

**July 1, 2018**

**Grand President's Message #1**

Greetings MOCA Members:

WOW. I don't know where to start. I will let everyone know about myself. I became eligible through my father, a WWII veteran. He served under General Patton in Europe and Africa. He has since passed away. I still have my mother who is 95 years old. She joined the VFWA in 1957 and is a Life member. I come from a family of 9 sisters and 1 brother. My brother who has passed away. Four of us sisters are Life members. I have been married for 44 years to Joe who served in the Navy. We have three daughters and one son, all Life members. My daughter Sara and son Reno are diabetic, both diagnosed at age four. We have 10 grandchildren of which four are Life members. One grandson is in the Marines so following in his father's footsteps.

I am a two-time Breast Cancer survivor. Bet you are wondering why I did not choose Diabetes or Cancer for my special project. I feel that a Fisher House is needed more in Albuquerque. I was so honored and thankful to all members that accepted positions for the 2018 – 2019 year. I know that it takes some of your time away from other things. But, in the long run, believe me, it will be well worth it. Not for me, but for our Veterans who lay in Beds of White.

My motto is: **SPREAD YOUR WINGS OPEN YOUR HEART, VOLUNTEER!** So, spread those wings with hugs, open your heart with kindness and love, volunteer. Never expect anything in return and see the joy you bring at the VA, Nursing homes, hospitals, your fellow members, and neighbors. A few minutes feel like a lifetime to someone.

Past President, Kandy Brazell has informed us the Golden Age Games food donations will have to be bought from their vendor and put in goodie bags to be handed out after the event. For more info contact Kandy Brazell and/or Mark Decker.

There will be a Council of Administration meeting to be held on October 27, 2018 after which will be my Homecoming that evening. More info to come.

Hope everyone is putting on sunscreen, drinking plenty of water, and having fun on your vacations. **BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN.**

Love,

*Clara Montano*

Clara Montano, President  
Grand of NM MOCA  
2018 – 2019