



the BUGLE

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, PALM SPRINGS, CHAPTER 66

VOLUME XLVI, No. 26 OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2015

2015 Officers

Next elections are held during the May 2016 Meeting

- Frank Gillette , Commander
310-918-9168
- Chad Shipley , Adjutant
562-508-3728
- Don Sutherland , Treasurer
760-328-5047
- Silas “Pete” Peterson , Senior Vice Commander
770-402-9885
- Dave Danford , 1st Junior Vice Commander
- Frank Gillette, Chad Shipley - Service Officers

E-mail: PS.DAV.Chap66@gmail.com
 www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/ca/66
 Facebook: fb.com/DAVCHPTR66



Fly Your Flag

- Columbus Day - October 12th
- Veterans Day - November 11th
- Thanksgiving Day - November 26th
- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (half-staff) - December 7th
- Christmas Day - December 25th

DAV Chapter 66 Meeting Schedule

Our next meeting is:

October 3rd, 2015 @10:30 AM

November 7th, 2015 @10:30 AM

December 5th, 2015 @10:30 AM

January 2nd, 2016 @10:30 AM



Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend these meetings and become active!

Join us for our meetings at the American Legion Post 519, 400 N. Belardo Road, Palm Springs, CA.

Meetings are held on the FIRST Saturday of every month - with the exception of July/August dark months and Labor Day.

From the COMMANDER

Frank Gillette

Continuing Support Of Our Veterans

We are quickly approaching the Holiday Season in our area. While we provide a lot of services with very limited resources, there are many families in the veterans community that do not share the successes that many of us in our own homes do. We still have homeless veterans, those about to lose their home, many elderly veterans without families and friends. Please be safe in your celebrations, but take a minute to visit those in the hospital, find one that does not have family and take a meal to them or invite them over for dinner. Be conscious of those recently returned from the campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Africa. Many come back from deployments with broken homes and marriages and on the verge of despair. They need a shoulder of a friend and family. We are all part of the much larger Veteran Community, I challenge each and every one of you to help our community get through this Holiday Season without the loss of one of these cherished people who have fought for our rights and our nation. May every Marine and Sailor, every Airman and Soldier, and every Reservist and Guardsman as well as Coastguardsman have a blessed and safe Holiday Season this year.

We continually need volunteers and assistance in spreading the word about how we help our community and Veterans. Please do not be alone or hesitant to ask for help or assistance, there is no charge except for the time that you give up in order for us to help you. We also need your help in order to keep our Veterans Organizations strong and vibrant so that we can continue to help in the many small ways we can. Please join our ranks of volunteers and members. If you need information please contact the 1st Vice Commander Pete Peterson at 770-402-9885 for membership information.

We have had several meeting with Congressman Ruiz's office over the summer. Our elected official continually supports our Veterans Community and is making a difference. With the continued support of his office we continue to make headway in the transportation issues of the area for veterans, community awareness and legislative issues for all of our members across the county. Many thanks to his office and the veterans community.

Frank “Doc” Gillette, Commander



Forget-Me-Not Drive **November 1st thru 11th, 2015**

We are quickly approaching the annual Fund Raiser for the Disabled American Veterans. We are approved for three locations for fund raising. The three Stater Brothers supermarkets who have agreed to help us are located at: (1) Vista Chino and Landau, (2) Date Palm and Ramon, and (3) Vista Chino and Sunrise locations.

The first time DAV members ever sold the little, blue "Forget-Me-Not" to the public was on February 24, 1926. The first "Forget-Me-Not" drive was held to raise funds to support DAV services and assistance desperately needed by our disabled veterans. For more than 80 years, this small blue flower of remembrance has been the staple of Chapter-level fundraising to support DAV assistance to local disabled veterans.

After World War I, the flower became the accepted symbol for commemorating those who had fallen during the war. The idea of selling the little blue flowers came from an image carried home in the memories of soldiers who had seen spring flowers growing on the graves of comrades and allies.

The DAV is looking for volunteers to assist with the booths from November 1, 2015 through November 11, 2015. Any and all assistance is appreciated on this. Point of Contact for this is:
Don Sutherland at 760-328-5047

Veterans Day Parade **November 11th, 2015 Downtown Palm Springs**

The Disabled American Veterans application for the Veterans Day parade has been submitted. We are looking for volunteers to both ride and carry the organizations banners. We will try to provide as many rides as possible for those that wish to attend this event on November 11, 2015. Point of contact for the Veterans Day Parade is Chad Shipley at 562-508-3728.



Chapter 66 members and family in the 2014 Veteran's Day Parade

Palm Springs Pride Festival **November 7th-8th Downtown Palm Springs**

In an effort to reach the 10-15 thousand LGBT veterans in the Coachella Valley. we are proud to announce that we are working in conjunction with the American Veterans (AmVets) on a joint booth at the Palm Springs Pride Festival in an effort to reach out and assist underserved LGBT veterans and families.

We will not be a participant in the actual parade event but we will be operating a combined booth providing benefits information and membership applications for both organizations. This is not a fund raising venture as we are conducting the "Forget Me Nots" event in conjunction with this for the period of November 7, 2015 through November 8, 2015. This will be a prime opportunity for new memberships for both organizations in an effort to bring our numbers up and be of a stronger benefit and influence in our community for all Veterans.

Point of Contact for this event is Chad Shipley at 562-508-3728.

Congressman Ruiz Announces Progress on Legislation to Streamline Benefits Process for Veterans

Recently, Dr. Raul Ruiz (D-Palm Desert) announced progress on legislation to help veterans, their families, and their survivors receive earned benefits faster. Two of his bills, the Veterans Access to Speedy Review Act and the Veterans' Survivors Claims Processing Automation Act, were included in the Veterans' Affairs Committee markup of H.R. 677, the American Heroes COLA Act. Dr. Ruiz's legislation would streamline the survivor benefits process for veteran families, help veterans who need benefits most gain priority processing, and expand the VA's capacity to process appeals without imposing additional costs.

"Our veterans and their families sacrificed for our country, and we owe them the benefits they earned without unnecessary delay or burdensome bureaucracy. These commonsense, bipartisan bills will get many veterans' appeal results and benefits sooner, at no added cost," said Dr. Ruiz.

"This legislation will also simplify the survivor benefit process for veteran families by authorizing the VA to initiate and pay earned survivor benefits without requiring bereaved relatives to file a formal claim. Mourning family members have enough to deal with upon the death of cherished veterans; we should no longer make navigating VA bureaucracy part of the coping process."

H.R. 677, the American Heroes COLA Act, advanced through the Veterans' Affairs committee with unanimous, bipartisan support.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR 2015 FORGET-ME-NOT DRIVE!

Detach and mail in this form with your donation today. Please make your check payable to:

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, CHAP. 66 P.O. Box 1044 Palm Springs, CA 92263



Please find enclosed my donation of \$ _____ For the **2015 FORGET-ME-NOT DRIVE.**

(Please Print)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Suicide Awareness

When it comes to suicide prevention, Every Day Matters. Suicide rates are at an all time high for Veterans. We are losing an average of 20-22 veterans a day --ONE IS TOO MANY. It takes all of us to stand and say no more and ensure that our comrades know they are not alone and that there is a shoulder and ear for them at all times. Please take the time out of your schedule once a week to speak with and check on those friends and families you know have been having a rough time. If you or someone you know is in trouble there are various resources out there for all veterans and families.

Military One Source - 800-342-9647

Veterans Crisis Line - 800-273-8255

Remember Your

Home Depot & Lowes Discount

FYI - Both Lowes and Home Depot will give a 10% discount to Veterans on all purchases. All you need to do is show proof of veterans status: i.e. VA Health ID card, DD214, or DAV membership card.

Daily Transportation Service

Now available for veterans from the Coachella Valley to Loma Linda VA Medical Center.

The SERVICE is FREE. Call 1-800-741-8387 ext. 2071 to make a reservation AFTER you know the date and hour of your appointment.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED - Cal R.C. AmVets Post 66

National Contact Information

National Headquarters 3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Springs, Kentucky 41076

Mailing Address PO Box 14301
Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301



1-877-I AM A Vet

1-877-426-2838

1-859-441-7300

dav.org

Important Resource Numbers

eBenefits ebenefits.va.gov
- your gateway to benefit information

Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255
VeteransCrisisLine.net
- confidential help for Veterans and their families

National Resource Directory nrd.gov
- resources in supporting troops, veterans and their families

Caregiver Support Program 1-855-260-3274
caregiver.va.gov
- information on the Caregiver program and eligibility

CALVET cdva.ca.gov
- California Department of Veterans Affairs

4 Paws 4 Patriots 4paws4patriots.org
- Service Dogs for Disabled Veterans

Emergency Shelter (24 Hours) 1-800-464-1123
- information and referral to shelters

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans
1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)
va.gov/homeless/nationalcallcenter.asp

Area VA Hospitals and Clinics

VA Loma Linda Healthcare System
11201 Benton Street
Loma Linda, CA 92357
1-909-825-7084 / 1-800-741-8387
lomalinda.va.gov

Palm Desert VA Clinic
41-990 Cook St, Bldg F Ste 1004
Palm Desert, CA 92211
1-760-341-5570



amvets.org

VA LOMA LINDA
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



A Division of VA Desert Pacific
Healthcare Network



The Bugle
 Palm Springs Chapter 66
 Disabled American Veterans
 P.O. Box 1044
 Palm Springs, CA 92263

DATED MAIL - PLEASE EXPEDITE

Friends of the Bugle

COMRADES

A. PHILL BABCOCK

LAWRENCE JARECKI

DONNA HUGHES

ROGER BAMBENEK

NED SCALTRITO

**Become a 'Friend of the Bugle'
YOUR NAME HERE**

Help with the publication and distribution of this quarterly newsletter...

**COMRADES \$10 PATRONS \$25
BENEFACTORS \$50**

PATRONS

BERNARD PANFIL

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

ROBERT SCHUTTE

LIFE MEMBER 5 YRS
KOREA 67TH FIGHTER

RICHARD F. "DICK" MILLER

PAST CHAPTER COMMANDER/SERVICE OFFICER
43 YEAR LIFE MEMBER

PHILIP WATTS

VIETNAM 64-65/67-68
DAV LIFE MEMBER

GEORGE PEDERSON

USAF (RET) 25 YRS SERVICE
VIETNAM VETERAN

DOUG TURNBALL

VIETNAM VETERAN
LIFETIME DAV MEMBER

LARRY HOLMGREN

US ARMY 8 YEAR
LIFETIME DAV MEMBER

SILAS "PETE" PETERSON

US NAVY USS TRIPOLI LPH10
GULF WAR COMBAT VETERAN

CHAD SHIPLEY

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS
LIFETIME DAV MEMBER

RANDY WIEMER

USAF (RET)
LIFETIME DAV MEMBER

LAWRENCE D. NELSON

MAY GOD WATCH OVER OUR SERVICE
PERSONNEL AND VETERANS

BENEFACTORS

COL. JACK BRENNAN, USMC (RET)

Remembering "Brennan's Bandits"
KHE SAHN RVN 1966-1967

LAURENCE CLARK

5TH 22ND ARTY
VIETNAM - 1ST FIELD FORCES

DONALD SUTHERLAND

PAST COMMANDER 37 YEAR LIFE MEMBER
"UNITE FOR VETERANS RIGHTS"
"LET'S ALL BE GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY
SACRIFICES MADE BY VETERANS"

THOMAS R. "TOM" SHUPE

PAST COMMANDER/ADJUTANT-TREASURER
40 YEAR LIFE MEMBER - SUPPORT VET PROGRAMS

FRANK GILLETTE

RETIRED US NAVY
LIFETIME DAV MEMBER

GARY WIEDLE

PAST STATE COMMANDER, 1982-83
40 YEAR LIFE DAV MEMBER

Our Thanks to all listed hereon for their support of this newsletter

In Remembrance Following is a partial listing of memorialized deceased chapter members:

Lawrence O. Allen, Manuel G. Barron, Jim Bolson, Billy E. Claybrook, Leland R. Coman, Claire L. Cook, Everett H. Cook, Austin Crager, Gil Eidt, Jack C. Evans, Jr., Colbert Eyraud, Luis A. Felix, Sid Fisher, Theodore W. Folkers, Robert Gartner, William Gorby, Daniel W. Guice, Harmon S. Handler, David Herrera, Jack Isler, Olaf C. Johansen, Joseph Josephson, John Kane, William L. "Bill" King, Eve Kludt, Orville F. Kroll, L.A. Linnebach, Ed McLaughlin, John D. Murphy, Eugene C. Olson, James R. Quinn, Rick Richards, Marcelino Rivas, Lee Rone, Armando G. Rosa, Morton "Mort" Schuman, Thomas "Tom" Shupe, Jacob Stein, Howard T. Swafford, Robert Trafford, Harry Tyner, Dawn Wade, Richard E. West, Jack Weiner, James W. Wilson, A.G. Woods, Albert R. Wycalis & Shorty Zimmerschied...