



NORTH MIDDLESEX CHAPTER #122
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(LOCATED WITH POST 6538, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS)
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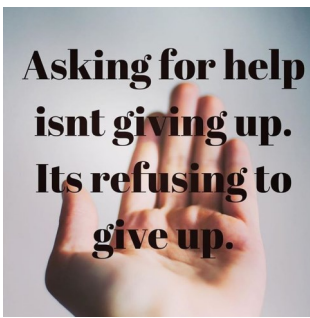
From the Commander

Happy Veterans Day comrades!

There are many events that are happening in celebration of Veterans Day so please look at the calendar. Of course, most of our towns are holding ceremonies on November 11 and I encourage you to attend. I would also ask you to reach out to a fellow veteran in your neighborhood and invite him/her to celebrate with you. It doesn't have to be at an official ceremony. Maybe it's just over a cup of coffee exchanging stories of your military service.

As I mentioned last month, we are holding two events involving the Scholefield house in December. We are partnering with the Pepperell VFW Post to provide items to assemble gift bags for the residents. Most of the items have already been donated and we will purchase others using the wish list we were provided. We are also planning to provide a holiday meal. The tentative date is December 17.

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](http://www.ma.dav.org/122).



Please note that at our October meeting, our members decided we will hold a meeting on November 16.

Walter "Chip" Mann
Commander

Next Meeting!

Thursday, November 16th, 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

October 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, 10/24/23

Chapter #122 Member Count = 94

MA Department Member Count = 94

Members Processed: Richard Cartee, Robert Griffith,

Vernon Kellogg, Richard Newcombe

Death Notice: Timothy F. Casey, (DoD 12/23/2016 Ch #001)

Department Additions: None

New Applications: None

Resolving Transfer: None

Membership Balance = 94

Membership Goal from National DAV, 10/2423

Assigned at 96 fully paid life members.

We currently have 92 fully paid life

members.

Or 95.80 % of our goal.

DAV Total National Membership—1,018,400

DAVMA Total Membership—24,473

HELP RECRUIT for Chapter #122
call a vet!!

Respectfully submitted,

Willis Smith

Sr. Vice Commander

Service & Charitable Committee Report

October, 2023

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

October 31st is DUE Date for LVAP contributions

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

October Local Veteran Assistance Program (LVAP) Activities.

September stats for Russ as the DSO and Volunteer Service Coordinator for VAMC Bedford.

42 Hours for VA Claims for 8 veterans

2 Hour for VSO support

22 Interviews

Looking for more local Transportation Driver Volunteers.

See Russ

10/16/23 Women's Wellness Retreat attendance and recruiting by 1stJrVice CMDR Theresa Morse. Sponsored by Clear Path.

Interested? Speak with 1stJrVice CMDR.

Respectfully submitted,

Willis Smith

Sr. Vice Commander

Monthly Volunteer Report

October, 2023

VA claims 15
Medical 2
Community activities 5
Assisting Veterans phone calls and encouragement 2
Local Veterans organization 2
VA and other federal agencies 12

For the month of October, 22 Interviews were conducted, 8 Claims were processed, and a total of 38 Volunteer Hours were expended.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russ Moore
VSO

—*Adjutant's Call*



As you can see from our Monthly Membership Report, Chapter 122 is growing. We continue to thank Sr. Vice CMDR Willis Smith for his hard work in this area. In addition, we are seeing a few more members at our monthly meetings. It occurred to me as I was putting together this newsletter that the reports on the various activities of the chapter are a month old when they are reported in the newsletter. These are reports that are given at a meeting when they are fresh and timely. This is another plea, that you come out to a meeting, participate and become involved in Chapter activities, renew acquaintances, maybe learn sometime that will help you in your life as a Disabled American Veteran, or maybe share some information which would benefit another comrade. You will be welcomed and made to feel at home among your comrades! Please note that the Legislative Report is the same as last month. Take notice and participate!

David King
Adjutant

DAV 122 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

11/16/2023 7:00 PM	Membership Meeting <small>NEW</small> Special meeting to finalize holiday plans for Scholefield House
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
1/11/2024 11:30 AM	Officers Meeting Discuss and plan upcoming activities and set agenda for monthly members meeting. Open to all members.
1/25/2024 7:00 PM	Monthly Membership Meeting
1/27/2024 8:00 AM	Vet-Together Breakfast
2/8/2024 11:30 AM	Officers Meeting Discuss and plan upcoming activities and set agenda for monthly members meeting. Open to all members.
2/22/2024 7:00 PM	Monthly Membership Meeting

Legislative Report

October

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