

2nd Vice President Report

Five **Invitation Letters to Veteran Charitable Organization leaders** asking them to attend ABQ Chapter MOAA Annual Members Meeting to receive Chapter 2023 donations.

Blue Star Mothers Rio Grande
Blue Star Mothers Valencia
Veterans Integration Center
Paws & Stripes
Fisher House

Seek out and interview chorus and quartet vocal group leaders for participation in ABQ Chapter MOAA September 15th 100th Birthday-Award Ceremony-Remembrance Day for POW/MIA. Selected **Sandia Sound as the quartet to perform.**

Sources for 100th Birthday-Award Ceremony-Remembrance Day for POW/MIA **luncheon items**, Birthday Cake, local business providing reduced cost **Gelato tasting** samples for **members age 90+**, and secure flag and table to use for MIA tribute. Inventory party supplies for Sep. 15th hosted event.

Contact with two **former Prisoners of War** who live in the Albuquerque area. Extended invitation for former Korean War POW's to attend Sep 15th event at the Veterans Memorial Park. Additionally, MOAA member is in discussion with a Viet Nam War POW and extending invitation to attend. Flyer placed and Veterans Memorial Park Museum inviting POW veterans living in the Albuquerque area to attend Sep. 15th.

Seeking volunteers to assist on September 15th.

Seek out and discuss with members available chorus and quartet vocal groups for participation in **ABQ Chapter MOAA May 5, 2024 Memorial Service** for members. Next step is to create Memorial Service Program and songs for interludes. Initially three chorus' and two ensembles will be solicited.

Discussion with member regarding solo or duet performance at the MOAA Memorial Service.

Email to Fisher House manager regarding having “Meal Train” on Thanksgiving day at the Fisher House for guests. Awaiting response.

Attending and contributing to planning and coordination of Veterans Day event, November 11, 2023, sponsored by the City of Albuquerque at the NM Veterans Memorial Park.

Attending and contributing to Mayor’s Veterans and Military Affairs Committee currently addressing contributions that the COA can make and initiatives it can take to address veteran suicide and PTSD issues; assist veterans in being identified for VA access; get access to shelter and housing; veterans benefits through VSO’s and the VA; alternatives to health insurance; healthcare access; mental health counseling; and NM Work Force Solutions finding job opportunities and to enter training programs. COA needs to accept and work with non-secular organizations. COA needs to work with Veteran associated non-profits, add veterans as a service category to existing community support programs, and provide grants to non-profits to carry out care and treatment programs. Federal monies are available to State and Local governments for initiatives that address reducing veteran suicide and mental health.

New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) is holding its 2023 Heros Banquet on November 2, 2023 at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 1901 University Blvd NE, social begins at 5:00 PM and dinner at 6:00PM. NMBC will recognize fallen first responders from the Bernalillo County area and present the **Coalitions’ Veteran of the Year Award** at this event. NMBC undertook recognition for veteran after snafu with the former leadership in the United Veterans Council. The NM Veterans Business Advocates (NMVBA) group solicits nominations from local business’ for veteran owners or partners for award consideration.

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