



Disabled American Veterans Chapter # 1

Lexington, KY

On The Move

Date 12/16/11

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I would like to thank the DAV and DAVA members who attended the Golden Corral dinner. The DAV is in the process of opening the Disabled American Veterans Information Office at Leestown. The office is in Building 25, room 51. The target date to open is January 2nd, 2012. All chapter members are welcome to help "man" the office and help serve and inform our fellow veterans and their family. We will hold training sessions and information will be given to the chapter members so you will be comfortable. With team work this can happen. Our goal is to be the number one chapter in the state of Kentucky. This office will let us tell who we are while we are serving our fellow veterans. Chapter members can contact DAVA Commander Sheckels or me to schedule volunteer time or if you have any questions.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 5, 2012, at the Lexington Senior Citizens' Center, 1530 Nicholasville Road at Alumni Drive. Dinner is 6:15 and meeting at 7pm.

Current and former members of our nation's military services can take advantage of discount rates with the Kentucky State Parks "USA Military Pass" program from Nov. 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012.

Any questions or comments to Commander Danny Jones (859) 299-1685 or danny1948@msn.com

Words from the Senior Vice Commander

With the Holidays behind us, it's time to reflect on how we can best support our hospitalized veterans in the coming months. Our Leestown Patient Clothing Room is always looking for new or gently used men's clothing items. Specifically, men's "Hoodies," T-shirts, and tennis shoes (all sizes, but especially larger XL, XXL, & XXXL).

National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans week will be conducted February 12 -18 . During that week, several visitors usually stop in to visit our in-patients at both facilities, including Miss Kentucky, the Governor, Lexington's Mayor, TV personalities, local sports teams, State & National Commanders and Presidents from various Service Organizations, and high-ranking military Officers (both active and retired).

On Valentine's Day (Tuesday, 14 February) we will again conduct a special Bingo on the Leestown Campus in Building 27 (Community Living Center Recreation Hall), from 2 pm. To 4 pm. Again, we'll be asking stakeholders to support us with snacks, quarters, and volunteers to make this event a positive experience for our in-patients at Leestown. Recreation Therapy will also conduct a special Bingo on the Cooper Drive Campus for those patients who cannot leave on Unit 4 South. For further information, contact Danielle Hester at 281-4930 (Cooper), or Bryon Boehmke at 281-3930 (Leestown).

BRYON K. BOEHMKE - PROUD VETERAN Voluntary Specialist Lexington VAMC/135

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NOTES FROM THE AUXILIARY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all our volunteers who helped with the Christmas projects for the Veterans. I enjoyed meeting and talking the new DAV members and volunteers and hope to see each of you at our monthly meetings.

The Thomson Hood Veteran's' Center in Wilmore can use socks, underclothes and pajamas year round. Please consider this as an on-going project for your church, family or business. Contact me if you need a pick up and delivery of your donations and I'll make arrangements.

2012 is going to be a very exciting and busy year for our group. We are hosting the first POW/MIA conference for the state of Kentucky unit in 15 years. We are very honored to make this happen for a very special group of veterans and widows. The conference will be at the Embassy Suites on Newtown pike on May 18 and 19, 2012. We are currently accepting donations to help cover the cost of the dinner and meeting so that the group will not have any out of pocket expenses. DAVA members you can help by contacting local businesses or other organizations for donations. If anyone would like to volunteer with the project call me or email me and let me know what you would like to do.

Watch for more announcements about 2 other important events happening in Lexington later in 2012!!

Increasing membership in the DAV Auxiliary is also a priority. Membership is open to anyone related to a DAV member either by marriage or birth.. So , the brother-in-law, fathers-in-law, nieces, nephews and step-children and other step relatives can now be a part of the Auxiliary that supports the veterans and their family for \$15 a year. A DAV member can also be an Auxiliary member. Please feel free to contact me or come to our monthly meetings on the first Thursday at the Senior Citizens Center on Nicholasville Road at Alumni Drive.

See everyone at the January meeting!

Commander Jeanne Strunk Sheckels (859) 333-8576 jeannestrunk@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Looking Ahead

There seems to be many things that we have plans to do. But, we either do not have the time, the list of things is already too long, or something always seems to get in the way. We think maybe later we will get to it. Sometimes we have to evaluate what is important.

As we look ahead at this coming year what do we see that we can plan to accomplish for the good of others? What are the possibilities of a support team within the chapter? You may ask, "What do I have to offer?" It may surprise us as we look beyond ourselves as to what we, together as a team, can do. Let us be known by our example of friends helping friends. How can we plan to help other Veterans live a better life?

Let us put our hearts and minds together and make a difference in our world around us. Even a smile, a kind word, or a card can often do a lot of good. Let's start the New Year out with a smile on our face and a song in our heart. I will look forward to seeing you at our next meeting January 5th 2012.

Chaplain Ken Jones 859-361-0600 davchaplain@yahoo.com