holidays, the snow there has been good, but they could definitely use a lot more. Purgatory has been another destination for other members.

I sincerely hope that all of you can find some good skiing this winter. Vaccinations at Senior Living facilities started Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, so it should not be too much longer that our group should be receiving them. Hopefully you will be able to get out and enjoy the snow.

It has been a tough year with the loss of so many of our club members. I know that they have been noted under the Taps section of this newsletter but I wish to especially mention Bob Rhame, Celia Richardson, Richard Keppler, Maria Due, Ray Churan and Tonya Bush. They will all be sorely missed at our signup parties and on the trips.

Planning for the 2021-2022 ski season will start in a few months. You should be receiving notice of the trips in June.

Happy New Year to everyone and have fun on the slopes!





*Reported by Col Marvin Schott, USAF (Ret)*

### **New Mexico 2021 Legislative Session**

- ⇒ The 55<sup>th</sup> Legislative session meets from January 19<sup>th</sup> at noon until March 20<sup>th</sup> at noon.
- ⇒ Legislation can be pre-filed from January 4<sup>th</sup> until January 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ⇒ What will the 2021 Session be like?
  - As of this writing, December 24<sup>th</sup>, it is anybody's guess.
  - Discussions are ongoing within the Legislative Council.
  - Thirty-nine Senators and Representative comprise the Legislative Council
  - The last Council meeting was December 14<sup>th</sup>. The agenda consisted of per diem approval for the upcoming session, session committee approval, redistricting working group and 2021. Meeting minutes have not been published.
  - The New Mexico Constitution requires the legislature to hold its session at the seat of the government. To that end, discussions have taken place with respect to a virtual session. In order to comply with social distancing, there is consideration for holding committee meetings in the Santa Fe Convention Center. This would allow the public, in limited numbers, to attend committee meetings.
  - Consideration is being given to limiting the number of bills per member to five.
  - The financial situation for New Mexico is not as bleak as was anticipated during the special session in June 2020. Revenue estimates the state could have from \$6.8 to \$7.6 billion for the upcoming budget year. The current budget is \$7.2 billion.

### **Stay in contact with your legislator before, during and after session**

- ⇒ There are a relatively large number of new legislators for the 2021 session. Ten new representatives and seven new senators amounting to a 25 percent turnover.
- ⇒ The list of legislators has not been published on the legislature website.
- ⇒ Remember there are tutorials on the Legislature Website
  - On the Home page, open Quick Links and click Website Video Tutorials
    - ♦ Videos are available on Finding Legislation and Finding Your Legislators and MyRoundhouse.

**To learn about national MOAA advocacy efforts, go to  
MOAA Legislative Take Action at: <http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/>**

# Taps

PENN. MILITARY COLLEGE

U.S. ARMY BUGLE CALL



Day is done, gone the sun, From the lake, from the hill, from the sky, All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

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



**Maj Tonya Bush, USAF (Ret) - December 13, 2020**

**Elizabeth (Liz) Crain—November 3, 2020**







### **Membership Stats** (as of December 20, 2020)

Regular: 202 (-15)  
Surviving Spouses: 50  
Associate: 47 (-1)  
Total: 299

THANK YOU to all those who have recently paid your 2021 Chapter dues, along with donations! If you have not already done so, please send in your 2021 dues. Please click on and fill out this Renewal Form:

**Albuquerque Chapter Dues Renewal 2021** or use the application form on last page of this newsletter, paying by check.

You can also fill out our online **Renew Membership** form:

<https://albumoaa.org/renew-membership/> and pay by either **check** or **PayPal**. You will need to log in to access this renewal form - your Username is your first initial last name and Password is patr10t. Please let Karen know if you have problems logging in – [kmbrown8@comcast.net](mailto:kmbrown8@comcast.net) or 856-1927.

We hope you have checked out our website [www.albumoaa.org](http://www.albumoaa.org) – see links on top of Home page. You do not have to log in to see **Chapter Information, NM Legislative Info, Photo Gallery, Newsletters, Clubs** (Breakfast, Tours & Ski), etc.

Login is only necessary to access the online **Member Directory** (under **Members Only**) and to **Renew Membership**.

The Albuquerque Chapter  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
P. O. Box 5071  
Albuquerque, NM 87185



## 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](http://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:** \_\_\_\_\_