



# BULLETS



Volume 102 Number 2

April, May June 2020

## Disabled American Veterans



### Minneapolis Chapter #1

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***Disabled American Veterans Mission Statement: Made up exclusively of men and women disabled in our nation's defense, the Disabled American Veterans is dedicated to one, single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.***

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#### Commander's Column

Fellow members:

Spring is arriving, we have passed the darkness of winter and look forward to the joy and activities that spring will bring. We are approaching our chapter elections (April Membership Meeting) and the political elections of 2020. Spring is also the time we conduct our Forget-Me-Not fund raising in the community and we look forward to your assistance this May 2020.

I had the opportunity, along with Adjutant Turbett, Mark Jaruszewskito attend the DAV Mid-Winter Conference in Arlington, VA this last February. This conference was focused on the DAV's legislative agenda and interaction with our representatives in our nation's capital. It allowed us to witness the testimony of National Commander Butch Whitehead to a joint House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and meet with the Minnesota Congressional delegation. In brief here is the DAV's Critical Policy Goals:

1. Ensure veterans exposed to toxic substances receive full and timely benefits, particularly for burn pits, agent orange and other known exposures (e.g. PFAS in drinking water).
2. Enhance the Veterans' survivors' benefit
- 3 Fully and faithfully implement the VA MISSION Act
4. Strengthen Veterans mental health care and suicide prevention programs
- 5 Enact legislation to address gaps and inequities in the VA's women veteran's health care program.

*Cont. on page 2.*

#### Adjutant's Column

Dear Members:

The Mid-Winter Conference in Washington D.C. was a wonderful opportunity to take part in. As a recipient of the Women Veterans to D.C. Program I had the opportunity to meet with Joy J. Ilem, our National Legislative Director for the DAV, to discuss gaps and inequities in Women Veteran Health Care.

Some of the critical policy goals we reviewed were needing equitable access to comprehensive health care services and benefits. The lack of availability of gender-tailored care and programming in the VA health care system. Addressing environmental care issues like safety, privacy and cultural differences along with barriers to care for women veterans. There are initiatives being implemented to change the culture and stop harassment at our health care facilities in addition to recognition of contributions for military service.

One of the main pieces of legislation we discussed with Senator Tina Smith and our Congresspeople, was the Deborah Sampson Act (H.R. 3224). This Act discusses the need to establish an Office of Women's Health, a comprehensive policy to end harassment and sexual assault. Also, a need for funding for training women veteran's health providers, availability of gender-specific prosthetic items, extended newborn care, female focused post-traumatic stress disorder and military sexual trauma counseling. The Act would require a report on retrofitting VA facilities to address these barriers and deficiencies to better provide for women veterans.

*Cont. on page 2*

*Commander Column Cont.*

DAV is a nonpolitical and nonsectarian organization. During this political season we need to remember it's your right as an American citizen, and a disabled veteran to support the candidate of your choice. With that being said, in the name of DAV, we are not to display support to individual candidates. Wearing DAV caps and DAV logo shirts at political events can give the appearance of support by the larger DAV organization and is not allowed.

*Joel Schilling, Commander*

*Adjutant Column Cont..*

Women are currently the fastest-growing sub population in military and veteran communities. Unfortunately, women who serve are often less recognized, less respected and less valued than our male counterparts. As a service organization we are challenging these inequalities to ensure federal programming provides a place for our service women and honor their military service and sacrifice.

*Stephenie Turbett, Adjutant*

**ANNUAL DAV GOLF CLASSIC**

The Annual DAV Golf Classic will be held at Crystal Lake golf Club in Lakeville, MN on Thursday, June 11, 2020. We have limited number of slot for this event. See out sign-up sheet at out April (04/07) and May (05/05) Chapter Meetings.



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**Departed**



**Comrades**

2019

December

Charles D. Crandall  
LaVern V. Hoff  
Gerald J. Prescott  
Andrew A. Savitski  
Kenneth J. Wadnizak

Lowell H. Hegg  
Carl R. Inal  
Timothy J. Kubacki  
Roy L. Meister  
Calvin A. Prince  
Frank E. Straka

February

2020

January

Glenn M. Anderson  
Herbert N. Berzelius  
Junior E. Fern

Byron R. Bissonnette  
Edward C. Breitbach  
James J. Dean  
Edwin Hausauer  
Wyman P. Myrvold  
James L. Norton

**If you know of any member who has left us recently, please call the office to let us know. 612-726-9591.**

This issue's quote is in honor of Women's History month in March

***"I had reasoned this out in my mind; there was one of two things I had a right to, liberty or death; If I could not have one, I would have the other; for no man should take me alive. I should fight for liberty as long as my strength lasted."***

*Harriet Tubman*

Harriet Tubman was a leading abolitionist who went on to become the most famous conductor of the Underground Railroad — a network of secret routes and safe houses destined to help those enslaved during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. She served as a cook, a nurse, and even a spy for the Union during the Civil War, and was the first woman in American history to lead a military expedition. Her motto was, "If you want to taste freedom, keep going." She died March 10, 1913.

**Dates and Times to Remember**

**April**

- 07 5:45 pm \*Dinner
- 07 6:45 pm \*Meeting
- 08 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 12** **Easter**
- 26 12:45 VAMC Visitation
- 29 4:00 pm \*Exec. Board Meeting

**May**

- 05 5:45 pm \*Dinner
- 05 6:45 pm \*Meeting
- 7-9** **State Convention**
- 13 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 24 12:45 pm VAMC Visitation
- 25** **Memorial Day**
- 27 4:00 pm \*NO BOARD MEETING

**June**

- 02 5:45 pm \*NO DINNER
- 02 6:45 pm \*NO MEETING
- 10 7:00 pm NO 6-5-4
- 14** **Flag Day**
- 21** **Father's Day**
- 28 12:45 pm VAMC Visitation
- 24 4:00 pm \*NO BOARD MEETING

**July**

- 07 5:45 pm \*NO DINNER
- 07 6:45 pm \*NO MEETING
- 08 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 26 12:45 pm VAMC Visitation
- 29 4:00 pm \* Exec. Board Meeting

**\*All meetings are held at Bloomington Event Center**

1114 American Blvd, West. Bloomington, 55420  
 Remember: All DAV meetings are open to all veterans.  
 Only members in good standing may vote during meetings.



**CHAPTER DONATION 2020**

\$10                      \$15                      \$20  
 \$25                      \$50

Or other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: DAV - Minneapolis Chapter#1  
 Annual Chapter Donation  
 P.O. Box 17037  
 Minneapolis, Mn 55417

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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The Funds you send into the one-time donation are very helpful in running the Chapter, and helping our fellow veterans.



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**"MENDED HEARTS:  
Chapter 1 Veteran's - A way to Serve**

There is a volunteer organization called Mended Hearts that visits open heart surgery patients at many hospitals throughout the US. The MPLS VA has such a group (3), however we are in dire need for a few more volunteer visitors. This opportunity to provide emotional support, recovery information and meet fellow Veterans is one of the most worthwhile endeavors you can possibly have. Looking for a few good people that can spend about 2 hours a few times per month. **THE ONLY REQUIREMENTS ARE;** Getting a volunteer badge from the VA. Prior heart/valve surgery or strong knowledge of procedure (close family member). Able to provide positive bedside conversation. For more information call: Mark Jaruszewski at 612-998-6666.

I would like to thank all of the members who assisted to recruit new members. We have had one of our best recruiting years. We exceeded our goal by 100%. As Sr Vice Commander, I am always looking for new members for the Chapter. Please note that effective the 1st of January, our membership dues are \$300 for a lifetime membership, only use the NEW membership application. You can get a new application at the monthly membership meeting or by contacting the office. The Chapter and the State Department has a program where the cost of the Life Time Membership is reduced by \$100 (\$50 from the Chapter and \$50 from the Department). In order for the new member to receive this \$100 credit, the application **MUST BE** processed thru our Chapter Office. This means the application for Life Time Membership processed thru our Chapter Office cost \$200 (\$300 - \$100 credit = \$200).

If you know a veteran that would like to join have them contact John Carlson at 612-964-3046 or e-mail me at [jacro50@gmail.com](mailto:jacro50@gmail.com)

*Senior Vice Commander, John Carlson*

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