



MONTHLY MEETINGS

MEMBERSHIP

8:30 AM
Saturday
14 June 2014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

6:00 PM
Thursday
26 June 2014

ALL MEETINGS HELD AT:

201 W. Watts Street
Enterprise, AL

FUNDRAISERS!!!

TBA

Anyone interested in another "Pot-o-Gold" fundraiser? \$200.00 worth of scratch offs and all you have to do is donate a single one note! Anyone interested? Let the chapter commander know at the next meeting!

EVENTS

12 June 2014 Chapter 9 will be sponsoring a table for the Rotary International Auction. 8 seats for DAV and DAVA paid for. Contact the Commander for details. (Reserve a Seat)

Department of Alabama Convention 5-8 June 2014 in Montgomery.

NOTR

12 June 2014 the Rats will be sponsoring a table at the Rotary Club Auction – Contact the Dugout REG for info. Rats must pay the SGR \$30 apiece.

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



COMMAND COMMENTS

It was great to see such a great turnout at the chapter's last General Membership (GM) on May 3rd. There's still a debate as to whether or not it was beneficial to change meetings from Thursday nights to Saturday mornings. The turnout has stayed about the same, but because of individual schedules; some members that haven't been to meetings in a while are showing up and the ones with busy weekends are intermittent.

Another issue of discussion at our last GM meeting was the overall turnout which is still less than 2% of our overall membership. We currently have 1,620 members on our roster and it's usually the same members that show up to meetings every month. It's always good to get a fresh rotation of active members. Membership rotation helps avoid monopolization of positions, ideas and it promotes additional benefits of cross-training officers and members and it increases the flexibility and adaptability of our chapter. Likewise, new and innovative ideas for fundraising,

recruiting, and participation in the community are always helpful to keep an organization relevant.

I was honored to partake in the annual van drivers appreciation dinner a few weeks ago at McLin's in Daleville. It was great to hang out with the drivers and spouses and to hear some of their war stories while in the military and on the Van. The van drivers are a really tight knit group who demonstrate selfless service in so many ways.

The chapters June GM meeting will be on the 14th instead of the 7th. The Department of Alabama is having their convention 5-8th of June and most of the chapters officers will be participating. Nominations took place at our May GM meeting and elections will be on 14 June. In order to run as an elected officer, or vote, you must be a member in good standing and rolls will be checked. Make sure to be there on the 14th of June in order to cast a vote for any contested positions.

TODD McVICKAR

CHAPLAINS NOTES

We, as Disabled American Veterans, like everyone else, must march to the seasons. Summer is now in the air and we are putting long-sleeved blouses and shirts away and tucking our heavy coats and gloves into closets. Flowers are blooming and even the birds are chirping away happily in leaf-filled trees. A new season is upon us and I for one am ready.

The summer months are truly a great time of the year. Family "stuff" is the best. Reunions and picnics offer fun events and a chance to get in touch and to get closer to family and friends. This is especially true with our DAV family when we gather in Montgomery in June for Convention. Here we will meet with friends that make up our DAV family. We will catch up on news. We get to brag about how well our Chapters are doing and complain about those people who make our lives, too interesting. Conventions are fun and are an important part of our DAV mission.

For those of you who are concerned about returning vets from Afghanistan and Iraq, I would ask you to consider attending the Convention this year. It will start on Friday

June 6th and continue through Sunday June 8th. Information shared by the VA and other chapters and districts are important. Did you know that the VA has established five polytrauma centers across the country that are funded and set up to handle our brother and sister vets who have been injured while in service. They include traumatic brain injury Traumatic brain injury (TBI), traumatic injuries to the brain, also called intracranial injury, or simply head injury, occur when a sudden trauma causes brain damage. TBI can result from a closed head injury or a penetrating head injury and is one of two subsets of acquired brain, spinal cord injury Approximately 10,000 new spinal cord injuries (SCIs) occur each year in the United States. , blind rehabilitation and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD is a disorder that occurs among survivors of severe environmental stress such as a tornado, an airplane crash, or military combat operations. Symptoms include anxiety, insomnia, flashbacks, and nightmares. . I did not know this information until I sat through a briefing at last year's convention.

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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.



Someone asked me several years ago, "Am I my brother's keeper? Am I responsible for everything that happens to my neighbors?" I answered, "Yes!" not legally, but morally and spiritually, "Yes!" I believe that we are responsible to make our little corner of God's kingdom as good as it can be. If one of my neighbors is hurting then my responsibility is to do all that I can to help them heal and make them whole. If each of us were to give just a little of our time, treasure, and talent, what a difference it would make and what a great gift it would be to those who are in pain.

If you agree with me, join us at the convention in Montgomery and attend all the great events that are planned. We will fellowship and have fun and will also learn and be inspired. Come and help us in the DAV make a difference and make our corner of God's kingdom the better for it.

BILL BAKER

June meeting moved right one week to 14 June due to Dept. Convention

DEPARTMENT CRIER

Your department is about to have elections. Our convention on 5-8 June has the most members attending in five years. For election to office you have:

- For Commander.....Laird Culver
- For Senior ViceCarol Varner or Charles Waugh
- For Junior Vice
 - 1st District – Victor Volpi
 - 2nd District – Gary "Pete" Cobb
 - 3rd District – Eugene Zeigler
 - 4th District – Fay Miller
- For Treasurer.....Sam MacMaster
- For Chaplain.....Pastor Vincent Turner
- For JAG.....Michael Michelotti or Frank Foster

Department reached the recruiting goal as of 15 May at plus 5 over goal. We still need to get out there and recruit. Chapters which have not met goal have until 30 June to be eligible for the 100% streamer. Get out there and make your earnest effort to reach your goal.

Have you helped a Veteran in need lately? Get involved with your chapter! We would love to see you at a meeting and participating.

JAG ON THE BENCH

Hello comrades!

Women have served on the battlefields in every major conflict in which the United States of America has participated even before the revolution. It wasn't long ago, considering, that women were finally recognized as and given a place in the ranks as soldiers.

Judith A. Bellafaire wrote a pamphlet titled *The Women's Army Corps: A Commemoration of World War II Service*. I have included a brief excerpt from the pamphlet and a hyperlink for you to read the rest of the article.

The Women's Army Corps in World War II

Over 150,000 American women served in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) during World War II. Members of the WAC were the first women other than nurses to serve within the ranks of the United States Army. Both the Army and the American

public initially had difficulty accepting the concept of women in uniform. However, political and military leaders, faced with fighting a two-front war and supplying men and materiel for that war while continuing to send lend-lease material to the Allies, realized that women could supply the additional resources so desperately needed in the military and industrial sectors. Given the opportunity to make a major contribution to the national war effort, women seized it. By the end of the war their contributions would be widely heralded.

Read more at: <http://www.history.army.mil/brochures/WAC/WAC.HTM>

The DAV, and our chapter, recognizes the accomplishments and struggles many women have endured to finally receive rightful recognition and a place in our military.

CHARLENE SWANN

VAN DRIVERS DISPATCH

On May 13th the chapter showed their appreciation for the work the van drivers do by hosting a dinner for them at McLin's in Daleville. A total of thirteen people, drivers and their wives, attended and had a very enjoyable evening. Later, beer steins with each driver's name printed on it were presented. It was a fun evening with a lot of laughing and fellowship among a group of people dedicated to helping veterans. The drivers appreciate this recognition and wish to thank the Chapter for this annual event.

BILL VOTH

	Trips	Miles	Hours	Vets
Jon Langhammer	2	472	24	1
Paul Skyles	4	944	48	13
Lyle McMullen	1	236	12	2
Bill Voth *	1	236	12	11
Rex Bass	1	236	12	4
Buddy Keen	1	236	12	4
Tom Ferguson	2	472	24	5
TOTALS	12	2832	144	40

We need you to go out and get some of the businesses you frequent to donate prizes for our NPF Fundraising Event by 20 June 2014! Help the Chapter!

Elections at June Membership Meeting!

Any member in good standing can run. You have to be a member on the chapter roster to vote!

THE PARTING SHOT



Treasurer Buddy Keen, Tenderfoot Kevin McVickar, Commander Todd McVickar, State SVC Becky Culver (DAVA), Judge Advocate Charlene Swann and Junior Vice Kent Anger members of Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County who attended the Memorial Day Ceremony at Fort Rucker, AL this year. In attendance but too fast for pictures Dept Treasurer Sam MacMaster, Bob Cooper, Van Coordinator Bill Voth, Laird Culver (someone had to take the picture!)

EYE ON IT

Oldies but Goodies



Joe on VA News and DAV Stance



Burn Pit Report



A Soldier's Pledge



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.



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\$15 Business Card in program – 2months in newsletter/ \$25 Quarter Page in program 4 months in newsletter/ \$50 Half Page in programs - 6 months in newsletter/
\$100 Full Page in programs – 1 year in newsletter. Call the office at 308-2480 and leave a message or email



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PHONE:
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E-MAIL:
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

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Commander	Todd McVickar	334 798-9343	mcvikair@yahoo.com
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Office Manager	Sherman Key	334 308-2480	shermankey@roadrunner.com
Fundraising Chair	Vacant		

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.

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

Boll Weevil Reveille Issue 1406 June 2014

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee County
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