



## Nominations at May Membership Meeting

# Boll Weevil Reveille



The Monthly Newsletter of  
DAV Chapter 9, Enterprise-Coffee County  
PO Box 310972  
Enterprise, AL 36330  
Articles are due by 20th of each month.  
Send articles to [davch9news@yahoo.com](mailto:davch9news@yahoo.com)  
or [mcvickair@yahoo.com](mailto:mcvickair@yahoo.com)

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

#### MEMBERSHIP

Saturday, 3 May at 8:30 AM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Thursday 22 May 6:00 PM

ALL MEETINGS HELD AT:  
201 W. Watts Street  
Enterprise, AL

### FUNDRAISERS!!!

**FORGET-ME-NOT**  
17 MAY 2014  
0800-1600  
at Fort Rucker at the Class VI,  
Commissary and Main Shoppette

**Ruby Tuesday Give Back** this  
weekend... see flyer in this  
newsletter.

### EVENTS

**Department of Alabama  
Convention...** 5-8 June. We  
need to get our supporters to  
purchase ads for the program.  
10% of the chapter collection  
comes back to the chapter.  
Information will be available at  
the next two chapter meetings.

**Memorial Day Ceremony** at  
Fort Rucker Veterans Park... 23  
May at 0830

**Flag Day** is approaching in June.  
Prepare for the Boswell Honda  
Flag Retirement Ceremony and  
plan on participating!

### NOTR

Newest Rats!  
Bill Voth, Max Roberts, Sherman  
Key, Bill Stahl, Steven Skeen

Interested in becoming a RAT?  
See one of the guys with  
dangling RAT tails.



## COMMAND COMMENTS

I must say, our Chapter has to have the best DAV Color Guard in the State of Alabama if not east of the Mississippi. The Chapter #9 Color Guard presented the Colors at the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) breakfast in March and over the past year; they have been involved with every major parade and most events in the Enterprise- Coffee County area. Currently, the Chapter #9 Color Guard is preparing for the Enterprise Veterans Day parade this year that will focus on honoring female Veterans. Therefore, The Color Guard is looking for females that are willing to give some of their time to practice and perform with the Color Guard, not just for the parade, but to represent the Chapter in local events. If you would like to become part of the DAV Chapter #9 Color Guard (Males and Females), give our office a call at (334) 308-2480.

Nominations will be conducted at our May general membership meeting followed in June by Chapter #9 elections. In addition, the June meeting will probably be held the second Saturday of the month which will be the June 14. This change will be voted on at our May 3 general membership meeting and the results will be posted on the Chapter Facebook Page and in the June Newsletter. This change is necessary since the Chapter will be participating in the Department Convention

## CHAPLAINS NOTES

Keep comrade **Bill Voth** in your prayers for healing!  
Remember comrade **Jerome Cobb** in your prayers!  
Keep comrade **James Stockton** in prayer for recovery!  
Keep DAVA commander **Iris Keen** you your prayers for healing! Say a prayer for comrade **Skelton's** wife, and DAVA member, **Donna** in her recovery! Keep my better half and DAVA member **Nell Baker** in your

prayers as she prepares for surgery!

whereas the chapters of the state of Alabama will chose the next Department Commander and officers. Furthermore, Department will be conducting vital training which our chapter officers need to help local veterans to their fullest.

Finally, I would like to remind people that our Chapter Officers, Office managers, webmaster, CSO's, Van Drivers, Color Guard, Veteran and Executive Committee Members are ALL volunteers that in some cases give up personal leave, money, and time to help fellow veterans. I am told from time to time that our Chapter wasn't able to help someone immediately for one reason or another but it's most likely because our chapter doesn't have enough volunteers to help 100% of those who need it at any given moment. Sometimes, just taking 2 hours on your day off to help a veteran complete his VA claim means the world to some veterans, and can help make a difference in the veterans life that he'll never forget. That's why it's important to have a new flow of volunteers continually. If you can help even just one day a week, please call our Chapter office @ 334 308-2480.

**TODD McVICKAR**

## Nominations at May Membership Meeting

prayers as she prepares for surgery!

Please, let me know of any members you may know of in need of prayer or who might be in the hospital and need a visit!

**BILL BAKER**

## this issue

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## Veterans Crisis Line

(1-800-273-8255 press 1)

connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text (**Text 838255**). Veterans and their loved ones can call, chat online, and text message.



**Did you know you can help the chapter by getting ads for the newsletter? Know of a business you would consider Vet friendly? Think you could ask them if they would like to have a business card ad in the newsletter?**

Get them to donate \$15 for three months, \$25 for 6 months or \$75 for a whole year! If they don't have a business card, you can get their information and we can make the ad for them.



## VAN DRIVERS DISPATCH

The van drivers made 14 trips to Tuskegee during this period. This is a higher than normal number. We had two drivers out for medical reasons and one away on a trip so the rest of us drove a few extra days. Buddy Keen is to be commended for really helping out. He drove four times even though he is very committed to other activities including attending school on many evenings. He is Chapter Nine's treasurer and also the treasurer for the Enterprise American Legion.

On Sunday, April 13, four drivers attended a VA volunteer's appreciation dinner at Tuskegee. Awards for volunteer hours and other achievements were given.

**BILL VOTH**

	Trips	Miles	Hours	Vets
Jon Langhammer	2	472	24	9
Paul Skyles	1	236	12	3
Sonny Smith	1	236	12	3
Bill Voth *	1	236	12	2
Rex Bass	3	708	36	14
Buddy Keen	4	944	48	10
Tom Ferguson	2	472	24	6
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3304</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>47</b>

## DEPARTMENT CRIER

As of this mailing the department is 37 members short of reaching the recruiting goal. Please, get out there and help your chapter and department make goal before the department convention in June.

You can be trained! If you would like to attend the

teleconference for the department training each month visit the [department website](#) for information.

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# LVAP COORDINATOR REQUEST

Helping around town volunteering? Going to meetings in the community? Going to church and volunteering in the choir, classroom or nursery?

If you are doing anything like this or even attending our chapter meetings you can log that time as LVAP reportable volunteer hours. You will be helping the department in

showing the Alabama State Government what we are doing in the community as veterans.

If not for the department, why not do it for the volunteer hour pin for your cap and the items you can purchase with your hours? [CLICK HERE](#) to download and fill out form and then email form to [culverla1@yahoo.com](mailto:culverla1@yahoo.com).

# THE PARTING SHOT



These two have been there and done that! Now it is someone else's turn at the helm! Come to the May meeting if you have want to help the chapter move on by nominating the next leadership team for the chapter.

## Nominations at

## May Membership Meeting!

## Ask someone

### EYE ON IT

[Military Humor](#)



[Patriotic Medley](#)



[Disabled for Life Memorial Progress](#)



[Former Army SGT to Receive MoH](#)



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# FROM THE DOC'S DESK

## A Perspective on Happiness

It seems that we have a lot unhappy people walking around in this world now days. And, one should wonder why since we live in the free United States of American where most claim to religious, if not Christian, in some form or fashion. At the same time, most have about as much as one needs, perhaps wants. It is like we have gotten caught up in trying to be successful, to be liked, and to maintain a peaceful, comfortable existence -- yet the true meaning of happiness has been lost. The new boat, the new house, the new better paying job, the better education, the vacation to the beach, getting someone to like you, access to more money--may be enjoyable, and lead to "happiness." Yet this happiness is only momentary. Certainly, this like security, success, independence are desirable in our competitive world, and perhaps necessary to provide a means by which to live, yet the amount of amount of security, success, independence can attain without destroying or overshadowing true happiness varies greatly with the individual.

Our brain functions as a very complex computer. Our "computer" brain was programmed during early childhood. This programming is very complex and an individual thing, the result and evolution of our society and the interaction we and those around it have with it. At the same time, this programming causes the human being to let emotions determine the reaction in any interaction with another person, thing, or situation. Largely, our reaction is the result of the emotional programming resulting from our interaction with the society in which we live. If the response from an interaction does not correspond to that expected by this deep seated programming, we become angry, frustrated, or in some way unhappy. To combat the emotional reaction to any person, thing, or situation, one must learn to accept everything and everyone at face value, unconditionally.

This does not mean that we must approve of the action of the person or thing or agree with the situation, but we must accept the person, thing, or situation unconditionally. At the same time, one must accept himself or herself, love himself or herself for what he or she is and for for he or she can become, concurrently accepting and loving everyone and everything in every situation. In doing so, the individual human being's emotional programming is released. Such a process is not an instantaneous one, it must start somewhere and be worked at, maybe over the life time.

Often times we consider an older person to be a wise person. This is usually true. If we investigate "OLD" person that others consider to be wise and happy and contented in our society, we would find that these people have learned through experience that any one thing that happens is not the

end of the world and they have become more tolerant and in doing so, do not let their emotions control their lives. They have learned that "this too shall pass." They have learned to take things as they come. They are happy. Of course, not all "OLD" people are happy because of their strong emotional programming, their IQ, or just being plain out hardheaded. However, it is never too late to overcome the negative programming.

A very wonderful thing happens as we release or give up our emotional programming. We become happier and those around us become happier. There is less fussing and fighting. People around you start responding in a loving accepting way. There is more harmony. They respond more in accepting less emotional way.

To be truly happy, we must have a genuine concern for our fellow- persons and cannot use our early programming to determine responses to family, friends, associates, all those around us. In essence, the path to happiness is to love others as we do ourselves (yes, it is okay and necessary to love yourself a whole bunch), and, to treat others accordingly. Of course, it also is important that we love our God first. Then the rest should be easy.

**THERON COVIN**

FOR OUR COMMUNITY...

FROM THE COUNSELING CENTER

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# Ruby Tuesday

COMMUNITY **GiveBack** PROGRAM

**100% OF THE GIVEBACK AMOUNT IS DONATED DIRECTLY TO THE ORGANIZATION.**

Ruby Tuesday is extremely proud to be part of your hometown and believes in giving back. As a fellow member of the community, we invite you to participate in...

## **Ruby Tuesday's Community GiveBack Program.**

Grab your family and friends and join us at the 625 BOLL WEEVIL CIRCLE location on the dates listed below. Please present this flyer to your server, and we will give back **20%** of your purchase to the organization.

HOW IT WORKS

(We apologize but we cannot accommodate coupon usage or other discounts in conjunction with our GiveBack Program.)



*To make a reservation, call us at 334-347-5549 or visit us online at [rubytuesday.com](http://rubytuesday.com)*

**Organization's Name:** DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
CHAPTER 9

**Event Name:** DAV FUNDRAISER FOR CHAPTER 9

**Date(s) of Visit:** 4/25/2014 4/26/2014 4/27/2014

# Ruby Tuesday

For directions to the restaurant or a peek at the menu,  
visit [rubytuesday.com](http://rubytuesday.com)

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## **DAV Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
PO Box 310972  
Enterprise, AL 36331

**PHONE:**  
(334) 308-2480

**E-MAIL:**  
[mcvikair@yahoo.com](mailto:mcvikair@yahoo.com)

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/al/09>



## **Contact Us**

### **Chapter #9 Officers DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**

Chapter #9		334 308-2480	
Commander	Todd McVickar	334 798-9343	<a href="mailto:mcvikair@yahoo.com">mcvikair@yahoo.com</a>
Senior Vice	Armand Franco	334 393-9209	<a href="mailto:armand.franco@yahoo.com">armand.franco@yahoo.com</a>
Junior Vice	Kent Anger	334 379-8901	<a href="mailto:topdogxv@yahoo.com">topdogxv@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Buddy Keen	334 806-7305	<a href="mailto:buddy_455@yahoo.com">buddy_455@yahoo.com</a>
Chaplain	Bill Baker	334 447-0003	<a href="mailto:bill.baker@centurytel.net">bill.baker@centurytel.net</a>
Adjutant	Steven Skeen	334 470-8171	
Exec Comm Chair	Harold Skelton	334 393-7972	<a href="mailto:haroldredskelton@roadrunner.com">haroldredskelton@roadrunner.com</a>
Judge Advocate	Charlene Swann	334 470-7809	<a href="mailto:swanneer.river@gmail.com">swanneer.river@gmail.com</a>
Sergeant at Arms	Virgil Speece	334 347-3707	<a href="mailto:speecevt@hotmail.com">speecevt@hotmail.com</a>
Women's Vet Coord	Teri Doby	347 996-6610	<a href="mailto:ladyt162@juno.com">ladyt162@juno.com</a>
Senior CSO	Bill Baker	334 447-0003	<a href="mailto:bill.baker@centurytel.net">bill.baker@centurytel.net</a>
Van Coordinator	Bill Voth	334 347-2944	<a href="mailto:billyfred@roadrunner.com">billyfred@roadrunner.com</a>
Honor Guard NCOIC	Armand Franco	334 393-9209	<a href="mailto:armand.franco@yahoo.com">armand.franco@yahoo.com</a>
Office Manager	Sherman Key	334 308-2480	<a href="mailto:shermankey@roadrunner.com">shermankey@roadrunner.com</a>
Fundraising Chair	Vacant		



**Important Numbers**  
**VA Medical Centers**  
 1-800-214-8387

**Coffee County Veteran Service Officer:**  
 (334) 894-5858

**Birmingham VA Medical Center** (205) 933-8101

**Dothan CBOC**  
 (334) 673-4166

**Wiregrass (Lyster) CBOC** (334) 503-7836 or 503-7831

## Mission Statement..

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America’s injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life by:

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government;
- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically;
- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government;
- Extending DAV’s mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level Departments and local Chapters; and
- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

### About Our Organization...

**OFFICE HOURS/READING FILE:** The office is currently open Mon thru Thurs, 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Service officer assistance is appointment only. Contact the Commander or Service Officer ...telephone numbers provided in the newsletter.

**Chapter Reading File:** In the office for you to stop by and read. The office is also open during each executive meeting for you to come by and visit.

**DAV VAN (Enterprise to Tuskegee):** Our DAV Van operates from Enterprise to Tuskegee, departing Hardees at 5:15 Monday - Wednesday – Friday, arriving at Tuskegee at approximately 08:00. Please assist our drivers by having your hospital appointment notification for that day with you; a picture ID is also required. We take passengers on a first come first serve basis unless the Tuskegee HSC directs otherwise.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**  
 Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County  
 PO Box 310972  
 Enterprise, AL 36331