



**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, LT. RALPH TALBOT CHAPTER 65
POST OFFICE BOX 890300, E. WEYMOUTH, MA 02189-0005**

**Serving-Abington, Cohasset, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Hull, Norwell, Pembroke, Scituate, &
Weymouth**

**Warren D. Smith, Commander, Tel: 781-608-9247 docbuzz@comcast.net
Website <http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/ma/65/default.aspx>
Arthur Sharp, Adjutant, Tel: 781-724-9407 asharp2348@aol.com**

OUR NEXT MEETING: Monday, Sept. 20th @ 1PM, @ 598 North Street (Weymouth Heights Club), E. Weymouth, MA. We look forward to seeing all of you after the long summer.

FROM THE COMMANDER: I will be away on an extended tour for the month of September. Senior Vice-Commander Lewis will be running things until I return in October. Please communicate your availability for the Forget Me Not Drive in November (see below) as we may need to adjust dates and times as many are away that month. This is our primary fundraiser for the year and virtually all the donations are immediately used assisting Disabled Veterans. Please do your best to participate in the many Veterans Day Ceremonies throughout our service area.

FROM THE 'TREASURER'S DESK'... Last year at a DEC meeting at the Brockton VAMC Paul Waldron, Communications Chair gave a great presentation on communicating with computers and using the telephone to communicate. The last few years the costs for publishing and mailing the newsletter have increased dramatically. So the plan is to get everyone using the computer with email to receive the newsletter electronically as possible. This would help us in reducing the costs and 'Going Green' and saving trees. To all of our regular and new members, please, just send me an email with your name and in the subject box type "subscribe electronically" or "update email address". I will also keep you updated with any important activity. Thanks, Dave D'Amato, Treasurer...
walnut.oak@verizon.net

VETERANS' COMRADERY LUNCHEON SCHEDULE: Nothing on the schedule for the fall yet. We will update all with an email once we confirm the plans and dates.

CHAPTER SERVICE OFFICER NEWS:

Naval Vessels now on Agent Orange Lists

The Department of Veterans Affairs Compensation and Pension Service has issued two lists of naval vessels it has verified conducted operations on the inland "brown water" rivers and delta areas of Vietnam. The lists also identify certain vessel types that operated primarily on the inland waterways. If a veteran's service aboard one of these ships can be confirmed through military records during the time frames specified, then exposure to herbicide agents (e.g., Agent Orange) can be presumed. The lists include all vessels of Inshore Fire Support Division 93; all vessels with the designation LST,

LCVP, PCF ("Swift Boats"), and PBR during their entire Vietnam tour; all Coast Guard WPBs and WHECs during their Vietnam tours. Several other vessels and time frames of operations are included in these lists. If you previously had a claim denied, resubmit the claim with copies of any records that you served on these ships in Vietnamese waters. If your ship is not on the list, but you have evidence that you tied up to piers in these waters, submit those with your claim as well. The DAV Ch. 65 Commander has a copy of the list or you can view it online at:

www.naus.org/news/documents/agentorangeshipslistadd6-10.doc

VA News:

A coalition of veterans' service organizations won their case to force the VA to issue a final regulation authorizing payment of claims for ischemic heart disease, Parkinson's disease, or B-cell leukemia for any veteran who stepped foot in Vietnam during the war, or their survivors. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit instructed VA to issue the rule by Sept. 1.

The Department of Veterans Affairs removed the signature requirement for veterans who electronically submit an online 10-10EZ "Application for Health Benefits." This will reduce by days, if not weeks, the time for veterans who apply online to access their medical benefits. For additional information, visit the [VA website](http://www.va.gov) or call VA's toll free number at 1-877-222-VETS (8387). The online form is available on the [VA website](http://www.va.gov).

From a fellow Veteran, Searchable Dioxin Database: I wanted to pass on this link for our Veterans and our Widows in this toxic chemical fight against IOM/VA/and our own 'guilty as charged government' on what George Claxton has accumulated in a dioxin database.

<http://www.2ndbattalion94thartillery.com/Chas/searchabledata.htm>

SIGNIFICANT NEWS:

TRICARE Retired Reserve Expected to Begin This Fall

TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR), which is expected to begin this fall, will allow qualified members of the Retired Reserve and survivors to purchase TRICARE Standard coverage by paying monthly premiums.

Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay - File Claim by Oct. 21

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act established Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP), providing \$500 for each month/partial month served in stop loss status. Service members, veterans, and beneficiaries of service members whose service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss between Sept. 11, 2001 and Sept. 30, 2009 are eligible for RSLSP. To receive this benefit, those who served under stop loss must submit a claim for the special pay. There is still money left to be claimed, and the deadline is approaching. The average benefit is \$3,700.

FORGET ME NOT DRIVE: Weymouth: 5, 6, and 7 November 2010 10 AM - 6 PM. Stop and Shop and Shaw's Markets. **Norwell:** 12 and 13 November, 2010. 10 AM to 6 PM.

-We need store coordinators for the Norwell and Weymouth Stop and Shop and Shaw's Markets. The coordinator is responsible for the volunteer schedule and arranging for the pickup of donations. The Chapter has a template for the scheduling and can assist with that.

-We also need volunteers! 2 hour blocks of time at each of the locations. Volunteers need not be members, but those with a desire to help in this annual fundraiser. The coordinator needs to be a member of CH 65.

PLEASE HELP THE CHAPTER!