

### ALBUMOAAS

# MAIL CALL



The Newsletter of The Military Officers Association of America

November - December 2022, Volume XLII, No. 6

# 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."



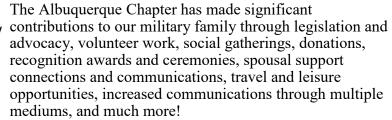
Dear Albuquerque MOAA (ALBUMOAA) Chapter members:

This year the Chapter was again awarded the COL Marvin Harris Five Star Communications Award for the Chapter Newsletter and Website. To top that off, our Chapter received the **2021 5-Star Level of Excellence (LOE) award!!** Our Chapter was

awarded the 5-Star LOE in 2020, too!!

It was a great honor and privilege to have accepted the 2021 5-Star LOE Award on behalf of our Chapter at The MOAA

2022 Annual Meeting of the Membership held in Kansas City, MO last month!!



What we have accomplished this year is truly amazing and I am looking forward to what we can do next year as your re-elected Chapter President!

We are in need of additional members and your help with all our resource efforts.

So, please contact any member of the Board if you are interested and we will gladly put you to work!

Remembering all our veterans on November 11th, wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays and a very safe and Happy New Year!

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







### **President**

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

president@albumoaa.org

**1st VP-Programs, Communications** Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)

2nd VP—Programs

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

Secretary *VACANT* 

**Treasurer** 

Mark Dwyer

treasurer@albumoaa.org

**President Ex-Officio** 

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

Navy Rep

LCDR Meredith Beaton, USN (Ret)

Marine Corps Rep

Col Charles E Wood, USMCR (Ret)

Army Rep

LTC Warner W Talso, USA (Ret)

Air Force Rep

Brig Gen Reg Rider, USAF (Ret)

US Coast Guard Rep

CWO3 Edward Williams, USCG (Ret)

NM National Guard Rep

LTC Max Johnson, NMNGUS (Ret)

US Public Health Service Rep

CAPT Nina F Dozoretz, USPHS (Ret)

Surviving Spouses Rep & Liaison

CPT Katie Fellure, USA (Ret)



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



### Ski Club Rep

Brig Gen Regner C Rider, USAF (Ret)

**Breakfast Club** 

CPT Tom Dawe, USA (FMR)

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 (VACANT)

## **Membership Records**

Karen Brown

1LT Jacklyn L. Jablonski, USA/NG

Nominating

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

**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: <a href="http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/">http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/</a>



SPECIAL REQUEST: The Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA needs your help to man the desk at the Veterans Memorial Center Desk from 9-12 and 12-3PM on the first Sunday and fourth Thursday of every month.



Place: Weck's at 3913 Louisiana Blvd NE—Just south of Montgomery

**Cost:** Separate checks, please add a tip; 10% Senior discount; pay at the conclusion of the program

When: Last Tuesday of each month

Time: 0700—0900 Hours. Please arrive by 0700 to order your meal before the speaker

has begun.

**Reservations not required** 

**Contact:** Tom Dawe with any questions

There will be no Breakfast Club activities for the months of November and December, 2022. We will restart after the holidays on Tuesday, January 31st

If you have a recommendation for a speaker, please contact Tom at <a href="mailto:rtdawe@comcast.net">rtdawe@comcast.net</a>.

We're hoping to get at least 25 participants!! So please come out & join us!!



# **MOAA TOURS**



### Reported by Karen Brown

\* <u>December 14, 2022</u> (Wednesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* Academy Award® winner Aaron Sorkin's adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning masterwork... the most successful American play in Broadway history.... An emotionally shattering landmark production of an American classic. New York Magazine calls it 'the greatest novel of all time'—has quickly become 'one of the greatest plays in history'."

Group cost for **2**<sup>nd</sup> **Price** seats is **\$68/person** (middle & side Orchestra seats in Rows K, L & M) – non-members please add \$2/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest. **Payment is NLT November 7.** 

\* <u>January 26, 2023</u> (Thursday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – FIDDLER ON THE ROOF (Broadway

**Musical):** "...a heartwarming story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter. It will introduce a new generation to the uplifting celebration that raises its cup to joy! To love! To life!"

Early bird group cost for **2<sup>nd</sup> PRICE** seats is **\$69/person** (Side Orchestra seats in Rows O-R) – non-members please add \$2/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest. **Payment is due NLT December 15th. To date, 11 participants are attending.** 

\* June 7, 2023 (Wednesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – ALADDIN (Broadway Musical): "From the producer of The Lion King comes the timeless story of ALADDIN, a thrilling new production filled with unforgettable beauty, magic, comedy and breathtaking spectacle. It's an extraordinary theatrical event where one lamp and three wishes make the possibilities infinite."

Group cost for 2<sup>nd</sup> Price seats is \$63/person (middle & side Orchestra seats in Rows K, L & M) – non-members please add \$2/person guest fee, unless family or houseguest. Payment is due ASAP or

<u>May 16, 2023 (</u>Tuesday): 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall – *HAMILTON* (Broadway Musical): Tickets are no longer available from MOAA. <u>In case of cancellation, we are taking a waiting list.</u>

\* Contact Karen at 505-856-1927 or <a href="mailto:kmbrown8@comcast.net">kmbrown8@comcast.net</a> for seat choice. Mail payments (made out to <a href="mailto:MOAA">MOAA</a> <a href="mailto:Ski Club">Ski Club</a>) to Karen Brown at 962 Antelope NE, 87122.

### MOAA 2022-2023 TRIP PLANNED BY SUN TOURS FOR MOAA: Payments go to SUN TOURS,



1700 Louisiana Blvd, Suite 100, Albuquerque, NM 87110. For reservations and information, call Melissa at (505) 582—2357. *Cancellation insurance is recommended*.

### **NEW!** August 6-16, 2023 (11 days) – GRANDEUR OF THE GREAT LAKES CRUISE:



Experience the Great Lakes as never before on this brand-new cruise on the intimate *Ocean Voyager* (American Queen Voyages), with a caring crew of 84 pampering no more than 202 guests. We'll travel from Chicago to Toronto, with stops at Mackinac Island, Niagara Falls, Detroit, and other beautiful ports, as we explore the majestic waterways of all five great lakes! Cost is \$7195/person (Category B, Deck 3, double

occupancy); \$9345 (single). Category C is sold out. Deposit is \$500/person; final payment is due March 31, 2023. Details: Grandeur of the Great Lakes. For reservations, be sure to call Melissa Luhan at (505) 582-2357.

MOAA Tours/Events Website Link: https://albumoaa.org/tours-events/



Membership Stats (as of October 10, 2022)

Regular: 178 (+1)

Surviving Spouse: 49 (+2)

Associate: 40 (-1) Total: 267 (+2)

Thank you to all who have paid Chapter dues for 2022, along with your donations! This year is almost gone, so it's almost time to pay your 2023 dues, due January 1. If you did not pay at our October Membership Meeting (or previously paid early), please use the form on the last page of the newsletter to fill out & send along with your dues payment.

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



# **ALBUQUERQUE VETERANS DAY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2022**

Here is your notice for the Albuquerque 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 from Bullhead Park, along Gibson SE to Louisiana, and to the Veterans' Memorial Park. Subject to Parade Permit issue by the City of Albuquerque. Driving to the event will be confronted with traffic lane closures along Gibson from San Pedro to Louisiana SE and to the entrance of the NM Veterans Memorial Park. Be prepared for the impact to access to the Memorial Park and Sandia Federal Credit Union parking areas.

1000 - 1100 Musical Prelude

Parking access after 10:00 should improve as the parade completes the route.

1100 - 1200 Veterans' Day Ceremony







### **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

Reported by LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret), 2nd VP



Each year, millions of Americans come together to REMEMBER the fallen, HONOR those that serve and their families, and TEACH the next generation about the value of freedom. These coordinated wreath-laying ceremonies and gathering of volunteers and patriots takes place at more than 2,500 locations across the United States, at sea, and abroad.

It is understood that we have Veterans Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring, but our service members sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year to preserve our freedoms.

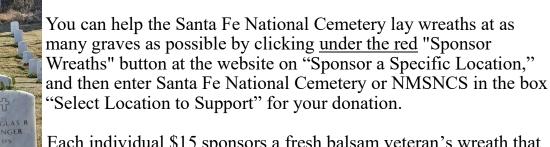
In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. There is no better time to express our appreciation than during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. We hope you will join us at any of our more than 2,500 participating locations to show our veterans and their families that we will not forget. We will never forget.

This year, National Wreaths Across America Day is Saturday, December 17, 2022. On **Saturday, December 17, 2022** at 10:00 AM, Wreaths Across America will be at **Santa Fe National Cemetery** to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud.

If you are interested and would like to participate in remembering and honoring our veterans through the laying of a Remembrance Wreath at a grave marker or headstone, please contact me at <a href="mailto:2ndvice@albumoaa.org">2ndvice@albumoaa.org</a>. If there are a few members who would like to stick together as the Albuquerque MOAA team, we can form up as a group and participate together in distributing and laying of wreaths.

If you would like to donate and sponsor one wreath or more, you can do so at the Wreaths Across America website for over 1,200 locations across America. If you would like to sponsor one wreath or more at the Santa Fe National Cemetery, you can do so at the Santa

Fe National Cemetery's Wreaths Across America web page.



Each individual \$15 sponsors a fresh balsam veteran's wreath that will be placed on the headstone of an American hero on December 19, 2020, as part of National Wreaths Across America Day.

REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . .

# 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



Donations from our Chapter membership for 2022 totaled ~ \$4760, which enabled our Chapter to donate to many of the above listed military and veteran causes!

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

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



### RIO RANCHO VETERANS DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY



Reported by LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret), 2nd VP

The City of Rio Rancho will be hosting a Veterans Day parade and Memorial Service on November 11th beginning at 10:00 am.

The parade line-up will start at 8 a.m. along the west side of Country Club Drive and on Oakmount Drive. The parade will kick off at 10 a.m. and travel east on Southern Boulevard where it will conclude at Veterans Monument Park, near the intersection of Southern Boulevard and Pinetree Road

Immediately following the parade, participants and spectators can take part in a special Veterans Day Ceremony starting at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Monument Park (adjacent to Esther Bone Memorial Library). The ceremony will feature several guest speakers.

# HONOR FLIGHT NORTHERN NEW MEXICO IDENTIFYING ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER MOAA KOREAN WAR VETERAN MEMBERS

Reported by LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret), 2nd VP

The Honor Flight of Northern of New Mexico (HFNNM) believes that it has substantially completed recognizing WWII New Mexico service veterans with trips to Washington D.C. to visit the national and service Memorials. Currently, top priority is given to any remaining World War II veterans who have not traveled with HFNNM, going forward priority shifts to Korean War Veterans and Veterans of other conflicts who may be terminally ill, and Vietnam War Veterans will be added as seats are made available.

HFNNM is taking applications for their next honor flight in June 2023. If you are a Korean War veteran, please contact Michael Houck at <a href="mailto:2ndvice@albumoaa.org">2ndvice@albumoaa.org</a> to be identified on our roles as a Koran War veteran and to discuss the opportunity to participate in an Honor Flight and experience the honor, gratitude, and community of support you earned. It's been the "trip of a lifetime" for many of the state's World War II Veterans, including members of Albuquerque MOAA, who have taken a trip to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect at their memorial, courtesy of Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico.

The trip to our nation's capital is free of charge to the veteran and includes airfare, lodging, meals and all transportation within the Washington, D.C., area. During the trip, veterans are able to visit the World War II Memorial as well as the Lincoln, Vietnam War and Korean War Memorials. Veterans also view the Changing of the Guard at Arlington National Cemetery.

I look forward to discussing an Honor Flight opportunity with you.









PRESIDENT: Reg Rider, regrider49@gmail.com

Reported by Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)

VICE-PRESIDENT: Ron Salley, jrsalley@me.com TREASURER: Tony Strati, casatrat@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP: Karen Brown, kmbrown8@comcast.net

Trips are filling up fast! We have opened all our trips to other ski clubs so if you are waiting to decide, NOW IS THE TIME!!

**PURGATORY** – January 6-8, 2023 (Friday pm – Sunday pm) Coach transportation, lodging at the Best Western Rio Grande, Durango, CO Trip Chairs: Bob & Sherri Jackson, 710-9580, jacksherrison@icloud.com

**TELLURIDE** – January 21-25, 2023 (Saturday am – Wednesday pm) Coach transportation, lodging at Victorian Inn, Telluride, CO

Trip Chair: Reg Rider, 944-5514; regrider49@gmail.com

**BRECKENRIDGE/KEYSTONE** – February 5-9, 2023 (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 20-24, 2023 (Monday am – Friday am) Coach transportation, lodging at Old Town Inn, Crested Butte, CO

Trip Chair: Beth Clark, (505) 228-2640, Beth. Clark 3@va.gov



VA awards grant to Paws and Stripes and Paws and Stripes recently received \$570,000 from the Department of Veterans Affairs through the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Program, according to a news release. "Suicide has long plagued too many veterans, even more so here in New Mexico" said Lindsey Kay, CEO and founder of Paws and Stripes. "Our team is passionate about this mission and excited to see the outcomes of this program." With the grant, Paws and Stripes plans to provide suicide prevention services to veterans in Albuquerque and greater New Mexico, the release states. For more information, go to <a href="Veteran Services">Veteran Services</a> | Paws and Stripes | United States</a>

# Meetings & Events

## 2022 BOARD AND SPECIAL MEETINGS EVENT CALENDAR\*

November 3 - Board Meeting

December 1 - Board Meeting

- All Board meetings meet the first Thursday of every month and start at 11:30 AM MST at 2200 Grande Blvd SE, Suite B, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, unless otherwise noted. Access to meetings via ZOOM will continue. Changes to the above meeting dates and times will be announced in the newsletter and mass email distributions to the membership.
- December 17, 2022 Wreaths Across America at the Santa Fe Veterans National Cemetery



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



Bell, CDR George "Joe" USN (Ret) – August 25, 2022 (Husband of Carmen Bell)

Albuquerque Chapter Military Officers Association of America Annual Members Meeting

Reported by LTC Michael Houck, USA (Ret), 2nd VP

I want to express my appreciation to those who attended the 64rd Annual Meeting in the history of the Albuquerque Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. I also want to give a shout out to the member volunteers who helped set-up, serve the Polish-Ukrainian catered meal and dessert, and clean the dining-conference room at the end of the event.

Member volunteers' assistance enables the Chapter to continue to advocate for and assist veteran, active duty, and family support programs in New Mexico and across the United States. The nation and, particularly, the State of New Mexico continue to battle the COVID-19 virus variants pandemic, but also as veterans of the war on terror the endemic physical and psychological issues, such as homelessness, mental health, addiction, incarceration, and suicide; family housing, jobs, support groups, childcare, healthcare, food insecurity, and financial assistance; and the legacy of the warfare experience, both, for males and females.

Thank you for your service to our country; your advocacy on behalf of soldiers, seamen, airmen, Marines, and their families; and support of our organization.

Celebrate with other local veteran communities in Albuquerque and Rio Rancho this Veteran's Day, November 11, 2022.

The following individuals were elected at the Annual Meeting to the Board positions noted in parenthesis:

Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer (President)
Regner Rider (1st Vice President)
Michael Houck (2nd Vice President)
Mark Dwyer (Treasurer)

Overview of the Chapter bylaws' provisions concerning the Annual members meeting and the election of Chapter Officers can be found at our website at <a href="https://albumoaa.org/">https://albumoaa.org/</a>. Please take special attention to Article VIII - Meetings, Article IX - Board of Directors and Article X - Officers.

We continue to seek someone to fill the Secretary position. If anyone is interested, please contact Dr. Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer at <a href="mailto:president@albumoaa.org">president@albumoaa.org</a>.

Photos from the Annual Meeting are found on page 12.

# Photos from the Albuquerque Chapter of MOAA Members Meeting



ALBUMOAA Chapter President, Dr. Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer



Donation presented to CEO Brock Wolff of the Veterans Integration Center by Mike Houck

Albuquerque and Rio Grande Valley,

Marlaine Gaylor and Gloria Chavez-

Sampson by Mike Houck



Blue Star Mothers, Bettie Moore and Ruth Romero by Mick Houck



Our 100 years young, Al Baye



Recognition of monetary donation to Paws & Stripes made by Mark Dwyer's father, retired Marine Robert Dwyer, presented by Mike Houck. Accepted by Mark Dwyer and US Navy Veteran, Board of Directors, Secretary, Allison Ritscher.

### Reported by LTC Walter Paul, Interim Leg Chair & Past President



On 10 Sep 2022 the legislative team of the Military/Veterans Leadership Council (MVLC) briefed the Interim House/Senate Military & Veterans Affairs Committee at the Raton Convention Center Raton NM

Present were: Rep. H. Garcia, Rep. Alcon, Rep Powdrell-Culbert, Rep. Lord, Sen. Brandt, Sen. Pinto

The team presented the MVLC Legislative Agenda for the 2023 session:

- a. Uniformed Services Retiree Income Tax Deduction fixes
- b. Veteran Suicide Prevention
- c. Other Military/Veterans Legislation HJR 06/07
- d. increase in property tax exemption for veterans

### **MOAA National Three Topics/Legislative Priorities**

- Major Richard Star Act
- Stop Copay Overpay Act
- Military Pay Raise

### Major Richard Star Act

Combat Injured Concurrent Receipt:

Servicemembers injured in combat and forced to retire (before 20 years) face an offset where their retirement pay is reduced for every dollar of disability received from the VA. Some have their entire retirement pay "offset" Concurrent receipt may sound complicated, but it is not.

- DoD is responsible for retired pay for vested years of service (in the past)
- VA is responsible for disability for lifelong injury (in the future).
- These are two different payments for two different purposes
- Congress acknowledged this as an injustice in the 2004 NDAA and partially fixed it (but not for the combat injured)
- Reducing retirement pay due to a disability is an injustice

Key Bills: H.R. 1282; S. 344 – Close to a Tipping Point

~Others elected officials support the Star Act from your state!

### **Stop Copay Overpay Act**

TRICARE copays for mental health visits have increased dramatically. Because mental health care often requires multiple visits, higher copays quickly add up and make treatment unaffordable for some military families. Why must Congress pass the Stop Copay Overpay Act?

TRICARE mental health copays are:

- Out of step with commercial plans.
- A financial barrier to access that undermines DoD efforts to reduce stigma.
- A fixable problem.
- Not aligned with congressional intent for MHS Reforms

Key Bill: H.R. 4824 Would reduce TRICARE mental health copays by capping them at the level for primary care but would not reduce provider reimbursements. Risks to Medical Providers and Networks We urge Congress to ensure:

- Support and resources for uniformed medical providers to maintain readiness
- Continued congressional oversight of MHS reforms

### **Military Pay Raise**

Based on current Department of Labor assessments, and reflecting the rising costs of employment, the FY 2023 NDAA should include a pay raise of 4.6%. Undercutting the pay raise negatively impacts several groups:

- Recruits. Individuals considering whether to join the military may see this as an omen of things to come. Why join if pay will not keep up with the civilian sector?
- Currently serving. Those prepared to go into harm's way may see this as a slight to their service and sacrifice. Why stay if we are not appreciated?
- Those about to retire. These servicemembers may decide to get out soonest, taking their 20-plus years of experience to go work for a government contractor or some other enterprise.

All of these issues compound the difficulties for recruiters and commanders who count on experienced leaders to accomplish the mission.



Gary and Neslyn Hill, Owners of AAA Pet Doors of New Mexico, with Molly

# A A A Pet Doors of New Mexico

Address: 1380 Rio Rancho Blvd #1131

Phone: 505-585-3917

Email: <u>info@aaapetdoorsnm.com</u>
 City: Rio Rancho, New Mexico

## Service Area:

Serving Albuquerque and Rio Rancho as well as Sandoval County, Bernalillo County, East Mountains, Bosque Farms, Corrales, Placitas, Santa Fe and Taos

If you are in a different location, please give us a call and see if we can accommodate you.

# **Hours of Operation:**

Monday through Saturday

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Other times may be available by special arrangement.



Gd psych services, llc LET'S TALK

**CPT Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer, Psy.D. USA (Ret) President and Owner** 

GD Psych Services, LLC is dedicated to providing the greater Albuquerque, and Rio Rancho, NM region with supportive, solution-based psychological services provided by the most professional licensed clinical social workers, mental health counselors, and psychologists in the community. Our organization is fully committed to helping you maintain your mental health and happiness and providing you with the best solutions to overcome your greatest psychological challenges.

GD Psych Services is a woman-owned and disabled veteran-owned small business.

2200 Grande Blvd., Suite B, Rio Rancho, NM. 87124 • (505) 218 - 6383

• Website: https://gdpsychservices.com

## From Our Surviving Spouse Representative Katie Fellure

Love Lives On Act of 2022, S4841 was introduced by Senator Warnock (GA) and Senator Moran (KS). This legislation will ensure surviving military spouses retain eligibility for survivor benefits from the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), if they remarry before age 55. It also removes archaic and punitive language regarding 'holding oneself out to be married'.



Current law terminates certain benefits for surviving military spouses if they remarry before the age of 55. Given that many military surviving spouses today have lost their loved ones as a result of illnesses and suicides related to their military member's service, often while deployed in combat operations, they are younger than 55. Many have children and teens that they must now raise alone. These beneficiaries do not remarry out of concern for the financial stability of their surviving children, an unjust situation that must be addressed and rectified. This restriction is imposed on military surviving families but not on the surviving families of first responders. For example, most U.S. surviving spouses of fallen firefighters and law enforcement officers are allowed to remarry before age 55 and maintain survivor pensions and benefits.

The living legacies of our nation's fallen military heroes deserve no less.

This legislation has been endorsed by MOAA National and twenty-six other VSOs Veteran Service Organizations (VSO)s to include the American Legion, Elizabeth Dole Foundation, and National Military Family Association and spearheaded by Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).

Bills do not get passed by prayers or wishes. Surviving Spouses need YOUR help to call!

## NEW MEXICO MOAA CALL TO ACTION Contact our NM Senators to ask for Co-sponsorship for S4841 Love Lives On of 2022

Script to call Washington	DC Office:
	I live in New Mexico and my zip code is Love Lives On Act of 2022. I am a member of New Mexico chapter of MOAA in
4 G G . TT .	• 1

1. Contact Senator Heinrich 202-224-5521

Address: 303 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

2. Contact Senator BenRay Lujan 202-224-6621

Address: 498 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

For Legislation, ALWAYS contact the Washington DC offices.

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="https://www.albumoaa.org">www.albumoaa.org</a>

Enroll me as a REGULAR M Enroll me as a SURVIVING Enroll me as an ASSOCIATI Enroll me for NEW Members	SPOUSE MEMBER (as the MEMBER (non-military of the MEMBER (non-military of the MEMBER (non-military of the MEMBER (as the MEMBE	né surviving spouse o & enlisted) at \$15.00	for one year.	,	·	r cost of one year	r.
I wish to donate \$ to the Ch	napter's Giving Program, a	and my check include	s this amount. I r	ealize that the d	onation is Federal and	d State tax-free.	
First Name Middle Initial	nitial Last Name		S	ervice	Spouse's Name		
Street	Apt City		State ZI	P+4	Telephone Nu	ımbers	_
E-Mail Address:			National Memb	ership Number:			
(Active Duty,Retired,	Former Officer,S	Surviving Spouse) (	Regular,	_Reserve,	National Guard (	_MaleFema	ıle)
Would you be willing to assist it	n the operation of the A	Albuquerque Chapt	er of MOAA? If	so, what would	d be your main area	of interest?	
Legislative Affairs,Pt	ublic Relations,Mer	mbership,Scho	larship & Award	d,Personal	Affairs,Legal (	Counsel	
Newsletter,Chaplain	,Finance,Prog	rams & Activities, _	Data Proces	sing Other			
Do you have an interest in any	of the following clubs:	Breakfast Clu	ıb,Ski Clu	b,Tours/l	Events,Golf		
Please make check payable to:	Albuquerque Char	oter, MOAA	Mail to		hip, Albuquerque	Chapter, MOA	Α
Applicant's Signature:		Date:		P.O. Box Albuquer	que, NM 87185-50	71	
		MOAA Membership App	lication Form 1-2017	Visit us on	the web at www.all	oumoaa.org	