

# MAIL CALL

ALBUMOAA'S



The Newsletter of The Military Officers Association of America

March — April 2022, Volume XLII, No. 2

## 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 (ALBUMOAA) Chapter member:

It is a real honor and a privilege to serve as your new ALBUMOAA Chapter President. I want to thank LTC Mike Houck and all the Board Members for their support during my transition into the position of President.

I will continue to seek the Board's advice and counsel as we move forward into this new year. COVID-19 will continue to be with us but New Mexico is starting on the road back to normalcy.

That said, as our Chapter begins to move forward we have several exciting events scheduled this year. I look forward to seeing more of our membership attend these events as COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed. Page 9 lists our schedule of events and activities.

I would also like to welcome 1LT Jacklyn Jablonski, USA/NG as a new contributor to Mail Call. See page 7 for an update from the National Guard Association of New Mexico!

We also have several vacancies on the Board and I look forward to members becoming involved on the Board. Please see page 3 for information on available Board and Committee positions.

I would like to express my appreciation for the continued support by our members to our Charitable Giving Program. A big shout out to members who contributed to this recent reporting period can be found on page 7. Also, see page 5 for information on our May 14, 2022 MOAA Memorial Service.

Your continued participation and support of your Chapter and your Board is greatly appreciated and welcomed!

Sincerely,

Capt. Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer, MA, PsyD, USA (Ret) President, ALBUMOAA Chapter





### President

Capt Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer, PsyD., USA (Ret)

president@albumoaa.org

1st VP-Programs

Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)

2nd VP—Programs

LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret) 2ndvice@albumoaa.org

Secretary *VACANT* 

**Treasurer** 

Mark D. Dwyer treasurer@albumoaa.org

**President Ex-Officio** 

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret ) pastpresident@albumoaa.org

Navy Rep VACANT

Marine Corps Rep Col Charles E Wood, USMCR (Ret)

Army Rep

LTC Warner W Talso, USA (Ret)

Air Force Rep VACANT

US Coast Guard Rep CWO3 Edward Williams, USCG (Ret)

National Guard Rep 1LT Jacklyn Jablonski, USA/NG

US Public Health Service Rep CAPT Nina F Dozoretz, USPHS (Ret)

Surviving Spouses Rep & Liaison Katie Fellure



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



### Ski Club Rep

Brig Gen Regner C Rider, USAF (Ret)

**Breakfast Club** 

**VACANT** 

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.



### **ROTC/Awards**

LTC Erik Sevigny, USA (Ret)

### Finance

Lt Col Clint Whisonant, USAF (Ret)

**Legislative Affairs** 

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

(INTERIM)

### Membership Records

Karen Brown

1LT Jacklyn L. Jablonski, USA/NG

### Nominating

**VACANT** 

Consumer Advisory Board

VACANT

Veterans' Memorial Rep VACANT

Membership Recruitment LTC Erik Sevigny, USA (Ret)

Personal Affairs *VACANT* 

**United Veterans Council** *VACANT* 

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 <a href="mailto:president@albumoaa.org">president@albumoaa.org</a>

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



**Albuquerque MOAA Members:** 

Reported by LTC Michael C. Houck, USA (Ret) ALBUMOAA 2nd Vice President

In the January—February, 2022 Mail Call, I asked members to offer your support to our new Chapter President, Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer, and the Board of Directors as we go forward in 2022. Part of that support is considering and stepping forward to become a member participant on the Board of Directors or committee coordinator for a Board activity. We have a wealth of experience, knowledge, social activity interest, and organizational talent within our membership just waiting to be untapped!

Your knowledge and experience can be invaluable to Albuquerque MOAA as we navigate through COVID-19 and its mutations; provide issue advocacy for active duty, national guard, families, veterans, and retirees; and promote and support charitable giving programs to veterans and military families. Your knowledge and organizational leadership and community influence on the playing field, not on the sidelines, can make our chapter more successful.

President Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer has taken on our leadership role in conjunction with running a small business in Central and Northern New Mexico. She has stood up to support our Chapter and taken the lead. I would ask each veteran, retiree, and spouse to consider stepping forward to support the Chapter in filling vacant positions (*highlighted and italicized on page 2*) on the Board of Directors and the following committees:

- ♦ Legislative Affairs Liaison
- Veterans Memorial Rep.
- ♦ Nominating
- ♦ Consumer Advisory Board Rep
- ♦ Personal Affairs
- ♦ United Veterans Council (UVC) Rep

Also need Award Presenters at the spring JROTC Award Ceremonies.

Your presence and assistance will be greatly appreciated. Your knowledge and organizational leadership on the playing field will help to lead our Chapter!





Reported by Karen Brown

April 10, 2022 (Sunday): 1:00 p.m. Matinee, Popejoy Hall – JERSEY BOYS (Broadway Musical).

Tickets are no longer available from MOAA – 11 participants.



May 11, 2022 (Wednesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – COME FROM AWAY (Broadway Musical): "...



the **remarkable true story** of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them." Tickets are no longer available from MOAA—15 participants will receive them in the mail soon. Proof of vaccination is required.

Postponed until May 16, 2023 (Tuesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – HAMILTON (Broadway Musical):



"HAMILTON" is the story of America then, told by America now .... the story of American founding father Alexander HAMILTON and created a revolutionary moment in theatre – a musical that has had a profound impact on culture, politics, and education." Tickets are no longer available from MOAA

- 50 tickets were sold to MOAA members, family & friends. If you received ticket(s) electronically, please save them. If not, electronic ticket(s) will be sent out closer to the performance.

### MOAA 2022 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 Sun Tours at (505) 889-8888. *Cancellation insurance is recommended*.

August 17-28, 2022 (11 days) – Scotland with Military Tattoo by Globus— Early bird cost is \$5125/



person (double occupancy) and \$5925 (single). Deposit of \$250 holds your space, refundable until February 17, 2022. Here is the link to this adventure:

2022 MOAA Scotland with Military Tatoo

To date, we have ~20 MOAA members/relatives/friends. This is a shared coach tour with Globus, space is on an "as available" basis. If interested,

contact Sun Tours at (505) 889-9999 to confirm availability or put you on the waiting list. COVID-19 safe practices will be used. **Globus** now requires vaccinations! Be sure to have both vaccinations a month prior to departure! This trip is quite active!

MOAA Tours/Events Website Link: <a href="https://albumoaa.org/tours-events/">https://albumoaa.org/tours-events/</a>



Reported by LTC Michael C. Houck, USA (Ret) ALBUMOAA 2nd Vice President

### Albuquerque MOAA Members, families and friends:

Albuquerque MOAA Chapter will host its annual Memorial Service on Saturday, May 14, 2022 beginning at 10:00 AM at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park Amphitheater on Louisiana SE in Albuquerque.

We currently have 34 members, surviving spouses, and associate members that will be recognized. I am sure that among this group we are honoring you have a friend, associate, or acquaintance. Please remember the date, the event and the location, and come out and remember and honor a chapter colleague and compatriot.

The Los Lunas High School JROTC Color Guard, Bugles Across America, The Enchanters Chorus, and the NMANG Support Chaplain, MAJ. Thi Truong are our guests for the remembrance ceremony.

The success, enjoyment, and appreciation of the Memorial Service and ceremony honoring our deceased members requires volunteer assistance in order to be successful, enjoyable, and appreciated by our members, families, children, and guests attending the event. Current COVID-19 mask policies do not require, but you can consider optional mask wearing for this outdoor activity.

If you can assist, your help and consideration will be key to achieving a successful, enjoyable, and appreciated service and ceremony. Please let me know if you can assist with the following:

<u>3 members</u> to transport and set up the podium, flag stand bases, tables and chairs from the Visitor Center to the amphitheater semi-circular walkway;

<u>A member</u> host to assist the setup for the honor bell and tolling bell ringer; the buglers; the JROTC Color Guard securing the national colors and NM flag and stands; and the chorus' sound amplifiers;

<u>2 members</u> to welcome members, families, and guests and pass out programs at the entrance to the amphitheater;

<u>3 members</u> to set-up and host the refreshment table for the social get together following the Memorial Service; and

<u>2 or more members</u> to brush/wisk-broom sand off the concrete bench seating in the amphitheater prior to the Memorial Service.

The spring winds coat the benches with dust and sand which then transfer to an individual's clothing while sitting on the concrete bench. The dirt stain on the rear of trousers, pants, or a skirt is noticeable and unattractive. Cleaning the guest seating areas reduces the dry cleaning needed by members and guests resulting from attending our Memorial Service.

If you are interested in helping on the day of the service, please RSVP by email to <a href="mailto:2ndvice@albumoaa.org">2ndvice@albumoaa.org</a> with the subject line 'MOAA 2022 Memorial Service' and indicate how you would like to volunteer. Your time and support will be greatly appreciated.

### From Your The Surviving Spouse Liaison Katie Fellure

Phase Two of the SBP-DIC Offset Phased Elimination began with your SBP annuity payment made on February 1st 2022. In 2022, surviving spouse SBP annuity payments issued by DFAS will be reduced (offset) by no more than one-third of the amount of DIC (issued by the VA). This change in the law does NOT affect your DIC payments. You will continue to receive your normal DIC payments from the VA. A small number of surviving spouses will not see an increase in their SBP payment until 2023 because the Phase Two SBP offset (the amount equal to 1/3 of their DIC payment) is more than their gross SBP amount. The Tax tables for 2022 have also changed so the amount taken out for taxes on SBP will be different than last year.



### TAX SEASON TIPS

### Need your 1099R from DFAS? Here's how to get it!

MyPay - www.mypay.dfas.mil

if the annuitant has a MyPay account, 1099Rs are available now.

Mail - DFAS mails 1099Rs to annuitants no later than 31 Jan 22.

Telephone Self Service - 1099R won't be mailed until after 2/10/2022 to the address on file with DFAS.

Use the following instructions to get your 1099-R through Telephone Self-Service:

Call 800-321-1080.

Select option 1 for Self-Serve.

Select option ""1

Enter your Social Security Number when prompted.

Your 1099R should be in the mail within 7-10 business days to the address DFAS has on record.

Request Reissue of 1099R via askDFAS at <u>Defense Finance and Accounting Service > AskDFAS</u>

### UNDERSTANDING ENTITLEMENTS

### **Dependent Indemnity Compensation (DIC)**

DIC is paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). In order to qualify for DIC, the death must be service-connected (either while on active duty, or from a service-related injury). DIC, unlike SBP is a standard amount (not based on grade or years), with standard rates for each child under the age of 18, over the age of 18, etc. Additionally, spouses, children and parents could possibly be eligible for DIC. DIC is tax-free. Until the new phase out begins, SBP is currently off-set by DIC dollar for dollar.

### **Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)**

SBP is paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). It's a retirement annuity that your spouse can elect to pay into upon retirement, or you may receive it automatically if your spouse was on active duty at the time of death. Retiree's can elect the amount of coverage up to 55% of their base pay. The premiums (or the amount paid into SBP each month) are based on the amount of coverage.

For active duty deaths, SBP is 55 percent of what the Soldier's retired pay would have been if they had retired on that date with a 100 percent disability.

Retiree's can elect spouse only, child only or spouse and child coverage. For active duty deaths, the surviving spouse makes the election.

### **Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA)**

SSIA was enacted to partially compensate for the loss of SBP due to the Offset. SSIA will stop in February 2023 when full SBP is paid.

Have any other questions about Surviving Spouse issues? Email me! miltarywidowAN@gmail.com

# CHARITABLE GIVING

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 \$833.00 in donations in conjunction with their dues payments from the following 13 members:

Brooks L Ambos Dale R Balmer Rita Cantergiani Claire L Davis Julia Huff Clarice Jenkins Oliver W Larson Donald D Loftis Eva J Owen Allen D Tate Claude Valles Charles P Williams

A big **THANK YOU** for all your generous contributions!

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



### UPDATES FROM OUR NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF NEW MEXICO

Reported by 1LT Jacklyn Jablonski, USA/NG

Here at National Guard Association of New Mexico, we're committed to investing our expertise and resources in order to further achieve our cause. Since 2000, we've been supporting our community members in a variety of ways and measuring our success not by monetary size, but by more qualitative measurements such as the scale and effectiveness of our efforts. Just imagine what we can achieve together!



# Ski Club Update

PRESIDENT: Reg Rider, regrider49@gmail.com

Reported by Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF

VICE-PRESIDENT: Ron Salley, jrsalley@me.com

**TREASURER: Vacant** 

MEMBERSHIP: Karl Ricker, ksricke@centurylink.net

It is great to be back on the slopes! After a small showing for Purgatory we have had two "normal" trips via bus to Telluride and Breckenridge. Crested Butte is going on as I write this and it promises to be a great trip as well!

We were sad Bill Dettmer, long time ski club member and treasurer, passed away this month from injuries suffered in a car accident. Bill will be sorely missed for his wit and significant support to the club. Rest in peace, Bill, you will be missed but not forgotten!

Thanks to all the volunteers who make this club work and a continued success!

Below are photos from our ski trips. Enjoy!



Claire, Ellen & Julianne at Breckenridge



Purgatory lunch—Laura, Gene & Michele



Purgatory Skiers– Bo, Michele, Karen, Sally, Alona & Helen



Telluride Skiers—Ron & Michele



Telluride Skiers-Beth, Sherri, Karl, Bob, & Conni



**Beautiful Purgatory Ski Area** 

# Meetings & Events

### 2022 BOARD AND SPECIAL MEETINGS CALENDAR\*

March 3	August 4	
April 6	September 1	
May 5	October 6	
June 2	November 3	
July 7	December 1	

May 14, 2022—Annual Memorial Service. See page 5 for more information.

\*All meetings will start at 11:30 AM MST, unless otherwise noted. Changes to the above meeting dates and times will be announced in the newsletter and mass email distributions to the membership.

The Annual Meeting will be held October 16, 2022 at 3:30 PM. This information will also be sent via an email blast to all members.

The Vets Memorial Park Visitor Center Conference Room is reserved **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM for the MOAA Annual Meeting**. Members will sign-in, dues will be collected, and the social is 12:00 PM-1:00 PM. Lunch will be held from 1:00PM to 3:30 PM.

The **MOAA Ski Club** will also be holding their members meeting following the conclusion of the Annual Meeting from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM.



### Reported by LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

Members of NM MOAA in conjunction with the Legislative Team of the Military/Veterans Leadership Council (MVLC) – led by MSG Martin Gallegos (NMARNG Ret) achieved a major success this session. At the last minute HB 163 – Tax Changes – was amended to include a graduated Military Retiree Pay Tax

Exemption: \$10K Tax Year 2022, \$20K Tax Year 2023, \$30K Tax Year 2024 -2026.

This bill also eliminates Income Tax on Social Security for tax payers with adjusted gross income of: married filing single up to \$75K, joint up to \$150K, single up to \$100K.

HB 163 Tax Changes (included Tax Exemption for Military Retirement \$30K) (Final Vote: Senate 39-0 House 59-9)

MOAA & MVLC will immediately work on correcting some omissions in HB 163.

- 1. Surviving Spouses are not included
- 2. The bill uses the following language: "armed forces retiree" means a former member of the armed forces of the United States. We have to clarify if this definition includes Coast Guard, USPHS & NOAA who are also considered part of the military.

Senate Memorial SM 7 Military Spouse License Reciprocity (Passed by Senate)

The remainder of our legislative agenda did not farewell:

HB 168 Disabled Veterans Transportation (died in committee)

HJR 6 Change to Veterans Property Tax (died in committee). HJR 7 Change to Veterans Property Tax (died in committee).

The following bills related to Military Retiree Tax Exemption were tabled in the respective Finance Committee:

HB 76 Military Retirement Income Tax Exemption SB 85 Tax Exemption Military Retirement Pay

SB 128 Uniformed Services Retiree Income Tax Deduction

Thanks to all of you who emailed, called and testified on these bills.



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 J William Dettmer, USAF (Ret) - February 22, 2022 (spouse of Erin Lee "Kip" Dettmer

**Lt Col William H Drumm, USAF (Ret) -** January 31, 2022 (spouse of deceased Mary Lou Drumm)

Muriel R "Toni" Shearin - January 17, 2022 (spouse of deceased Lt Col Cornelius "Duke" Shearin, USAF (Ret))



Reported by Karen Brown

Membership Stats (as of February 16, 2022)

Regular: 186

Surviving Spouse: 53 Associate: 45 Total: 284 (+3)

A warm welcome to the following new members and spouses:

### Regular

Col John Coddou, USMC Ret (Melinda)

### **Surviving Spouse**

Erin Lee "Kip" Dettmer

We have already began collecting Chapter dues for 2022. If you wish to pay by check, please use the application on the last page of this newsletter to send in your dues. Or you may also use the online **Renew Membership** application <a href="https://albumoaa.org/renew-membership/">https://albumoaa.org/renew-membership/</a> and pay by PayPal or check - you must log in to do this. THANK YOU to all those who have already paid dues, along with donations!

We hope you have checked out our website <a href="www.albumoaa.org">www.albumoaa.org</a> – see links on top of Home page. You do not have to log in to see <a href="Chapter Information">Chapter Information</a>, <a href="NM Legislative Info">NM Legislative Info</a>, <a href="Photo Gallery">Photo Gallery</a>, <a href="Newsletters">Newsletters</a>, <a href="Clubs">Clubs</a> (Breakfast, Tours & Ski)</a>, etc. Log in is only necessary to access the online <a href="Member Directory">Member Directory</a> (under <a href="Members Only">Members Only</a>) and to <a href="Renew Member-ship">Renew Membersonly</a> ship. Please let <a href="Karen know">Karen know</a> if you have problems logging in <a href="https://www.albumoaa.org">kmbrown8@comcast.net</a> or 505-856-1927.





Homes for Heroes® is dedicated to serving and giving back to military (active, reserves and veterans) when they buy, sell or refinance a home.

> It's our way to say Thank You.





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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



### **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 <a href="www.albumoaa.org">www.albumoaa.org</a>



Enroll me as a REGULAR Enroll me as a SURVIVING Enroll me as an ASSOCIA Enroll me for NEW Membe	S SPOUSE MEMBER (as ΓΕ MEMBER (non-military	the surviving spouse o & enlisted) at \$15.00	for one year.	, .	,	or cost of one year.
I wish to donate \$ to the C	Chapter's Giving Program,	, and my check include	s this amount.	I realize that the d	onation is Federal an	d State tax-free.
First Name Middle Initial	Last Name	lame Rank		Service	Spouse's Name	
Street	Apt C	ity	State	ZIP+4	Telephone N	umbers
E-Mail Address:			National Men	nbership Number:		
(Active Duty,Retired, _	Former Officer,	Surviving Spouse) (	Regular, _	Reserve,	National Guard (_	MaleFemale)
Would you be willing to assist	in the operation of the	Albuquerque Chapt	er of MOAA?	lf so, what would	d be your main are	a of interest?
Legislative Affairs,F	Public Relations,Me	embership,Scho	larship & Awa	rd,Personal	Affairs,Legal	Counsel
Newsletter,Chaplair	n,Finance,Pro	grams & Activities, _	Data Proce	ssing Other		
Do you have an interest in an	y of the following clubs	:Breakfast Clu	ıb,Ski Cl	ub,Tours/l	Events,Golf	
Please make check payable to	: Albuquerque Cha	apter, MOAA	Mail	to: Members P.O. Box	hip, Albuquerque	Chapter, MOAA
Applicant's Signature:		Date:			que, NM 87185-50	)71
		MOAA Membership App	lication Form 1-2017	Visit us on	the web at www.al	lbumoaa.org