

Event Planning:

Annual Meeting of Members in person Sunday, October 16, 2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the NM Veterans Memorial Park Visitor Center. Update was sent to Board members September 19, 2022.

Scope and conduct of **Annual Members Meeting and Elections 2022**

In-Person Annual Meeting and Elections was adopted at the **BOD Meeting March. 3, 2022** board meeting.

Social Distancing for Indoor dining – is indeterminate / NMDOH Health Directive – City of ABQ Parks and Recreation governs use of Vets Memorial Park Indoor Conference Room Use. Currently no required dining restrictions from NMDOH or CABQ.

Currently, our planning is to accommodate 75 members and guests in attendance. We will set up 12 circular dining tables with six (6) members and guests at each table. This seats 72 people. Separate long rectangular serving tables will be set up for the catered lunch and dessert (2-3), and beverages (1).

An update for the Annual Meeting and Catering Take-Out meal for members.

Room set up begins 11:00 and social hour and member sign-in begins 12:00. Members will be able to pay membership dues at registration. Fran Spallina and her daughter will fill-in for Karen Brown at the entry portal.

Red Rock Deli and Café (Polish-Ukrainian owners) is preparing the meals for us.

Meal cost estimate will begin at \$900 for carry out. Price is subject to increase in cost of the Polish Sausages (order by the pound) which will come from out of state; NM Tax will be \$71.00; gratuity \$180

Planned 2022 meal portions are: 1 Pierogi / 1 Meat / 1 Side stew / per person

#1) Individual Serving: 1) Pierogi, 1) Stuffed Cabbage Roll, a Serving Sauerkraut Stew

#2) Individual Serving: 1) Pierogi, 1) Polish Sausage, a Serving Sauerkraut Stew

#3 Ukrainian Honey Cake *ala mode* for dessert

Chapter costs for 2021 catered food service was \$1425.

Additional 2021 costs for desserts, beverages, wine, and sundry food service items was \$510; the largest expense in the sundry items is the rental of the chaffing dishes (3x) to keep the food warm.

Ed Williams (USCG Rep) will coordinate the event room set up Sunday morning beginning at 10:30 AM.

VETERANS DAY, Friday, November 11, 2022

Here is your notice for the Veterans Day Parade and Events at the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial Park Amphitheater, Friday, Nov 11, 2022

Join us at the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial as we honor all who made the sacrifice and served, as well as their families, forever.

0900 - 1000 Veterans Day Parade (usually from Bullhead Park, along Gibson SE to Louisiana, and to the Veterans' Memorial Park) Subject to Parade Permit issue by the City of Albuquerque.

1000 - 1100 Musical Prelude

1100 - 1200 Veterans' Day Ceremony

Albuquerque Chapter MOAA will have a membership recruiting table adjacent to the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial Park Amphitheater to meet and greet veterans, families, students, and citizens attending the Veterans' Memorial to honor all who served and those who made the sacrifice. Please contact Eric Sevigny to assist at the booth and reach out to NM National Guard officers, veteran officers who are not members or MOAA, or are MOAA National Members, but not local chapter members.

Follow-up to Newsletter input:

ATOMIC VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE MEDAL

The Defense Department has announced the establishment of the Atomic Veterans Commemorative Service Medal to commemorate the service and sacrifice of veterans who were instrumental in the development of our Nation's atomic and nuclear weapons programs.

The Atomic Veterans Commemorative Service Medal will recognize those Atomic Veterans who directly contributed during the period following World War II, and to our Nation's defense during the Cold War era. Veterans eligible for the medal are those who, while performing official military duties during the period July 1, 1945 to October 1, 1992:

- 1) directly participated in the detonation of an atomic weapon or device;
- 2) directly participated in the cleanup of radioactive material resulting from any such atmospheric detonation;
- 3) directly participated in the cleanup of radioactive material resulting from an accident associated with an atomic weapon; or

4) were exposed to ionizing radiation resulting from the operational use of atomic weapons during World War II.

The Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) will manage the Atomic Veterans Commemorative Service Medal program. DTRA anticipates it will have service medals on-hand to award to eligible individuals by the end of the year.

If a **member is an eligible Atomic Veteran** who served and performed official military duties that are applicable to the criteria outlined in the four incidences above during the **period July 1, 1945 to October 1, 1992**, we request you notify a member of the Board of Directors of your eligibility. We will be more than happy to assist you in completing the application for award of this service medal. If you are a surviving spouse of an Atomic Veteran, please share with us a history or your spouses' service and the official military duties you believed he/she performed that are applicable to the criteria outlined in the four incidences above during the period July 1, 1945 to October 1, 1992. We, certainly, will assist you in processing, completing and submitting the Service Medal award application.

Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico

Next Honor Flight trip is scheduled for June of 2023. Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico is a 501c-3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing Veterans with honor and closure by taking them free of charge to reflect up on their memorials in Washington, D.C. Priority is currently being given to World War II and Korean War Veterans as well as terminally ill veterans from other conflicts.

The Albuquerque Chapter MOAA is aware of our four WWII veterans, two of whom were able to travel and have traveled to Washington D.C. on an Honor Flight trip to the Veteran Memorials. One of our member-veterans on the WWII trip also is a Korean War veteran. The Board of Directors would like to know of any other Korean War member veterans so that we can discuss your desire and ability to travel on an Honor Flight and being in Washington D.C. to visit the Memorials, museums, and Arlington Cemetery. For those member-veterans desiring to participate, the Board of Directors will complete the application and resume for submission to the Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico for consideration, scheduling, and travel planning. Please let the Chapter Board of Directors if you are a Korean War veteran. Also let us know if you have a desire to participate, and possibly wait in-line for a number of months as eligible veterans are cued on their Honor Flight manifests and Southwest airline designated group flights. There are generally 20-25 NM veterans, their trip guardians, and Honor Flight trip organizers for each Flight.

Albuquerque Chapter MOAA Memorial Service 2023 honoring our deceased members for 2022 will be on **Saturday, May 13, 2023** at the NM Veterans Memorial Park Amphitheater from 1000 to 1200 hours.

Meal Train at the Fisher House

Awaiting return of the Program Manager from vacation in order to determine if the VA has cleared access to the Fisher House for other than temporary residents and available dates for a volunteer group to prepare lunch-dinner for family members staying at the Fisher House while a veteran spouse, father, grandfather, grandmother, son, or daughter is an inpatient being treated at the VA Hospital or is an active-duty service member receiving inpatient care through the 377th Medical Group.

Charitable Awards and Organizations Invited to Annual Members Meeting

VIC; Blue Star Mothers Rio Grande; **Blue Star Mothers** Valencia County; **Fisher House**; need a determination regarding donation to Paws and Stripes before sending an invitation to attend.

Please consider Wreaths Across America – Santa Fe.

Please consider joining and volunteering with other military veteran organizations and thousands of volunteers who will recognize, honor, and remember our deceased brothers-in-arms on Saturday, **December 17, 2022**.

The **Santa Fe National Cemetery (NMSFNC)** will be a host location in New Mexico for the annual laying of wreaths that is part of the national Wreaths Across America ceremonies honoring and remembering interred military veterans.

The NMSFNC ceremony and activities will begin at **1000 hours on Saturday, December 17, 2022** with speakers and ceremony. **NMSFNC's** event will coincide and simultaneously begin at the time of the national honoring ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and like ceremonies beginning and being conducted at sites all across our nation. Following the NMSFNC ceremony, wreaths will be laid out for volunteer pick-up and placing on some 2,000 of the over 67,000 grave markers within the NMSFNC.

Mailchimp blast will be sent 28 / 29 October when Karen returns from SW Asia.

No instructions to date on **1st Qtr 2023 Chapter social** separate from Ski Club activities and planned trips.

ARMY Rep updates:



In this photo provided by South Korea Defense Ministry, an Army Tactical Missile System or ATACMS, missile is fired during a joint military drill between U.S. and South Korea at an undisclosed location in South Korea, **Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022**. The Joint Chiefs of Staff said the South Korean and U.S. militaries' successfully fired a total of four Army Tactical Missile Systems missiles during the exercise that it said was aimed at demonstrating its precision strike capabilities against the North. (South Korea Defense Ministry via AP)



A South Korean ballistic missile malfunctioned and crashed into the ground early **Wednesday Oct. 5, 2022** during a live-fire drill with the United States, panicking confused residents of an east coastal city already uneasy over increasingly provocative weapons tests by rival North Korea. In Gangneung, South Korea, the South Korea Joint Chiefs of Staff said no injuries have been reported from the accident, which involved a short-range Hyumoo-2 ballistic missile that crashed inside an air force base in the outskirts of the city.