



NORTH MIDDLESEX CHAPTER #122
491 MAIN STREET A, WEST TOWNSEND, MA 01474
(LOCATED WITH POST 6538, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS)
PO Box 403, TOWNSEND, MA 01462

Chapter #122 Officers

Commander
Walter "Chip" Mann
(978) 855-2611
Cwo3chip@yahoo.com

Sr. Vice Commander
Willis Smith
(978) 732-3594
Perry2291@yahoo.com

1st Jr. Vice Commander
Theresa Morse
(978) 621-1289
Theresa.morse@gmail.com

Adjutant
David King
(508) 331-6117
davidking01462@gmail.com

Treasurer
Russ Moore
(978) 808-7301
russmoore3105@gmail.com

Chaplain
John O'Neill
(978) 394-7023
jack.oneill@hologic.com

From the Commander

Greetings, Comrades!

Here is a quick recap of events as summer was winding down. We had our ice cream sundae social at the Scholefield House in late August supported by several of our members. September is Forget-Me-Not month and we held our drive over Labor Day weekend. The good news is that we raised over \$700 at two locations. The somewhat disappointing news is that only four members supported our major fundraising event. We also had an opportunity to setup an information table at the Townsend Truck-A-Palooza at the end of the month. However, we had nobody available to man the table. I myself was manning a table for a different non-profit that I direct. I ask each of you to think about when and where you might consider stepping in to support your chapter in its mission.

Looking ahead, we are in the planning stages for two events involving the Scholefield house in the November/December timeframe. We are planning to provide a holiday meal for the residents. We are partnering with the Pepperell VFW Post to purchase items to assemble gift bags for the residents. As we get further along we will provide details.

I want to remind you about our website. It contains a calendar with upcoming chapter activities as well as events of interest to our members. You can view our website at www.ma.dav.org/122.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on October 26.

Walter "Chip" Mann
Commander

Next Meeting!

Thursday, October 26th, 7 pm
Location — W. Townsend VFW

Come out and support your chapter!

Remember, we are a social organization as well as a service organization. Come out and hear how you can help or be helped by the DAV, and come out to socialize with other Disabled American Veterans.

Membership Report

September 2023

For Membership Issues, select one of the following:

CALL the Membership Department at 1-888-236-8313 OR

Email at membershpublic@dav.org—OR—

Internet login at: www.DAV.org Select **MEMBER RESOURCES**

Create Username and password. (Requires Validation)

Then Log Into Your Personal Account at:

www.MyDAV.org

Chapter Membership Status:

Membership list from National DAV, 09/25/Chapter #122

Member Count = 84

MA Department Member Count = 90

Members Processed: David Brennen, Francis

Harrington, Scott Soldan, Edward Thurlow, John Wilson

Death Notice: None

Department Additions: None

New Applications: None

Resolving Transfer: None

Membership Balance = 90

Membership Goal from National DAV, 09/25/23

Assigned at 96 fully paid life members.

We currently have 90 fully paid life

members.

Or 93.80 % of our goal.

DAV Total National Membership—1,016,699

DAVMA Total Membership—24,438

Effective January 1, 2024

DAV Life Membership Dues will increase to

\$325!! Inflation strikes

Respectfully submitted,

Willis Smith

Sr. Vice Commander

Service & Charitable Committee Report

September, 2023

August Local Veteran Assistance Program (LVAP) Activity submission completed by Commander Mann.

September 30th is DUE Date for LVAP contributions

Send inputs (name, date, hours, & activity) to CMDR Mann at cwo3chip@yahoo.com or call (978) 855-2611.

September Local Veteran Assistance Program (LVAP) Activities.

POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony on 9/15 at Townsend Common under the direction of VFW Post 6538.

Another busy August month for Russ as the DSO and Volunteer Service Coordinator for VAMC Bedford.

45 Hours for VA Claims for 17 veterans

1 Hour for VSO support

Transportation driver volunteers are in short supply at the Bedford VA facility and for local transportation based at the Town Hall, Townsend.... See Russ to volunteer. GO In Style!

DAVMA CMDR Kinsman's Appointment:

Women Veterans CMTE Chair, Sheila Pelletier, in support of a growing women's veteran population focusing on health care and rehabilitative services & benefits.

Contact Adjutant Mike Valila to join the Women's Veteran CMTE.

Calendar Events:

October 14th, Vets Breakfast at Pepperell VFW Post 3291. 8:00 am.

October 26th, Next Chapter #122 Meeting. 7:00 pm.

November 23rd Chapter Meeting is canceled. Enjoy Thanksgiving.

November 4th, DEC Meeting at 10:00 am @ Advancement Center in Gardner.

Veterans Day (Observed), November 10th & 11th. Support your local community. Be Active.

Respectfully submitted,

Willis Smith

Sr. Vice Commander

Monthly Volunteer Report

September, 2023

Va claims - 8	Substance Misuses - 1	Family Member/Peer – 2
Financial Assistance - 1	Clothing Pantry – 1	Local Veterans Organizations – 3
Food Pantry - 1	Social Outreach – 2	Medical Provider – 1
Medical - 2	Other – 1	Other state agency - 2VA – 8
Community Activities - 4	Faith Based – 1	VSO – 2

Interviews - 22, Claims - 8, Volunteer Hours - 42

Respectfully Submitted,

Russ Moore
VSO

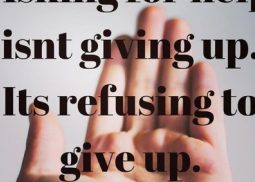
—Adjutant’s Call

We are growing as a DAV Chapter. Thanks to our Membership Chair, Sr. Vice CMDR Willis Smith, for the hard work he is doing and to CMDR Walter Mann for his leadership in this area. Given that information, it is important that we all, officers and members alike, remain engaged in the Chapter activities. We can get a lot of good work done, connections established, help lined up, and social activities. But, all of that is to no avail if the members don’t show up, participate and contribute time and energy to our chapter. This is a call to the membership to come out, get involved, meet new members, hang out with old friends, and enjoy the comradeship of other Disabled American Veterans.

David King
Adjutant

Chapter #122 is working hard to makes our disabled American veterans aware of the vital programs that are available to you and to make sure that you have received the benefits that you were promised. We ask the members of DAV #122 to share this information with family members and friends who are not currently DAV members to come out to a meeting and find out what we can do for them!

**Asking for help
isnt giving up.
Its refusing to
give up.**



DAV 122 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

10/26/2023	7:00 PM	Monthly Membership Meeting
10/28/2023	8:00 AM	Vet-Together Breakfast
11/09/2023	11:30 AM	Officers Meeting Discuss and plan upcoming activities and set agenda for monthly members meeting. Open to all members.
11/23/2023	7:00 PM	Monthly Membership Meeting
11/25/2023	8:00 AM	Vet-Together Breakfast
12/14/2023	11:30 AM	Officers Meeting Discuss and plan upcoming activities and set agenda for monthly members meeting. Open to all members.
12/28/2023	7:00 PM	Monthly Membership Meeting
12/30/2023	8:00 AM	Vet-Together Breakfast
01/11/2024	11:30 AM	Officers Meeting Discuss and plan upcoming activities and set agenda for monthly members meeting. Open to all members.

Legislative Report September

Dear Comrades,

Once again I would like to start this report with an appeal for ALL members to **sign up for the CAN Action Alerts and when you get an alert click that "Take Action" button.** I can assure you as a politician these letters make a difference. To proceed, sign into <https://dav.quorum.us/home/> and sign up for notifications. Once you do this you will receive email notifications with items that need our attention. This will result with you receiving alert emails. Once you receive the emails it is important that you click the act button and hit to submit a personal letter written to your representative.

These are the Commanders Action Notifications (4) that have been received since the July/Aug report through this date. A more detailed explanation of these can be found in the DAV CAN site mentioned above.

H.R. 4424, the Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act,

This legislation directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an epidemiological study on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era. Bile duct cancer (cholangiocarcinoma) is a cancer of the biliary duct system, which includes the gallbladder, bile ducts, and certain cells inside the liver. One risk factor for bile duct cancer is past infection with tiny parasitic worms called liver flukes, which are found in the fresh waters of Southeast Asia. Veterans who ate raw or undercooked freshwater fish during their service in Southeast Asia, such as Vietnam veterans, might have been infected.

H.R. 3489 The Restore Veterans' Compensation Act of 2023

This act would afford justice for ill and injured veterans by eliminating the unfair practice of VA recouping separation payments, which are based on their military service, and differ from Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability compensation. VA disability compensation can often be the difference between making ends meet and homelessness for many of our nation's disabled veterans, which is why the practice of withholding a veteran's VA disability compensation due to a non-related military separation benefit must end.

H.R. 4061—to Establish an Exposure Registry and Studies on the Red Hill Incident

The Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility was originally completed by the Navy in 1943. It includes 20 underground fuel storage tanks for a total storage capacity of approximately 250 million gallons. The fuel stored at the Red Hill facility is used by ships and aircraft based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor–Hickam.

On May 6, 2021, 20,000 gallons of fuel leaked from a storage tank at the Red Hill facility. The Navy's water well nearest to the Red Hill facility was found to be heavily contaminated with diesel and petroleum hydrocarbons associated with gasoline.

H.R. 4150/S. 1954, the Improving Whole Health for Veterans with Chronic Conditions Act

The Improving Whole Health for Veterans with Chronic Conditions Act (H.R. 4150/S. 1954) would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide dental care services to enrolled veterans diagnosed with diabetes and heart disease.

H.R. 2818, the Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act

H.R. 2818, the Autonomy for Disabled Veterans Act, would increase the amount of funding available to disabled veterans for improvements and structural alterations provided to them by the VA for home improvements related to their disability. Currently, veterans who need and receive Home Improvement and Structural Alterations (HISA) grants because of a service-connected disability receive up to \$6,800 and those who are rated 50% service connected or greater may receive the same amount even if a modification is needed because of a nonservice-connected disability. Veterans who are not service connected but are enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system can receive up to \$2,000 for needed home modification.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Morse
1st Jr. Vice Commander