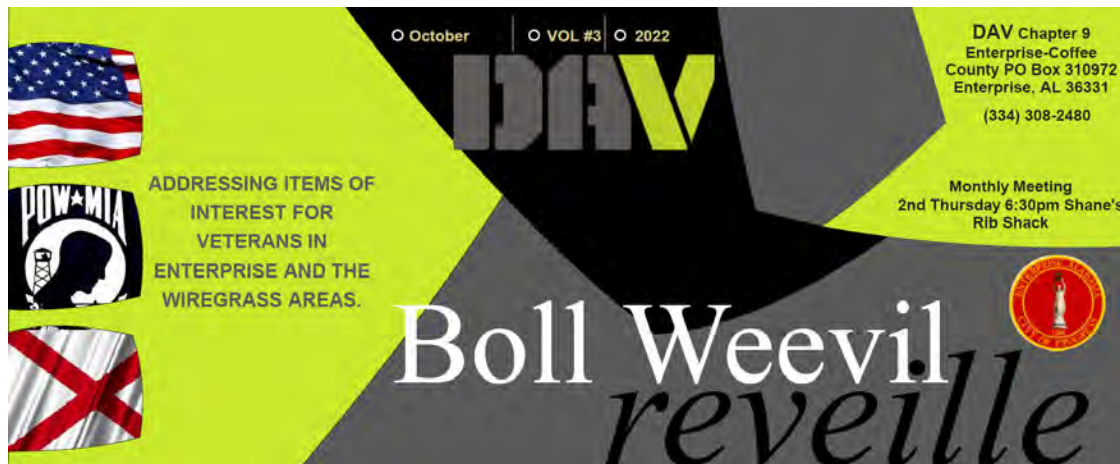




## October Newsletter

This is a Web Based Newsletter than can be accessed at the page below:  
<https://preview.mailerlite.io/preview/141538/emails/68077615477425736>



### Commander's Corner

Hello Comrades,

This time of year encompasses our biggest fundraiser. As such, we sell raffle tickets to the Auburn and Alabama "Iron bowl" game. We continue this fundraiser November 4-13 at the National Peanut Festival in Dothan.

I would like to thank those of you that have assisted us in selling the Iron Bowl raffle tickets. We have a lot

more to sell so if anyone can assist us in this endeavor, I will be overjoyed to see you stop by the office so I can you some tickets.

If any of you can assist us at the fundraiser at the Dothan National Peanut Festival, please let us know. All Volunteers get into this event for free. Chris Jones is managing the Peanut Festival this year and is doing a great job! If you have any questions, you can contact him at [\(334\) 360-1719](tel:3343601719). Please click below to let us know what days you can assist, and we will make sure your name gets on the roster.

We can't do this without teamwork! So please consider volunteering.

Thank you, Tom

[Click here to sign up to Volunteer at the National Peanut Festival Fundraiser 4-13 November](#)

**Iron Bowl**  
**Raffle Tickets**  
**\$1 each**  
Winner will be notified on  
14 November  
You do not have to present to win!  
Proceeds go to support  
Disabled American Veterans

**DAV**  
KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO  
AMERICA'S VETERANS  
Chapter 9  
704 Crawford Street, Enterprise, Alabama

## Christmas Party Countdown!

55 22 09 12  
Days Hours Minutes Seconds

## RSVP for the Chapter 9 Christmas Party

**The Christmas Party will be on 8 December at 6:30 pm at the Baptist Center Building of the First Baptist Church on 109 E Lee Street in Enterprise. Because this invite is going out to all members of our chapter, an RSVP is required to attend. We look forward to fellowship with our DAV family!**

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Student Volunteer of the  
Month is Eli Howell!

Eli Howell helped Chapter 9 with our  
October Lowe's fundraiser. His  
influence for others to donate



exceeded the normal donation amount for a Saturday fundraiser. His dedication to help our organization is appreciated.

Eli is a Junior at Enterprise High School who spends most of his time as a Cadet 2nd Lieutenant in the EHS Army JROTC as both a Flag Detail Commander and the Security Detail Commander. He is currently a

member of the Student Government Association (SGA) and is responsible with the duties as the Student Basketball Manager. His continued selfless service of volunteerism reflects great credit upon his character as a leader and his future. Way to go Eli!

Volunteer service is at the heart of the DAV mission of helping empower more veterans to lead high-quality and fulfilling lives. From volunteering at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers to assisting veterans in their local communities, DAV volunteers make a real difference in the lives of veterans. **DAV offers \$110,000 in scholarships annually** to be used toward any accredited institution of higher learning, including universities, colleges, community colleges and vocational schools.

This college scholarship is open to volunteers age 21 or younger who have contributed a minimum of 100 hours credited through DAV or DAV Auxiliary. Students may apply with the inclusion of an essay on what volunteering for veterans means for them. Anyone can nominate a worthy candidate including the student/applicant.

[Click here for more DAV Scholarship information](#)

## Chapter Officers



### Senior CSO

This next year, all Chapter Service Officers (CSO) are required to work in the chapter office at least 4 days a month unless an exception has been granted.



### Sr Vice Commander

Our Chapter now has 1,912 Members! We Welcome the following new members:

Donald Casey, Donald Fontaine, Eva Garrison, Edmund Israel, Jaymes Mongrello, Scott Pampell, Damion Summers, and Linda Lewis



## Adjutant

Are you tired of the long lines at the Pharmacy at Lyster? Then transfer your medicines to the VA and receive them in the mail! Click below for more information!

If you would like to submit anything for our monthly newsletter, please send your message/update NLT the 28th of the month.

[Transfer Prescriptions to the VA](#)



## Treasurer

All of those going to the CSO training/Mid-Winter Conference in January, please remember to have receipts for reimbursements. Your allotted reimbursement is based upon the chapter vote.

[Apply for VA Healthcare here!](#)



## Please Volunteer as a Van Driver

Our nation's heroes travel around the globe to protect our freedoms—it's only right that we return their dedication. Volunteering to drive a vet ensures that even those living remotely from VA hospitals can make their appointments and never go without the treatment they need.

It's all part of the DAV Transportation Network, administered by our

Hospital Service Coordinators at VA medical facilities around the country.

You do not have to be a Veteran, nor be a member of the DAV to join the DAV Transportation Network. Please contact me at [\(334\) 596-5217](tel:3345965217). Your volunteerism will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Kerry Edwards

[Volunteer as a Van Driver](#)

[Email our Van Coordinator](#)

## Chaplain

Hello to the Members of Chapter 9,  
We have had a very busy year fighting COVID and other problems in the world.  
I wish to thank you for your service to the country and service to your fellow  
veterans. The chapter is continuously working to make life easier for all  
veterans.

Chapter 9 has lost several members to sickness and I pray for each and their  
families. The chapter meetings are a place for fellowship and information. The  
officers and I are concerned with our veterans well being.

Each day please say a small prayer for our brothers and sisters that are in  
harms way, asking for their safe return home. We are our brothers keeper and  
should think of each as family.

Buddy Keen

## Executive Committee



### “SERVICE”

Happy Fall, Comrades! As we move into the season of Pumpkin Spice, or second Summer here in Alabama, I'd like to write about SERVICE.

What is SERVICE? The dictionary provides several definitions of the word SERVICE. As a noun, SERVICE means 'the action of helping or doing work for someone'. As a verb, SERVICE means 'perform routine maintenance or repair work

on (a vehicle or a machine)'. As with all of you, I am always humbled when someone thanks me for my SERVICE. I have two responses prepared for these occasions; 1) The most fun anyone can have with your tax dollars or 2) You're worth it. My response is determined by the context in which the statement is made. The more sincere and formal the statement seems to be, the more I lean towards the second response. Usually, I get some weird looks and chuckles. Oftentimes a conversation is sparked, and I have the opportunity to tell the story of what Selfless Service truly is and the sacrifices that we made, make, and will continue to make as Veterans. It is truly telling, even in our closeknit and heavily Veteran represented communities, how little the understanding is for the hardships endured, shared experiences, and friendships forged over the span of someone's time in SERVICE.

Recently, I was asked why I served so long in the military and why I continue to serve our communities in the manner in which I do. And, upon reflection, the only answer I can provide is "if not me, who"? There is a significant decrease in

folks of all ages to perform selfless acts of SERVICE. Thankfully, each of you, my Comrades, were forged in the same fires as I and know the value of Selfless Service and the sense of pride, accomplishment, and well-being we receive from these acts. Not to mention the immense good they do in our communities.

The Disabled American Veterans' mission is to advance the interests and work for the betterment of all disabled veterans; advance the condition, health and interest of all disabled veterans; to stimulate a feeling of mutual devotion, helpfulness and comradeship amongst all disabled veterans; and to serve our communities and our country. Our Chapter, and the other VSOs in our community, are doing very good things. There are plans for even more. However, we need YOUR help; your SERVICE, if you will. Please take a moment to look over the planned events and determine where you can assist. The more oars in the water, the better the boat goes...

Comrades, I take great pride in serving and advocating for the Veterans in our community and I look forward to continuing to do so with each and every one of you!

## DAV Department of Alabama

### 2nd Jr Vice Commander

Greetings Comrades,

There will be a National Veteran's Awards Dinner (10 Nov at 5pm) and the National Veteran's Day Parade (11 Nov at 11am) in Birmingham, Alabama. For more information, please click the link below. Tickets are 50 dollars and can be purchased from the Department Adjutant Hugo Perez. Please click the link below to email him to get your tickets.



The Department of Alabama has a new website, its more user friendly and there are numerous links you can go to for information. Click below to see the new website.

For the Month of October, I plan to visit Chapters 6 (Foley), 87 (Dothan), and 94 (Ozark).

Thank you, Gerry Merrihew





PDC Bill Baker

### 2023 VA Compensation Boost

Congress recently finalized plans to guarantee Veterans the same cost of living increase as Social Security payouts. With inflation all over the country, Congress plans to boost benefits, including monthly VA compensation. The 2023 COLA will be the most significant margin increase in four decades.

What is COLA, and how does it affect my VA compensation?

The Social Security Administration generates the cost of living adjustment. It started in 1973 to keep pace with inflation over the years. COLA is calculated based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. These are calculated monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

When will VA rates be affected by the increase in inflation?

The COLA for 2022 is 5.9%, and officials predict an increase to 8.7%. This increase would be the highest the COLA has been since 1981. The official increase amount will be announced in October 2022 and will go into effect in January 2023. As a Veteran receiving compensation from VA, there is nothing you need to do. The change will take place automatically.

## Chapter Views





## 9/11 Ceremony at the Wall of Freedom



## Chapter Monthly Meeting

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding November) at Shane's Rib Shack (8 N Pointe Pkwy, Enterprise, AL 36330) at 6:30 pm. If you would like to fellowship and eat, then please show up before 6pm. We do



not have a meeting in November because of our largest fundraiser at the National Peanut Festival in Dothan 4-13 November. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Join our Color/Honor Guard!

Help us to present the National Colors at a presentation or ceremony as a Color Guard and to present a contingent to bear honors at funerals as an Honor Guard. Our job is to give honor to both our nation and our fallen comrades who served with honor and selfless service.

If you would like to join our distinguished team of professionals, please contact our Color/Honor Guard Commander, Armand Franco, at [\(334\) 475-0619](tel:3344750619) or email him at the link below.

Contact the Color/Honor Guard Commander

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
DAV Van						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Columbus Day		DAV Van		Chapter Meeting 6pm at Shane's Rib Shack	DAV Van	Enterprise Fall Festival 11am-4pm (Fundraiser)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
DAV Van		DAV Van			DAV Van	*DAV Townhall Meeting Online or phone 8am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
DAV Van		Military Affairs Meeting Chamber of Com 8am		Finance Com Mtg 5pm Exec Com Mtg 6pm	Newsletter Submissions due to the Adjutant	
			DAV Van		DAV Van	
30	31					
DAV Van						
LVAP Hours due						

\*The DAV Department of Alabama has a monthly town-hall meeting on the 4th Saturday of the month that is open to all DAV members. Dial in: 319-527-4759 / To view the training Online: <https://join.startmeeting.com/debbwalk32> / The online meeting ID: debbwalk32 Please mute your microphone. All Members of the DAV are welcome to join us!

#### October local events:

- 11 - 6pm VFW Post 6683 Meeting, 2615 County Road 537, Enterprise
- 11 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 13 - 12pm US Army Warrant Officer Association Meeting, Swartworth Hall BLDG 5302, 5302 Outlaw Street, Fort Rucker
- 13 - 6pm DAV Chapter 9 Meeting, Shane's Rib Shack, Enterprise
- 15 - 11am-4pm, Enterprise Fall Festival, Downtown Enterprise
- 15 - 6:30pm Frite Night at Fort Rucker Riding Stables, Fort Rucker
- 18-22 Fall Extravaganza fair at Boswell Honda, Enterprise
- 18 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 22 - 8am DAV Department of Alabama Townhall meeting, see above for information.
- 22 - 9am American Legion Post 73 Meeting, 701 E Lee Street, Enterprise, (Auxiliary at 11am)
- 25 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 26 - 8am Military Veteran Affairs Meeting, Enterprise Chamber of Commerce, 553 Glover Ave, Enterprise
- 27 - 5pm Finance Committee Meeting at the Chapter Office, 704 Crawford Street, Enterprise
- 27 - 6pm Executive Committee Meeting at the Chapter Office, 704 Crawford Street, Enterprise
- 28-29 6-10pm Daleville JROTC Haunted House Fundraiser, Inside the Highschool JROTC Building, Daleville
- 28-Nov7 Enterprise JROTC Steak Dinner Fundraiser, POC: SGM Gary Price at (334) 389-0189. (Pickup on 17 Nov)
- 31 - 5:30pm - 8:30pm Enterprise announced Trick or Treat Hours.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		DAV Van		DAV Van		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	DAV Van		DAV Van	No Chapter Meeting	Veteran's Day	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	DAV Van		DAV Van Military Affairs Meeting Chamber of Com 8am	Finance Com Mtg 5pm Exec Com Mtg 6pm	DAV Van	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	DAV Van			Thanksgiving Day		*DAV Townhall Meeting Online or phone 8am
					DAV Van	
27	28	29	30			
	DAV Van Newsletter Submissions due to the Adjutant		DAV Van LVAP Hours due			

\*The DAV Department of Alabama has a monthly town-hall meeting on the 4th Saturday of the month that is open to all DAV members. Dial in: 319-527-4759 / To view the training Online: <https://join.startmeeting.com/debbwalk32> / The online meeting ID: debwalk32 Please mute your microphone. All Members of the DAV are welcome to join us!

**November Local events:**

- 1 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 2 - 11:30am AUSA Meeting, Thai Siam Restaurant, Daleville
- 2 - 5pm VFW Community Fellowship Dinner, 2615 County Road 537, Enterprise (Every First Wednesday)
- 4-13 DAV Chapter 9 Fundraiser at the National Peanut Festival, Dothan POC: Chris Jones (334) 360-1719
- 4 - 11am Fort Rucker Community Spouses' Club Annual Bazaar, Yano Hall on Andrews Ave, Fort Rucker
- 8 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 8 - 6pm VFW Post 6683 Meeting, 2615 County Road 537, Enterprise
- 10 - 11am Fort Rucker Veteran's Day Ceremony, Veteran's Park, Fort Rucker
- 10 - 12pm US Army Warrant Officer Association Meeting, Swartworth Hall BLDG 5302, 5302 Outlaw Street, Fort Rucker
- 10 - 5pm National Veterans Award's Dinner, Sheraton Downtown Birmingham Ballroom, Birmingham
- 11 - VETERAN'S DAY
- 11 - 11am National Veteran's Day Parade, Downtown Birmingham
- 11 - 8am American Legion Veteran's Day Breakfast and Ceremony
- 11 - 2pm American Legion Female Veteran Tea Fellowship, 701 E Lee Street, Enterprise
- 11 - 5pm DAV Wreath Laying Ceremony, Freedom Wall, Johnny Henderson Park Enterprise
- 11 - 6pm City of Enterprise Veteran's Day Ceremony, Civic Center, Enterprise
- 12 - 9:30am Flag Retirement Ceremony, Sam Boswell Honda, Enterprise
- 15 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 16 - 8am Military Veteran Affairs Meeting, Enterprise Chamber of Commerce, 553 Glover Ave, Enterprise
- 17 - 4:30-6pm Enterprise JROTC Steak Dinner Pickup, EHS Wildcat Stadium POC: SGM Gary Price at (334) 389-0189
- 17 - 5pm Finance Committee Meeting at the Chapter Office, 704 Crawford Street, Enterprise
- 17 - 6pm Executive Committee Meeting at the Chapter Office, 704 Crawford Street, Enterprise
- 19 - 9am American Legion Post 73 Meeting, 701 E Lee Street, Enterprise, (Auxiliary at 11am)
- 22 - 7pm Military Support Group (PTSD, etc), Church on the Bowl Weevil Circle, Enterprise (Every Tuesday)
- 24 - THANKSGIVING DAY
- 26 - 8am DAV Department of Alabama Townhall meeting, see above for information.
- 29 - 6:30pm Enterprise Christmas Parade, Downtown Enterprise

## Local Veteran News

Construction of the new VA home in Enterprise is in progress!

ADVA Commissioner Kent Davis, Assistant Commissioner for Operations Jeff Newton, and

Executive Director of the State Veterans Homes Kim Justice visited Enterprise on October 4th to see progress at the future site of the Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins State Veterans Home! Construction of the state-of-the-art skilled-care nursing facility began in early July. The home is expected to open in 2024.



[Read more](#)



## Enterprise Hometown Heroes Banner Program

Support a hero in your hometown by purchasing a banner. Banners will be located on Main & College Street in Downtown Enterprise and will be displayed throughout the summer months of the year (Memorial Day Weekend - August). Finished banners are 24" x 48" and, displayed throughout the downtown district on the light poles.

Due to the limited number of banner spaces, there is a limit of one banner per family.

To have your hero represented, please click the link below to fill out the form below and submit along with \$200 and a high resolution .png or .jpg of your hero. The application will close when all spots are reserved.

[Click for Application](#)

## Latest Headlines



DAV legislation: Priorities and victories

Gulf War Illness has baffled scientists. Until now.

VA to Screen all Patients for Toxic Exposure Issues

VA extends presumptive period for Persian Gulf War Veterans

How the PACT Act is Already Helping Veterans

## Social Media

Chapter 9 DAV Members Portal

Chapter 9 DAV Facebook



**Disabled American Veterans (DAV)**   
@DAVHQ 

The caregiver program was previously only available to eligible veterans who served on or after 9/11. It provides v... <https://t.co/8fDCGdQ1Zp>

12:37 PM - Oct 1, 2022

 6  See DAVHQ's other Tweets



**DAV Chapter 9 Enterprise-Coffee Co. Alabama**   
2022-10-01 



👍 Like    💬 Comment    ➦ Share

## Veteran "must have" Apps

Check out these apps to use on your mobile device.



### VA Rx Refill

Refill and track your VA prescription and scan your VA prescriptions to access prescription information.



### VA Video Connect

Meet with VA health care providers through live video on any computer, tablet, or mobile device with an internet connection.



### VA: Health and Benefits

Manage existing VA claims or appointments and send a message to your VA health care providers.



### Who is Eligible?

Any man or woman:

who served in the armed forces during a period of war or under conditions simulating war, and was wounded, disabled to any degree, or left with long-term illness as a result of military service, and was discharged or retired from military service under honorable conditions.

### Member Advantages

As a DAV Member, in addition to our programs and free services, you are entitled to Member Advantages, which gives you access to a variety of important programs, products and services. Also included with your membership is a FREE subscription to DAV Magazine.

To join Chapter 9, please scan the QR code below with your cell phone camera app open. Then click on the link that pops up.



After a minimum down payment of \$40 toward your life membership, you will receive your membership card. The remaining balance is paid in interest-free installments. All dues payments received are applied to your life membership account. Apply online for as little as \$10 with a recurring monthly credit card payment at the QR code above. Thank you for becoming a member!

[Click here to Join the DAV!](#)

### Chapter #9 Officers DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Commander	Tom Ferguson	2tfergy@gmail.com	(334) 470-6655
Senior Vice	Gerry Merrihew	gerrymerrhew@yahoo.com	(802) 238-3433
Junior Vice	Kent Anger	topdogxv@yahoo.com	(334) 379-8901
Treasurer	Carol Rainwater	carol.rainwater17@gmail.com	(334) 447-1727
Chaplain	Buddy Keen	buddy_455@yahoo.com	(334) 806-7305
Adjutant	Derrick Rainwater	adjutant@dav9enterprise.com	(334) 477-4381
Exec Comm Chair	John Sciascia	jsciascia@gmail.com	(334) 347-3701
Judge Advocate	Armand Franco	armand.franco@yahoo.com	(334) 475-0619
Sergeant at Arms	Bob Carroll	carollrob65@gmail.com	(334) 389-2887
Geneva Office Manager	Chris Jones	jonescr2010@gmail.com	(334) 360-1719
Senior CSO	Tom Ferguson	2tfergy@gmail.com	(334) 470-6655
Van Coordinator	Kerry Edwards	kedwards30378@sw.rr.com	(334) 596-5217
Honor Guard CDR	Armand Franco	armand.franco@yahoo.com	(334) 475-0619
Office Manager	Steve Restevio	steverest@gmail.com	(334) 806-4436
Fundraising Chair	Steve Restevio	steverest@gmail.com	(334) 806-4436
LVAP Coordinator	Beth Emerson	lemerson1@liberty.edu	(205) 401-8227
Executive Committee	Chris Jones	jonescr2010@gmail.com	(334) 360-1719
Executive Committee	Mike Sutterfield	mike.sutterfield@nav-int.com	(334) 400-6133



## 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.

**OFFICE HOURS/READING FILE:** The office is currently open Mon thru Thurs, 8:00 – 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**

To submit a message in the monthly chapter newsletter, please contact Adjutant Derrick Rainwater at [adjutant@dav9enterprise.com](mailto:adjutant@dav9enterprise.com) or (334) 477-4381. Any member of the chapter can submit something that can benefit the members of the chapter, Veterans, and their families in our community.

## Check out the DAV Store



## DAV Member Deals and Sponsorships

[Click here to see your DAV Membership Deals!](#)





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Do you like the newsletter? Share it!



**DAV AL Chapter 9 Enterprise**

704 Crawford Avenue, Enterprise  
Alabama, United States of America



You are receiving this because either you are a registered member of the DAV Chapter 9 Enterprise, or you requested to be on the communications list.

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