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# BULLETS

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Volume 104 Number 4

October, November, December 2022

## 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:

Looks like fall is here. Hope you all had a great summer. I am looking forward to the upcoming Forget-Me-Not days in November. We will be looking for assistance as usual for this event. It is extremely important that we have good representation at these locations, since this is our main fund-raising activity for the Chapter. The dates are the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> of November. We will be at the Sam's Club in Shakopee and the Jerry's in Edina. Please email or call me if you would like to participate for a few hours on any of these days or all of them.

We had a good turnout for the Chapter picnic at the Veteran's Camp.

Our recruitment work for this year is focusing on getting some younger Veterans to join the Chapter. Please make an effort to talk to vets you know about joining our DAV Chapter. The MN Department has again helped us by renewing the Membership Plan of \$100 for Life Membership for the Veteran, the Chapter giving \$100 and the Department giving \$100. We have enrollment forms available on the Website and hard copies for you to use. This is a real bargain for a Lifetime membership

Really looking forward to seeing you at our member meetings and at the Forget-Me-Not events.

*Bill Johnson, Commander*  
952-484-2503

### Adjutant's Column

Summer is over, as a Chapter we are back to a more normal monthly schedule of meetings. Many of us are still being exposed to and becoming ill with COVID-19, but as a society we are moving toward to our new normal. One of the most significant national legislative actions in veterans health was passed in Aug 2022. See later in this newsletter for more details regarding the PACT ACT.

The state of Minnesota created a Post 9/11 veteran bonus program this year. Those who served post 9/11 may receive a bonus between \$600 to \$1200 (\$2,000 for Gold Star Families). The basic criteria are being a Minnesota resident when entering active duty service, currently being a Minnesota resident and have documentation of your service, e.g DD214. The eligible period of service is 9-11-2001 thru 8-30-2021. Applications for the bonus payment opened up this past July 7, 2022 and remain open until June 30, 2024. Access the on-line application at [Minnesotaveteran.org](http://Minnesotaveteran.org)

*Joel Schilling, Adjutant*

DAV, along with other Veteran Service Organizations, actively fought for the passage of the PACT ACT. The PACT ACT is the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins Act of 2022. This is a bill that directly addresses the impact on Veterans and others who were exposed to environmental toxins, burn pits, radiation, and Agent Orange due to their time in service. The veteran's PACT Act of 2022 is a law designed to care for veterans exposed to toxic substances during their military service. The law provides expanded health care and disability benefits for veterans and their families. It will be phased into practice from the effective date (August 10, 2022) to October 2026.

The VA PACT Act has three main functions:

- **Expanded VA health care eligibility and disability benefits to veterans and Families exposed to toxic substances.** The law reforms the VA's presumptive decision-making process and addresses three main types of toxic exposure: burn pits, Agent Orange, and radiation.
- **Reforms the VA's process for adding and removing presumptive conditions to the VA's list.** This includes giving a timeline of 160 days to the Secretary of the VA to begin to add a condition to the list after receiving a recommendation.
- **Increases resources to the VA** to bolster VA claims processing, the VA's workforce, and VA health care facilities to make sure the VA can take on the added responsibility of caring for veterans with toxic exposure.

Many of our members were exposed to toxic substances during their careers. Our DAV National Service Officers are an excellence resource in answering your questions regarding filing a claim (or supplemental claim). One of the benefits of attending our monthly Chapter Meeting is meeting two of the National Service Officers.

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**Dates and Times to Remember 2022****October**

04	5:45 pm	*Dinner
05	6:45 pm	*Meeting
12	7:00	NO 6-5-4
23	12:45 pm	NO VAMC VISITATION
26	4:00 pm	Board Meeting
31		<b>Halloween</b>

**November**

01	5:45 pm	*NO DINNER
01	6:45 pm	*NO MEETING
09	7:00 pm	NO 6-5-4
11		<b>Veterans Day</b>
27	12:45 pm	NO VAMC VISITATION
30	4:00 pm	Board Meeting

**December**

06	5:45 pm	*Dinner
06	6:45 pm	*Meeting
14	7:00 pm	NO 6-5-4
25	12:45 pm	NO VAMC VISITATION
25		<b>Christmas Day</b>

**January 2023**

03	5:45 pm	*NO DINNER
03	6:45 pm	*No Meeting
11	7:00 pm	NO 6-5-4
22	12:45 pm	NO VAMC Visitation
25	4:00 pm	Board Meeting

**CHAPTER DONATION 2022**

\$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 \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE!****Departed****Comrades****2022****June**

Alvin M. Boquist  
Lovern G. Nauss  
William E. Reichert  
Delbert R. Rose

**August**

Raymond M. Eklund  
John Felegy  
Alex Kurak  
Harry R. Larson

**July**

Gregory R. Clark  
John W. Kahlow  
Orville W. Olson

**\*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.

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



**Please remember to let us know of your change of address.**

**For the Snowbirds, please let us know when you are leaving and returning.**

*“America is a Nation with a mission - and that mission comes from our most basic beliefs. We have no desire to dominate, no ambitions of empire. Our aim is a democratic peace - a peace founded upon the dignity and rights of every man and woman.*

*George W. Bush*

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