



January - February 2023, Volume XLIII, 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 (ALBUMOAA) Chapter members:

Happy holidays to you all:

We had a wonderful year and I'm looking forward to another great one! We are in need of more members and need your help to do that.

Please make a new year promise to bring in two new members for the 2023 year. The latest membership recruitment efforts our board has made is to record videos of our Ski Club coordinator and 1st VP, Breakfast Club Coordinator, and Chapter Recruiter, and myself which was circulated on the Rio Rancho Chamber of Commerce marketing platform to all its Chamber members in the Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Corrales, Bernalillo, and Albuquerque areas and as well as posting on social media.

I attended a Grand Opening of a Rio Rancho printing company, Deluxe Design, who graciously created Military Hometown Heroes Banners which are posted and displayed on large poles on NM 528.



They are visibly displayed as you drive up NM528 into Rio Rancho.

The Rio Rancho Chamber of Commerce is also distributing flyers for our Ski and Breakfast Club meetings.

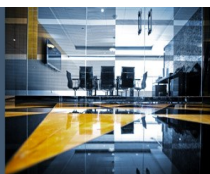
If you have any ideas on how we can get new members, please let me know.

Wishing everyone happy holidays and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

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



OFFICERS & DIRECTORS



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

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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.

Committees

ROTC/Awards

LTC Erik Sevigny, USA (Ret)

Finance

Mark Dwyer

Legislative Affairs

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

INTERIM (VACANT)

Membership Records

Karen Brown

LCDR Meredith Benton, USN (Ret)

Nominating

LTC Walter Paul, USA (Ret)

Consumer Advisory Board

VACANT

Veterans' Memorial Rep

Lt Col Clint Whisonant, USAF (Ret)

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 president@albumoaa.org



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

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



SPECIAL REQUEST: We continue to need 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.



Meetings & Events



2023 BOARD AND SPECIAL MEETINGS EVENT CALENDAR

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.



Where: Weck's Restaurant at 3913 Louisiana NE – Just south of Montgomery Blvd.

When: January 24, 2023

Time: 0700-0830 Hours

Menu: Your choice and come hungry – large portions!

Cost: Pay for your own breakfast after program is over.

Separate checks are provided – please add a tip. Senior discount available.

Please arrive by 0700 to order and receive your meal before the speaker has begun.

Speaker: Our speaker will be retired Air Force Capt. Dave Coulie. He will discuss the success the MOAA lobbying effort in the New Mexico Legislature last term as well as his anticipated actions and possible outcomes in the up coming legislative session. Dave has been a stalwart in negotiating with the Legislature for years on behalf of MOAA and we look forward to his presentation.

Any questions, please contact Tom Dawe, rtdawe@comcast.net

Information also found on our Website: <https://albumoaa.org/breakfast-club/>



MOAA TOURS



Reported by Karen Brown

The pictures of our **Scotland with Military Tattoo** tour are now on our ALBUMOAA Photo Gallery. Click on <https://albumoaa.org/scotland-trip-with-military-tattoo-august-17-27-2022/>. Photos from the Scotland trip can also be found in this newsletter on page 10. Such a wonderful trip!



* **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 2nd 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 NLT May 1.**

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

* Contact Karen at 505-856-1927 or kmbrown8@comcast.net for seat choice. Mail payments (made out to **MOAA Ski Club**) to Karen Brown at 962 Antelope NE, 87122.



MOAA MEMBERS CAN NOW ALSO BUY THEIR OWN MOAA GROUP-PRICED POPEJOY TICKETS ONLINE FOR CERTAIN PERFORMANCES & DATES (Ovation & Broadway):

Here is the group link for our Albuquerque Chapter, MOAA, that you can click on to order your own seats for specified Ovations or Broadway performances at a group price:

<https://www.unmtickets.com/MOAA>. Note: There are fees and the ticket cost is higher than the above group tickets, but still less expensive than regular rates/fees. You can pay for your tickets by credit card.

MOAA 2022-2023 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 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 December 10, 2022)

Regular: 178
Surviving Spouse: 49
Associate: 42
Total: 269 (+2)

Thank you to all who have paid Chapter dues for 2023! If you did not pay at our October Membership Meeting (or earlier), please use the form on the last page of the newsletter to fill out & send along with your 2023 dues payment.

We hope you have checked out our website <https://albumoaa.org/> – 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 – kmbrown8@comcast.net or 505-856-1927.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

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



The Albuquerque MOAA Chapter was represented and participated in honoring veterans by placing fir wreaths at their gravestones and markers at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery.

Veterans all across America were honored by Wreaths Across America and local sponsors and volunteers at veterans and designated public

cemeteries on December 17, 2022. On that Saturday morning, 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 4,200 interred veterans were honored from the over 67,000 grave sites within the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery.



I would like to thank the MOAA members, surviving spouses, family members who came out to participate and lay wreaths on a sunny, 24-degree mid-morning at the Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery. Despite the wake-up temperature in Santa Fe of 17 degrees and feeling like 2°F (-16°C or 257K) with the wind chill, there was an enthusiastic crowd of volunteers, families, and youth groups prepared to honor those veterans interred at the cemetery. The 4,200 wreaths were laid at the cemetery grave sites in

less than an hour following the ceremony.



Walter & Anna

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.

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. The Santa Fe National Veterans Cemetery in 2022 nearly doubled the number of wreaths sponsored compared to 2021. 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.



Michael Houck



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)
Albuquerque Fisher House
KAFB Quarterly Awards
NM VA Medical Center
NM Veterans Memorial
ROTC/JROTC Awards
Veterans Integration Center (VIC)
Honor Flight Northern New Mexico
Paws and Stripes, Inc.
Chapter's Endowment Fund (ACF) and more

*Thank
You!*

In the last couple months, the "Charitable Giving" Program received another **\$1671.00** in donations in conjunction with their dues payments from the following 15 members:

Arthur C Brooks
Karen M Brown
Rita Cantergiani
Sally Churan
Rosalie Conley
Margaret Emrick
Charles Hammitt
Sandra L Harstad

Michael C Houck
David L Jackson
Jimmy A Richardson
Robert E Rider
Claude Valles
Edward W Williams
Chuck E Wood

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

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

Honor Flight Northern New Mexico (HFNNM) Final Reminder for Identifying Albuquerque Chapter MOAA Korean War Veteran Members

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

HFNNM is taking applications for their next honor flight in June 2023. If you are a Korean War veteran, please contact Michael Houck at 2ndvice@albumoaa.org to be identified on our rolls as a Korean 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 the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. 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.

Currently, top priority is given to any remaining World War II veterans who have not traveled with HFNNM. However, going forward priority shifts to Korean War Veterans and Veterans of other conflicts who may be terminally ill. The HFNNM believes that it has substantially completed recognizing WWII New Mexico service veterans with trips to Washington D.C.

I look forward to discussing an Honor Flight opportunity with you and completing an application to travel with HFNNM.





Ski Club Update

PRESIDENT: Reg Rider, regrider49@gmail.com

Reported by Brig Gen Regner Rider, USAF (Ret)

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

TREASURER: Tony Strati, tstrati42@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP: Karen Brown, kmbrown8@comcast.net

We still need skiers for a few of the trips. Telluride is full, but other trips have room.

2023 MOAA Ski Club Schedule:

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, 259-4610/2284, 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, 228-2640; Beth.Clark3@va.gov

Below are a few photos from our November Ski Club meeting. Photos from our August 2022 Scotland trip are found on page 10.



Marilyn, Phyllis, Tom, Paul, Laurel, Teresa



Trip Chairs—Conni &



Reg & Margaret



Tom, Sandy, Catherine & Bo



Food Table—Linda & Helena

PHOTOS FROM SCOTLAND WITH MILITARY TATTOO

AUGUST 17-28, 2022



Edinburgh Castle Gate—Tony & Helena



Edinburgh Military Tattoo—
Bagpipers



Edinburgh Military Tattoo—Castle—



Inverness—Karen & Bagpiper



Stomness (Orkney Islands)—Ring of Brodgar—
Heather & Sea



Stomness (Orkney Islands)—Skara Brae

From Our Surviving Spouse Representative Katie Fellure

SBP-DIC offset is OVER 1 February 2023!



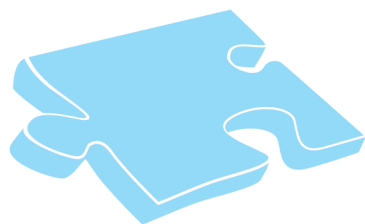
For twenty years, military surviving spouses and members of MOAA worked hard to get legislation passed which eliminates the SBP-DIC offset! The Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) was offset dollar for dollar by the VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits. I am happy to announce the final phase of the 3 year phase in has arrived!

DFAS sent letters to all annuitants explaining the change in December. Please remember that SBP is paid in arrears so you will see the first full SBP payment in February 2023. Special Survivors Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) will no longer be paid. SSIA was a legislative band-aid, a partial SBP payment instead of paying what was owed in full. Gaining full SBP does not impact DIC payments from the VA. DIC will be paid as usual, but it will increase with 8.7% COLA increase beginning January 2023.

DFAS Says: The most important action SBP annuitants can take at this time is to ensure your annuity account information is up-to-date and includes your correct mailing address so we can contact you, if needed.

Also, if you are not using myPay, set up a profile now and add your email address. Please note: only annuitants who are currently receiving an SBP payment from DFAS can access myPay.

Katie can be reached at: 505-221-6108 or email: militarywidowAN@gmail.com



Gd psych services, llc

LET'S TALK

Dr. Stacey Goldstein-Dwyer, Psy.D. CPT, 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 service disabled veteran-owned small business.

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

•Website: <https://gdpsychservices.com>

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 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
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Street	Apt	City	State	ZIP+4	Telephone Numbers
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E-Mail Address: _____ National Membership Number: _____

(☐ Active Duty, ☐ Retired, ☐ Former Officer, ☐ Surviving Spouse) (☐ Regular, ☐ Reserve, ☐ National Guard (☐ Male ☐ Female)

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's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____