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DAV NEWS

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DAV Bulletin is published 6 times a year, from:
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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

January/February 2023

Fellow Chapter 82 Members,

Welcome to a New Year! Exciting times are ahead of Chapter 82 in preparation for our move from the current Market Circle to Suite 349 (across from DSW Shoes) in the Port Charlotte Town Center. I hope to meet you there for a ribbon cutting when Chapter 82 *officially* opens the new office on 3 March 2023 at 10:30 AM.

Looking back on this past year I make note of the loss of two comrades! The first was fellow Service Officer Kenneth (Ken) Long on 20 October 2022 after extended hospice care at home. His presence in the office is dearly missed. Then, there was the passing of LTCOL Mary Lee Chalifour (USAF/RET) on 15 November 2022. Mary was predeceased by her husband of 56 years, CMSgt Lee H. Chalifour (USAF/RET). Both Mary and Lee were active members of Chapter 82 for many years.

Robert L Cochran, Jr Chapter 82 Disabled American Veterans is growing! There are now sixteen (16) Service Officers working five (5) days a week. There continues to be a need for additional Front Desk Volunteers (come in and complete an application). Too, the DAV Auxiliary commenced operation this past year, and welcomed with open arms! Membership to the DAV Auxiliary is open to all veterans and their family. I encourage you to join this organization.

Please continue your donations to DAV Chapter 82. Our property on El Jobean is being mulched and trees damaged by Hurricane Ian removed. Bill Gryzik and Jerry Massey are contacting potential general contractors to manage development of the property. A fiscal concept Earl McAffe shared with me is to encourage one thousand (1,000) members to promise a donation

support of \$10.00 per month for five (5) years to generate \$600,000.00 for the Building Fund. Contact Don Dix to arrange direct deposit (ACH) donations, His number is (908) 210 - 0241. Many of our members have committed to \$100 a month for a year or more! To make our new home a reality your help is needed. Thank you for your continuing support.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 82.

Our mailing address is:

**Disabled American Veterans
c/o Building Fund
1232 Market Circle Unit 2B
Port Charlotte, FL 33953-3829**

Commander

Dave Grant

OFFICE HOURS

The office is open Monday thru Friday from 9 AM until 2 PM and is located at 1232 Market Circle, Unit 2B, Port Charlotte. The number is **(941) 629-2833**.

CHAPTER OFFICERS & APPOINTEES

Commander
Sr. Vice Commander
Jr. Vice Commander
Adjutant
Treasurer
Judge Advocate
Social Affairs Officer
Legislative Officer
Building Committee Chair
CCVC Representative
Finance Committee

Dave Grant
Pete Whisenant
Larry Hudson
Donnie Head
Don Dix
Bill Gryzik
Rob Olson
Richard Roberts
Jerry Massey
Earl McAfee
Bill Gryzik, Don Schaible,
Larry Hudson, Earl McAfee

Nomination Committee	Earl McAfee, Jerry Massey, Rich Roberts
Chaplain	Bernie Schiefer
Committeeperson 1 st Y	Buzz Lewandowski
Committeeperson 2 nd Y	Richard Roberts
Committeeperson 3 rd Y	Earl McAfee
IT Managers	Jeff Largent – Pat Leverty
Chief Service Officer	Bill Gryzik
Quartermaster	Dave Rife
SGT @ ARMS	Jerry Massey
Social Media Manager	Brian Roman
Bulletin Production	Bill Gryzik – Earl McAfee

VETERANS/SPOUSES/FAMILIES SERVED:

DAV Chapter 82 Service Officers assisted 122 brothers and sisters and their family members during the month of July, and 136 brothers and sisters and their family members during the month of August 2022.

FRONT DESK VOLUNTEERS

MONDAY	Brian Walter
TUESDAY	Chris Jensen, Donnie Head & David Stone
WEDNESDAY	Jerry Massey, Hank Hastman & Robert Johnson
THURSDAY	John Bahner & Brian Roman
FRIDAY	Don Dix, Jerry Anderson & Dave Rife
SATURDAY	By Appointment Only

Chris Jensen oversees scheduling, training and coordinating volunteers. The Chapter is in dire need of additional volunteers **with computer experience**. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Chris at (941) 629-2833 on Tuesdays.

SERVICE OFFICERS

MONDAY	Rob Olson, Pete Whisenant, Steve Benz & Dan Philips
TUESDAY	Earl McAfee & Larry Hudson
WEDNESDAY	Bill Gryzik,, Jeff Largent Robert John son & Wendy Davis
THURSDAY	Pete Whisenant, Buzz Lewandowski & Dave Grant
FRIDAY	Richard Roberts. Pat Leverty & Linda Franco
SATURDAY	By Appointment Only Cliff Jensen

Chapter Service Officer Monthly Meetings:

On the first Wednesday of each month at Noon, Service Officers meet at the Chapter Officer to discuss Service Officer work issues. (Unless planned otherwise).

Bill Gryzik

Chief Service Officer

CHIEF SERVICE OFFICER NOTES

To all the veterans who are actively seeing service officers at our Chapter 82 office. Please try, if at all possible, to use the same service officer on all visits. It is the best way to keep your claim clear and trouble free. So, ask your service officer on what day or days he works and plan accordingly.

Also note, that you can reference past bulletins which contain articles and specific information regarding VA benefits, new presumptives and the like by going to our chapter web page at <https://davchapter82.com/>. May/June Bulletin is loaded with great information

Bill Gryzik

Chief Service Officer

CHAPTER MEETING TIME

The meeting of Chapter 82 will be held on the first Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m. at Charlotte Players, 1182 Market Circle, Pt. Charlotte Fl 33953. If you need transportation to the meeting, please call the office in advance. The Chapter Meeting allows you, our members the opportunity to voice your opinions and have a vote on how our Chapter is run. Please try and attend!

DAV AUXILIARY NOTES

What is the “Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary”?

A group of Women & Men joining together to improve the lives of our American Wounded, Injured or Disabled Veterans and their Families.

Showing Patriotism, at all times, and cooperating with other patriotic organizations or public agencies.

To build and support our organization thru comradeship & friendships.

Everyone has the ability to make a difference in this World.

I am Karen A. Mullen, the interim Commander of the New DAVA Unit #82. Please join us as we embark on an “Awesome Journey”.

A very important meeting of the DVA is going to be held at our office on Market Circle. Training with our State Commander & Associates. Please make a point of attending. All interested parties Welcomed. Become a member!

Saturday, February 25th at 12:30 pm

Karen A. Mullen Commander

An Exciting Time for DAV Chapter 82

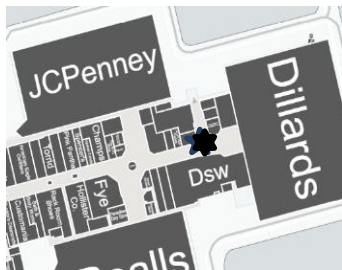
Yes comrades, change is in the air! We live in a changing world and sometimes, what seems to be safe and secure. unfortunately is not. With the destruction brought about by Ian, circumstances in and around our office have changed.

The property next door to us was purchased. We lost parking places for ourselves and our clientele, heavy truck traffic along with forklifts and the noise associated with it, now fills the air. Afterall, this location is a commercial one, with not much visibility to the local populace. Something needed to be done... And, so here we are in the midst of change. This change should be a good one.

And yes, as Commander Dave Grant stated in this month's Bulletin, "Exciting times are ahead for Chapter 82". A new high visibility location in the Port Charlotte Town Center. This will definitely not be business as usual. There has been a lot of hard work involved in the move. The work is being done by the usual core individuals that make our chapter one of the best in the state. Hundreds of volunteer hours are being logged in by these, our fellow veterans. These are hard working folks most loyal to the welfare of the chapter. **THEY WILL BE NAMED AND THANKED IN A LATER BULLETIN.**

Without these few selfless individuals from the ranks of our almost 1,200 members, there would not be much forward movement. And, what we are doing now friends, is just the first step for us to achieve independence, as a self-sustaining, nonprofit organization.

Our property on El Jobean is where our chapter belongs. This new office in the Port Charlotte Town Center will be a stepping stone which will help us achieve the goal of building our own Chapter offices and assembly hall, to serve our members and all veterans in the area.



If you can not help us with volunteer hours, please consider making a monthly commitment like the Commander outlined in his January Message. Thank You.

SR. VICE COMMANDER NOTES

See next month's Bulletin

NEW MEMBERS TRANSFERS TO CHAPTER 82

Membership – as of August 31st, 2022, Chapter 82 has a Total Membership of 1,177. If you have any questions regarding your membership — change of address, transfer, or a member's death, etc., please call or text Dave Grant (919) 302-4259.

***WELCOME TO OUR CHAPTER.
WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU!***

Please try your best to support our News Bulletin advertisers. They are a big part of what keeps our doors open to help our Veterans.

God Bless and Have a FINE DAY!

Pete Whisenant

Sr. Vice Commander

ADJUTANT NOTES

Coming next issue

Donnie Head

Adjutant

CHAPLAIN NOTES

TAPS

Ken Long
Joseph Pannini

Raymond Fiedler

Mary Chalifour
Diane Petersen

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Larry Bartlett
George Gardien

Darrell Decker
Cynthia Ward

Cornell Foltus
Butch/Cath Dumont
Lee Browning
Peter Turczyn

Ezra Von Horn
Donna Robe
Jim and Donna Cornelius

TREASURER'S REPORT

November, December & January will be reported on in the next bulletin

Don Dix

Treasurer

Chapter 50/50 - Pot Of Gold

Chapter 50/50 Pot of Gold Tickets are for sale at the Front Desk. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. At the end of each month, a winning ticket will be drawn, and the winner will receive 50% of the total sales.

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

Paid through the month of January/February or more

Steve Logsdon 1/23 Mary Chalifour 12/23
Butch Dumont 04/26

***Indicates last month as a booster.**

The cost to be a Bulletin Booster is \$5.00 per month. Renewals are not consecutive and start over from the renewal month. You can use the Donation Page of the Bulletin to send in your payment for Bulletin Booster, please check that your donation is for Bulletin Booster. All donations to the Chapter are tax deductible.

DONATIONS MADE IN December/Janaury

Donnation Information will be posted in next Bulletin

CHAPTER 82 MONTHLY BENEFACTORS:

(monthly donation committed for 12 Months)

Rob Olson start 08/15

Clarence Powell start 08/16

James/Donna Cornelius start 12/16

Gary Armstrong start 06/19

Mary Chalifour end 12/22

Bernard Schiefer start 02/22

Harold Baldwin start 08/15

Douglas Doolittle start 08/16

Twyla Gibson start 06/19

William/Sue Carlson start 09/21

Cindy Tichy start 01/22

Start date indicates a monthly donation. Donation will be made every month for a total of 12 months. End date indicates full 12 months donation paid in advance. *Last Month

NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. All Veterans and Gold Star Families are now able to get FREE Lifetime Passes to National Parks, Wildlife Refuges and other Public Lands.

1. All Veterans with a VA Service-Connected Disability are AUTOMATICALLY authorized to receive

Free Long Term Care or residence in Community-Based Living Centers.

These two 70% Disability benefits are not new, just poorly known. Many families may be able

to benefit from these services.

UPDATE: Important for Veterans and Spouses:

VA enrolled veterans admitted to a local hospital for life-threatening conditions thru the Emergency Room by ambulance or other means, need to **follow these steps to ensure VA payment:**

- Show the local hospitals admitting clerk ALL the veteran's insurance information.
- Call Bay Pines VA at 1-844-724-7842
- Provide Bay Pines VA the name of the local hospital
- Provide Bay Pines VA the Date of Admittance
- Provide Bay Pines VA the Name of Veteran
- Provide Bay Pines VA the last 4 of Veterans SSN
- Provide Bay Pines VA with a call back phone number
- Within 48 hours of admission, the Veteran or family member **MUST** call Bay Pines VA to confirm Hospital admission

VA enrolled Veterans, please ensure your spouse or significant other has this information. It is very important. Perhaps you can cut this note out of the bulletin and put it on your home refrigerator!!!

SERVICE OFFICER NOTES

Veterans' Suicide Prevention Hot Line:

The Veterans' Suicide Prevention Hot Line (1-800-273-8255 press 1, text 838255 or chat online @ <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>) may soon have its own three-digit number. The FCC began the process to designate 988 as the National Hot Line number. This dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting **July 16, 2022**.

Donate Your Vehicle or Boat:

If you have a car or boat you would like to donate to the Chapter, please call the Commander. All monies raised from the sale will be used to keep the Chapter Office operating.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CARS AND BOATS NEED TO BE IN GOOD RUNNING CONDITION. THANK YOU.

PERSONAL ITEM DONATIONS TO THE CHAPTER

The Chapter has limited storage space and will no longer be able to accept personal items for donation. If you would like to donate an item, please speak with Dave Rife.

VET VAN SCHEDULE

To receive the most current **INFORMATION** please call: (941) **575-3670**. CCVC has advised us that when you call and leave a message to ride the van, be sure to call back a couple hours later and leave the same message again. Doing this should alleviate any problems with scheduling.

DIAL-A-RIDE


Dial-A-Ride is available within Charlotte County. Please call (941) 833-6245 by 2 p.m. the day before you need a ride to schedule pick-up.


Robert L Cochran, JR, Chapter 82 DAV Social Media


Visit us on the  web at: <https://davchapter82.com/>.

Our Facebook  presence is:

Reach us on Instagram  at:

Find our profile on LinkedIn  at:

Give us a snap on SnapChat  on:

Tweet  us using @DAV_RLC

BULLETIN AD RENEWALS

There are still advertising spaces available, if you have not renewed your current bulletin advertisement, please do so at your earliest convenience. The cost to run an advertisement: business card size: \$100.00 (size: 2" x 3"), in memory or special thanks size: \$80.00 (size 2" x 2"). We send six Bulletins per year, bi-monthly.

All donations made to the Chapter are tax deductible. Thank you to everyone who has been using the Bulletin Forms to mail in their donations. If you have not paid for your 2022 Bulletin Advertisement, please make your payment as soon as possible. If you have any questions about Bulletin Ads please contact Pete Whisenant, our Senior Vice Commander (call 941-629-2833 and leave message).

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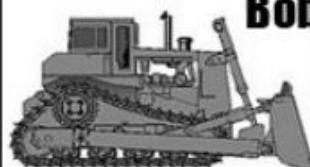
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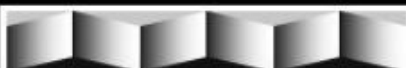
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In Arms.*



**A Special Thanks To
Our Combat Engineers.**



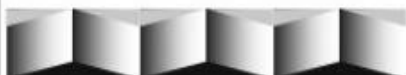
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