

Women Veterans of New Mexico

December 2024 Newsletter



WVNM Mission Statement

A forum committed to serving she who served, through education and advocacy. An advocate for the rights, issues, and benefits of women veterans.

Happy Holidays!!

Mark your Calendars

Women Veterans of New Mexico Holiday Party

When: Sunday, December 15th 2024

Where: New Mexico Veterans Memorial

1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE #5009

Albuquerque, NM 87108

Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Gift Exchange: Gift under \$20.00 to exchange.

Guest(s): \$10.00 Members are Free

We will have lots of food and camaraderie! Let us know what food you are bringing. We are providing the meat! Sides to go along with meat would be most appreciated.

Bring your appetite and your smile!!

Women Veteran of New Mexico Membership Meeting

1st Quarter 2025 - Membership Meeting:

Date: Saturday, January 18, 2025

Membership Meeting Starts at: 10:00 am

Place: Paws and Stripes - 617 Truman St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

*****Note: Board Members please show up at 9:00 am for meeting set up.*****

Board elections are this January

If you would like to run and serve for the board, send a resume and tell our membership why you would like to serve on the Board. Send resume in an email with a letter of interest to WVofNM@gmail.com

Women Veterans of New Mexico Newsletter Editor position is open as of 1 Jan 2025. If you are interested in this position which includes being on the Board please send a letter of interest to WVofNM@gmail.com

FYI!

Below are the dates for our 2025 Membership Meetings being held at Paws and Stripes:

2nd Quarter 2025 - 19 Apr 25

3rd Quarter 2025 - 19 Jul 25

4th Quarter 2025 - 18 Oct 25

PLEASE BE VIEWING OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND INSTAGRAM PAGE AS ALL OUR EVENTS ARE POSTED THERE AND THERE ARE SO MANY MORE PICTURES!!!

Message from WV of NM President



Happy Holidays to all our Sisters and your families !!

I wanted to take this time to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. It has been a minute since I had the opportunity to say hello and to THANK YOU for your continued membership and support of our Women Veterans of New Mexico.

What better time than to share with you, the work your Board members have accomplished and are continuing to work on as we move toward another exciting year:

- ✓ Mission Statement was reworked and reworded
- ✓ Our By-Laws were streamlined and updated
- ✓ Various Financial documentation was organized and filed
- ✓ Traveled to 6 different communities to network with women veterans
- ✓ Participated in 12 informational events such as standdowns and health fairs & New Mexico State Fairs
- ✓ Decorated and participated in two city parades (Memorial Day – State Fair)
- ✓ Assisted the Department of Veterans Affairs with the Women's State Conference (Provided MC and all door prizes)
- ✓ Held two Board Workshops
- ✓ Worked with and Volunteered on Sunday's at the Veterans Memorial
- ✓ Donated funds to Healing America's Heroes
- ✓ Will continue to donate Gift Cards to women veterans at the VA hospital and the Veterans Integration Center Women Veterans for the Holidays
- ✓ Provide Christmas Cards/Holiday Greetings to State Veterans Homes

- ✓ Participated in Healing America's Heroes Retreat
- ✓ Hosted Rae Day – Meet Up Event – Lunch and Bowling
- ✓ Monthly newsletters emailed out and quarterly membership meetings were held

Most importantly, our Service Support Team helped many of our women veterans throughout our state. Pat, Jane, Chris and Linda worked hard to ensure that those needing financial assistance whether it be housing, clothing, furniture, food, bedding, fuel for their vehicle or assistance in a difficult situation, they were there and did not stop till our Sisters had what they needed. They were the friendly voice on the other end of the phone when our women veterans hit rock bottom. There are many other things we have the opportunity to assist in, but this is just a quick reminder of how our team comes thru for one of our Sisters in need.

We are excited to welcome our new Department of Veterans Services Women's Program Manager, Amberly Viner. I had the opportunity to meet Amberly at the Veteran's Memorial during the Veteran's Day program. She is excited to meet us all and is very much in tune with our Women veterans in the state. She moved up from Las Cruces to take on her new post. Again, WELCOME AMBERLY !!

We still have some work to do, but 2024 was definitely one of many accomplishments thanks to you all and our wonderful Board and committee members. One Team, One Fight !!

Our Holiday celebration will be held on December 15 from 11 to 1PM at the Veterans Memorial located at 1100 Louisiana Blvd SE, Albuquerque. An invitation has been sent to all our members. Please RSVP on or before 6 December. I am excited to see you as we celebrate another awesome year of SISTERHOOD!

I am so proud to have the opportunity to serve you in this capacity. I am also very fortunate to work alongside a dedicated team of women who are knowledgeable, passionate, caring, giving and fun. They are the driving force that makes our WVNM shine. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY !

Liz

A Message from the Newsletter Editor.

As you saw above we will be looking for a new Newsletter Editor. The Editor's position is attached to being a voting Board Member. It has been a pleasure serving you but my time is up and I would love to give this fabulous opportunity

to someone else who wants to be involved. As the Newsletter Editor/Board Member you know everything that is going on and sending this information out to our members is very rewarding.

Again it has been a pleasure serving you and see you at our January Membership meeting and **HOLIDAY PARTY!!** Mary

WVNM

Volunteer Opportunities

New Mexico Veterans' Memorial

Year 2024

Volunteers (2) for Veteran's Memorial in Albuquerque on Sundays:

Interested volunteers can email Gloria at gloria09876523@gmail.com

NM Veterans Memorial
1100 Louisiana Blvd SE, ABQ
3rd Sunday of each Month ... 0900 - 1200

If you plan to volunteer, the city of Albuquerque has a new process where background checks must be accomplished on all volunteers.

Go to the link: [One Albuquerque Volunteers \(oneabqvolunteers.com\)](http://oneabqvolunteers.com)
to get the process started.

Women Veterans of New Mexico

Out and About



Holiday Community Resource Fair

Goodwill
Industries of New Mexico

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

DATE: Thursday December 5th, 2024
TIME: 1:00pm-4:00pm
LOCATION: Goodwill NM-
5000 San Mateo Blvd NE Albuquerque,
NM 87109

Questions? Please Call!
(505)314-1816

Community Resources:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Roadrunner Food Bank | ABQ Center for Hope & Recovery |
| Sacco Connections LLC | NM Solutions |
| United Way 211 | CNM |
| ABQ Adult Learning Center | A Peaceful Habitation |
| Albuquerque Community Safety | DulceSalado Therapeutic Service |
| MCH Family Outreach | Barrett Foundation |
| PNM Good Neighbor Fund | Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM |
| Social Security Administration | PHS-Flu Vaccine Clinic |
| NM Workforce Connection | |
| The Community Lighthouse | |
| Help NM | |
| Oak Street Health | |
| Sage Clinic | |

Mae, Bev, Annette, Gigi and Liz participated in the GoodWill's Holiday Community Resource Fair. This Fair helps our Women Veterans by providing information on many of the resources available to women Veterans!

She Ain't Heavy She's My Sister

Veteran Organizations who assist all Veterans:

Paws and Stripes - 617 Truman St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 -

pawsandstripes.org / 505-999-1201

Programs for Veterans struggling with PTSD, TBI, Sexual Assault and/or Mental Health Issues. Workshops for building Veterans self esteem and more. All programs are free for Veterans and their families. All you need is your DD-214 to receive services. See their website: pawsandstripes.org

Qualified Listeners Corp.

Listening is the most important thing one human being can do for another. Most people are not broken, they do not need therapy, they may just need someone to talk to. Someone who will listen and not judge, someone who can relate to their experiences. We are Qualified Listeners!

We talk on the phone or video chat with you. Our listening Program is confidential and non-judgmental.

Veterans, Spouses of Veterans, Children of Veterans, Parents & Grandparents of Veterans

We inform Veterans and family members of the many resources available to them

We have expanded to New Mexico

If you would like to connect to a Qualified Listener, call at 720-600-0860.

If you are interested in volunteering and becoming a Qualified Listener because we know Vets talk to Vets please contact us at 720-600-0860 or at our website:

<https://qualifiedlisteners.org>

Healing America's Heroes

Healing America's Heroes (HAH) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that helps reconnect veterans, first responders, and their families to their inherent state of health and vitality through a balance of privacy and therapeutic excellence at no cost to them. Our instructors are experts in horsemanship, fly tying and fly fishing.

They are located at 115 Ft. Stanton Rd, Fort Stanton, New Mexico

If you are interested in volunteering contact Bernie Davila: 575-386-9949

See their Website: <http://www.healingamericasheroes.org> or call Debbie Smith: 575-693-3328

Never forget if you have a DD-214 you can sign in with the **Veterans**

Administration! Go to: <https://www.va.gov>

There is a wealth of information and you can sign up for Newsletters!

The DAV at 2511 Utah Street NE ABQ, NM offers a lot of services -- CHECK THEM OUT!!



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG

2024 PROGRAM & EVENT INFORMATION SHEET



DAV FELLOWSHIP DINNER

LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 5-7PM
FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

DAV DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

PLEASE RSVP AT:
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG
(505) 294-6193

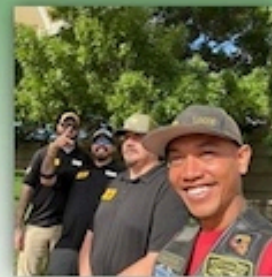


CROCHET & TEA

TUESDAYS, 1:30-3:00PM
FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

DAV DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

PLEASE RSVP AT:
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG
(505) 294-6193



SUPPORT GROUP & SOCIAL HOUR

MONDAYS, 2-3PM
FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

DAV DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

PLEASE RSVP AT:
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG
(505) 294-6193



CLOTHING CLOSET
FREE CLOTHING FOR VETERANS

DAV DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG
(505) 294-6193



FOOD PANTRY
FREE FOOD FOR VETERANS

DAV DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2511 UTAH STREET NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110

PLEASE VISIT:
WWW.DAVNEWMEXICO.ORG
(505) 294-6193

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT OUR ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN, ALLISON VAZQUEZ @ ALLISONNM.DAV@GMAIL.COM

National and State Organizations that YOU can JOIN and VOLUNTEER with

Reserve Organization of America (ROA)

Formerly the Reserve Officer Association. **The ROA represents Enlisted and Officers in ALL Reserve components.** The Reserve Components of the United States Armed forces are named within Title 10 of the United States Code and include: (1) the Army National Guard, (2) the Army Reserve, (3) the Navy Reserve, (4) the Marine Corps Reserve, (5) the Air National Guard, (6) the Air Force Reserve, and (7) the Coast Guard Reserve.

Reserve service members face the unique burdens of balancing civilian and military commitments. Too often, the Reserve force is treated as an afterthought in law and policy, in modernization, training, use, and funding, and in benefits. ROA actively pursues legislation that will support the needs of our reserve service members. The Legislative Agenda features issues ROA is currently working on, as well as a number of the success stories where ROA has supported our reserve service members.

Your ROA membership powers our advocacy for a strong Reserve force. Membership also brings access to a carefully selected array of benefits that can save money, enrich your career potential, insure your family, provide financial services for your future, and offer great entertainment and leisure options. From professional development to travel, ROA members can benefit from everything ROA offers! ROA Website: <https://www.roa.org>

Military Officers Association (MOAA) - All Services Officers only - works with other Enlisted organizations.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military service members and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. MOAA's experts in Washington are there to support legislation that benefits the military community and are equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice.

Membership is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services and their surviving spouses. MOAA Website: <https://www.moaa.org/>

Veterans and Military Families Caucus - Is an organization of the Democratic Party of New Mexico (DPNM). To join you must be a registered Democrat but if you are an Independent or Republican you can subscribe to their Newsletter.

If you join see below:

- Benefits include the speaker series, meetings, being able to run for VMFC office, and to vote when we send a ballot to our members. This is typically for electing officers to VMFC. One also receives the monthly newsletter, but membership is not required.
- The DPNM VMFC advocates on behalf of all veterans and military families in NM to ensure they receive the benefits they've earned during military service to our country. We also educate NM legislators on veterans issues, endorse and support legislators who vote for legislation that benefits veterans, and we represent all NM veterans through public testimony during the legislative session.
- By joining the VMFC our members make our collective voice stronger. Members are eligible to attend our guest speaker series and interact (on Zoom) with subject-matter experts on veteran-relevant topics. Members are also encouraged to attend our periodic (zoom) meetings, join us when we conduct outreach throughout the state, and provide testimony in support of priority legislation during the legislative session. Dues are \$30 a year, but are completely voluntary and used for our outreach.

- **Yes, we especially need a volunteer or two who is tech-savvy and can assist on the Communications Committee. Other volunteers are needed to work with our Committee for Veterans Advocacy during the legislative session to research and write position papers on legislation we are advocating for, attend committee meetings and testify in support of legislation, and track legislator's votes on these bills for our Legislative Report Card.**

Their website: <https://nmvetscaucus.org>

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States - New Mexico National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary

WVofNM Board Member Gloria is the Secretary of the NM Auxiliary! Reach her at gloria09876523@gmail.com for more information.

The **Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States** works to improve and protect the benefits of the men and women serving in the National Guard, and their families. The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) was created in 1970 by a group of senior NCO's. It was formally organized / incorporated in 1972 in Jackson, Mississippi, with the goal of increasing the voice of enlisted persons in the National Guard on Capitol Hill for enlisted National Guard issues. Beginning with twenty-three states, EANGUS now represents all 54 states and territories, with a constituency base of over 414,000, as well as thousands of retired members.

The EANGUS Auxiliary was formed in 1973 and **supports the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States**. Our Association has fought for the many benefits that our National Guard Members enjoy today. Our effectiveness depends on our members.

<https://eangus.org>

Stay Informed and Up to Date

Military Times - is a free independent "e" Newspaper covering everything that is of concern to ALL military components and veterans. You can subscribe/join them or access them without a subscription. They are a great source of information! Website: <https://www.militarytimes.com>

Stars and Stripes - Stars and Stripes is a daily American military newspaper reporting on matters concerning the members of the United States Armed Forces and their communities, with an emphasis on those serving outside the United States. You can subscribe or not. Website: <https://www.stripes.com>

Veteran's Administration Newsletter - Find out about all the resources the VA and associate supporting agencies offer. Go to the VA website at: <https://news.va.gov/vetresources/> and get signed up for your Newsletter!

Consumer Notice - If you were stationed at Camp Lejeune, this organization has resources to help veterans who may have been affected, they recently created an informational page on Camp Lejeune, with information on the types of conditions caused, how VA claims can be made, and the history of the contamination. Website: <https://consumernotice.org/environmental/camp-lejeune/>

Tickets for Veterans

Tickets for Entertainment Events

DID YOU KNOW... **Vet Tix** secures tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational and family activities across the nation. VetTixers sign up online. Vet Tix verify their service. VetTixers request tickets to events that interest them, **then pay a small delivery fee to receive their free tickets.**

If you are interested... **The Vet Tix website:**

<https://www.vettix.org/visitor/home>

VA classes offered throughout New Mexico

Local Veteran Classes at VA Facilities throughout New Mexico

Did you know the VA has Recreation Programs throughout New Mexico? They produced a monthly schedule; it was too long to include. Call the **Recreation Hall:** [505-265-1711](tel:505-265-1711) ext. 2030 to find out more.

VA Adaptive Sports and Arts

VA's Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events provides Veterans with opportunities for health and healing through adaptive sports and therapeutic art programs. These specialized rehabilitation events aim to optimize Veterans' independence, community engagement, well-being, and quality of life. The programs are built on clinical expertise within VA, with essential support from Veteran Service Organizations, corporate sponsors, individual donors and community partners.

Go to: <https://department.va.gov/veteran-sports/>

The VA has an incredible amount of programs located across New Mexico. **If this is something you are interested in contact:**

Catherine Ivie, MS ATP, CTRS

Recreation Therapist-Adaptive Sports

Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center

New Mexico VA Health Care System

1501 San Pedro Drive SE, **Bldg.2 Rec Hall**

Albuquerque, NM 87108

Office: (505) 366-2030

Cell: 948-8044

to find out how you can receive their newsletter.

Note from the Editor

- Are you volunteering with a Veteran's organization?
- Have you gone through a Veteran's program and you would like to share?
- Are you in a national Veterans organization and you want to share what you do and invite others to join?
- If you answered "YES!" please submit a short, 1 or 2 paragraph, article about what you are doing and if you have pictures submit them to vvofnm@gmail.com **In the Subject Line Put: Article for Newsletter**

Women Veterans of New Mexico

WomenVeteransofNewMexico.org

WVofNM@gmail.com

(505)907-4386

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