



BULLETS



Volume 99 Number 1

January, February, March 2017

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.

Commander's Column

I Believe 2017 will be an interesting and successful year for our Chapter, because of the hard work done by many in 2016. We have many new advantages to assist us. Some examples are: a strong financial base, a new laptop computer and projector, credit and debit card collection device, and a new home for our meetings.

In 2017 we will be developing and using five (5) new Committees for achieving our single purpose of **“Empowering Veterans to lead high quality lives with respect and dignity.”** The committees are: (1) Benefits, (2) Capitol Hill, (3) Veterans Transition, (4) Fund Raising and Finance, (5) Membership. If you have any questions and/or wish to participate in one of the committees, please feel free to contact me at (952-215-5353). We need your help as volunteers to make this committee approach successful.

Our new meeting location is:

Bloomington Event Center
1114 American Blvd. West
Bloomington, MN 55420
952-888-1495

All meetings are the first Tuesday of each month. Dinner at 5:45 pm to 6:30 pm. Chapter Meeting begins at 6:30 pm. There will be NO MEETINGS in January, June, July, August, and November.

I would like to say that I am honored to serve as your Commander, and I look forward to seeing you all at the Chapter Meetings.

Jim Kline, Commander

Adjutant's Column

Dear Comrades:

Again I doubt the Bullets Newsletter will reach you by Christmas, so here's hoping you had a Merry and Blessed Christmas and the very best for a New Year.

Some of you may know that Sheldon Larson, our Jr Vice Commander, recently passed away. Sheldon was a Vietnam Veteran and recently had hip surgery that had complications which I believe made him susceptible to other issues. We will miss Sheldon tremendously, as he contributed much time and energy to making our Chapter grow and remain successful. Sheldon had served as our webmaster for the last two years, keeping the Bullets, Chapter Minutes, and other information current on our web site. We have no current replacement so until we do, the web page will not be current.

I want to express a sincere “thank you” to all those that helped on the Forget Me Not Drive in Maple Grove. You will be receiving a letter soon with a personal thank you from me and the Chapter. I wish I could list all of you in this article, but you know who you are and God Bless You for your efforts. We raised over \$5,000.00 in three days. Wow!!! Ok, special thanks to Chuck Trisko and John Johnson, they manned the front door for three days straight.

PLEASE, PLEASE pay special attention to the new meeting day and place. The new location is Bloomington Event Center (former Knights of Columbus bldg.), 1114 American Blvd. West, Bloomington, MN 55420. PH: 952-888-1495, website: kofcbloomington.com. OUR FIRST MEETING FOR 2017 IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7. DINNER AT 5:45 PM, MEETING AT 6:30PM. LOOK FOR THE SCHEDULE IN THIS ISSUE. I might add, this is a first class place and will include a sit down dinner. The Chapter does not charge for the dinner, but we do ask, if you can, to make a small donation.

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A few words from the Treasurer of Chapter One

By the time you are reading this, Chapter 1 elections would have taken place and new officers have been elected and installed. I believe the governing role should be a bit easier for them, as the financial lookout is in pretty good shape because of the actions taken by their predecessors in implementing cost controls, program changes and new fund raising activities. I wish them all the best of luck in their activities.

Now that I'm leaving this position, I would like to Thank all the members who volunteered to work on the "Forget Me Not" fund raising events at the Sam's Clubs, CUB foods stores, and at the AppleBee's restaurants.

A special Thank You to Jill, who had to put up with me over the years, and for her helping in doing the Budget and Annual reports.

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming meetings.

Joe Wytonick, Past Treasurer

Departed Comrades

2016

September

Howard V. Fries
Ronald W. Kostka
Donald Lind
Melvin C. Lovejoy
Joseph J. Maurer
Harold Middleton
Leo H. Scherkenbach
Mark B. Shields
Thomas G. Snetsinger
Vernon S. Snodgrass

Melvin D. Michalik
Douglas O. Nielsen
Ronald W. Palmer
Kenneth E. sjordin

November

October
Kenneth B. Christenson
Donald C. Fransen
Herbert C. Gager
Mary L. Gemlo

Clyde E. Brinker
Robert F. Carr
Gene R. Clapp
Charles H. Harens
Raymond F. Jabs
Wallace A. Johnson
Sheldon C. Larson
Wendell L. Murphy
Walter J. Ordyniec
Michael B. Rice
Kenneth R. Selle

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

Membership Update

As of December 2, 2016 we have 2 trial members, 54 part life members, 3,540 Full Life Members, for a total of 3,596 members.

Our goal for Full Paid Life Members is 3,554, therefore, we need 14 new (2 per month) members by 30 June 2017 to reach it.

Auxiliary News

Due to small attendance at meetings, the Minneapolis DAV Auxiliary voted on November 7, 2016 to disband. You will be receiving a notice from National Headquarters as to your status.

Sharon Frencher, Commander

Adjutant's Column Cont. from Page 1

Since I am writing this before Chapter Meeting on Dec 12, I don't know just how the elections will turn out, but we have some very strong nominees that I feel will take us forward. We will celebrate our 95th year in April of 2017. Please do all you can to continue our legacy of helping Veterans get the benefits they are entitled to and to help those less fortunate. Lastly I want to thank the Sam's Club locations in Shakopee, St. Louis Park, and Maple Grove for their absolute commitment to Veterans and allowing us to do our Forget Me Not Drives twice a year. Other sponsors include Applebee's, Southtown, and Lyndale at 96th.

This last Friday we were invited to the T. E. Ibberson Co. District Annual Meeting. TEI has been in business for 135 years, amazing. Founded by Thomas Ibberson in 1881. He started by building wood cribbed elevators in various towns along the rail lines. TEI invites one non-profit each year to their meetings and they provide items for raffle with all the proceeds to the non-profit. We were very fortunate to be invited and receive almost \$2000.00 in proceeds. Thank You T. E. Ibberson and Meghan Andrzejewski for putting this together.

Last, but certainly not least, is to once again make sure that Jill Ostby, our over worked, administrative, volunteer understands the vital role she plays in keeping this whole thing functioning .. Jill, You are the BEST!!

Mark Jaruszewski, Adjutant

Dates and Times to Remember

January

- 01** **New Years Day**
- 03 4:30 pm *Executive Meeting
- 03** *No Dinner
- 03** *No Chapter Meeting
- 11 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 16** **Martin Luther King Day**
- 22 12:15 pm VAMC Visitation

February

- 07 4:30 pm *Executive Meeting
- 07 5:45 pm *Dinner
- 6:30 pm *Chapter Meeting
- 08 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 14** **Valentine's Day**
- 20** **President's Day**
- 26 12:15 pm VAMC Visitation

March

- 01** **Ash Wednesday**
- 07 4:30 pm *Executive Meeting
- 07 5:45 pm *Dinner
- 07 6:30 pm *Chapter Meeting
- 08 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 12** **Daylight Savings Begins**
- 17** **St. Patrick's Day**
- 20** **First Day of Spring**
- 26 12:15 pm VAMC Visitation

April

- 04 4:30 pm *Executive Meeting
- 04 5:45 pm *Dinner
- 04 6:30 pm *Chapter Meeting
- 09** **Palm Sunday**
- 12 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 16** **Easter Sunday**
- 23 12:15 pm VAMC Visitation

***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.

Greetings Comrades,

I hope the season is treating you well. As we wind down another year, we have a great deal to be proud of. We have accomplish many things including a very successful Forget Me Not drive in November and a number of other events including the Holiday for Heroes Resource Fair at the Mall of America. Of course everything was not good news; we lost a very significant person on our team. Our Jr. Vice Commander Sheldon Larson died unexpectedly from complications of a hip replacement. We feel a great loss, for he did a great number of things for us and did much in helping us move forward as an organization. One of his primary functions was as our "webmaster". It involved getting pictures, meeting minutes, etc. updated on our website. If any of you have any experience in this, please contact the office, we could use your help.

I've been honored to serve as your Commander over the last year, although most of the credit goes to our Adjutant Mark Jaruszewski, for all of the hard work and things that happened over the last year to move us forward to the successful Chapter that we are. I also have to give a great deal of kudos to our Treasurer, Joe Wytonick, for all the work and duties he did above what was expected from that position. I also want to recognize and give a great deal of credit to our Sr. Vice Commander Jim Kline, who was instrumental in getting a number of projects going and moving forward. All in all I've had a great team to work with and you all should be proud of the work and hours you put in.

It's been a great year and I'm looking forward to how things continue to move forward in 2017. Again, thank you all. I will continue to work and help in one way or another as we move ahead. I challenge you all to get involved in one way or another.

Past Commander Mark Tessmer



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 Mark Jarusewski, Associate Editor Date Sept 14 2016

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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