



December 2020
Volume 1, Issue 1

PFC John C. DeMarr, Jr. Memorial Chapter 36 Holiday Newsletter



Change of the Guard

On December 8, 2020, PFC John C DeMarr, Jr. Memorial Chapter #36, conducted the Installation Ceremony for the new leadership the remaining 2020-2021 year. With all of the COVID-19 restrictions in place, the chapter had to ensure appropriate protocols were in place and all safety considerations were done. I would like to personally thank Commander Proctor for his leadership and ask for his continued support to the chapter and Veterans.



Commander's Corner

As we close out 2020, I want to extend blessings and holiday cheer to each Comrade and their family. I also request prayers for those Servicemembers currently in harms way stateside and abroad and their loved ones left behind hoping for their return. Reflecting on all that has transpired this year, I'm drawn to one word **RESILIENT**. Everyone had to learn to deal with the unexpectant and cope with the unknown. While the Chapter's interaction has been minimal, I appreciate the resiliency and generosity amongst the Comrades. COVID-19 has transformed how we live, socialize and conduct business. In 2021, much may not change but remember we have so much to be thankful for. Always remember to cherish **today** for tomorrow is not promised. Our in person meetings are on hold for now, but I will host a monthly Zoom Chapter Check in (see page 4). Stay safe and be blessed. **Marguerite Stubbs ~ Commander**

Chapter 36 Leadership

- Commander ~ Marguerite Stubbs
- Senior Vice Commander ~ Jim Waters
- Junior Vice Commander ~ Gregory Hendricks
- 2nd Junior Vice Commander ~ Andy Holloway
- Adjutant ~ Elton Stokes
- Treasurer ~ Malcolm Winder
- Sergeant of Arms ~ Mitchell Robinson
- Officer of the Day ~ Gary Logan
- Logistician ~ Al Hammock

Special points of interest

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News You Can Use



VA began Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations last week at 128 additional sites.

On Dec. 18, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [issued an Emergency Use Authorization](#) of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, which is the second COVID-19

Inside VA and beyond

vaccine to be authorized.

Having a second COVID-19 vaccine enabled them to reach more critical patients primarily community living centers and spinal cord unit residents. Although VA has begun providing the vaccinations to multiple VA facilities, currently no facilities in Maryland has the option. When it becomes available locally, the Chapter will provide additional updates.

[Fresh Focus #17: Holiday meal prep with success](#)

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/82250/>

Enjoy family, friends, whomever you choose to be with during this season. Please be safe, remember to wear a mask, socially distance yourself and wash your hands.

Closing 2020 ~ SVC Waters

In spite of all that has happened this past year, let us be thankful for what we do have. Let joy fill your hearts with love, kindness, and wonder as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

I look forward to when we can safely regather.

Merry Christmas,
Jim Waters SVC

Chapter Service Officers Highlights from Indian Head ~ Comrade Parks & Comrade Waters



Adjutant's Thoughts

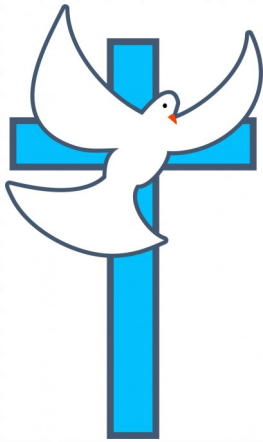
Greetings Comrades, I'm sure that we all hope to put 2020 and it's bad memories behind us and look forward to a much more "personable" and uplifting 2021. A lot of important chapter gatherings and activities were missed due to COVID but we improvised where we could. It's with deep regret that we couldn't have our typical installation of elected officers and appointed staff, no fund raising at the Golden Corral, and no Veterans Day Parade. However, Commander Stubbs ensured that we held the graveside ceremonies for our chapter's namesake. We missed our Annual Christmas Banquet and the opportunity to fellowship with each other and our comrades from Charlotte Hall. But we did make a larger than usual donation to them. Attendance at our meetings have been justifiably low. No one wanted or needed to tempt COVID, so small chapter meetings were in order. Hopefully, we'll have more Zoom meetings in the future. Finally, I look forward to working with the elected officer, appointed staff and the membership of PFC John C. DeMarr but most of all I look forward to continuing to serving our veterans and their families. May God keep and bless each of you and your families in the coming year.

Elton Stokes, Adjutant

Chapter Service Officers ~ Continuing the Mission

Meet our Chapter Service Officers (CSO): John Patterson, Leon Parks and Elton Stokes. Jim Waters is in training under Leon Parks at Indian Head Naval Support Facility. Comrades Patterson and Stokes are hosted at the Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) building in Suitland, MD along with other CSOs: Glynn Parker, Georgia Eaves and Rob Young. Oscar Mardis, DAV Commander Chapter #17 serves as our administrator at AFSA, ensuring equitable case loads. Our CSOs have continued to provide support to veterans and their families and survivors on a reduced scale due to COVID safety requirements. The AFSA remains under renovation and we are not sure that we will have the same accommodations once it's completed. We have continued to personally accommodate veterans and process claims using email, phones, and Zoom communication. Most of our contacts are through referrals from chapter members and veterans that we have helped in the past. Although we are not on the AFSA premises in Suitland and don't conduct face-to-face appointments, our phone and email contact information remains valid. Veterans, their families and survivors are encouraged to call AFSA (301) 899-3500 ext. 226, leave their phone number and name and they will receive a call from one of the CSOs. They can also send an email to afsadav@gmail.com or contact Leon Parks at (202) 531-0271.

Elton Stokes, CSO



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings from the sacred desk of the Chaplain this has been an exceedingly difficult year for many of our comrades and their families. My condolences from my family to your families who have lost a dear love one, due to the Coronavirus or some other illness. The holiday season at time could be one of the hardest times in maneuvering through, because of the lost of a love one of uncertainties of life. “David said that “I will lift my eyes to the hills, where does my help cometh from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth indeed... Please know that you are not alone, and you will get through these tough times, “He promise never to leave you, nor forsake you even in your darkest hour for God is there, and he is you comforter and strength in life. I know this Christmas is like know other, but I encourage each of us to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and the joy of life that was given “Unto us a child is born unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6. Yes 2020 is ending let us look toward 2021 as a new beginning in life, for our prayers are with you and your love one’s. Merry Christmas to all and a prosperous New Year. (2021) ~ Chapter 36 Chaplain — Rev. Benjamin R. Nelson



Chapter 36 Installation Ceremony Photo — Courtesy of Comrade Troy Garner

Join Zoom Meeting: (January 19, 2021) @ 6:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81789139517?pwd=N3ltdGJYeEM5c0NXZGx3MCtPbWF4UT09>

DAV Chapter 36

When in person meetings are held, they are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Jaycees Community Club, Waldorf, MD.



DAV Chapter 36

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