



BULLETS



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October, November, December 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

Comrades, I hope your summer has been an enjoyable one, The Chapter Officers met three times during the summer months. The majority of the meeting time was spent on discussing our future, planning and developing a "Plan of Month" for the officers to work on during the months of September, October, November, and December.

The focus is on continuous improvement for the balance of time the current Officer Staff will be in office. The action items are as follows: (1) Replace our current office computer system, (2) Develop a budget that clearly shows how much money we should be donating after expenses are covered, (3) Update our member mailing and email distribution lists, (4) Develop a list of our members and where they served WW II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan wars, (5) For recognition purposes develop a list of members who have volunteered four hours or more in the calendar year of 2017, (6) Plan for upcoming fundraising events (FGMN, Golden Corral, Omni Brewing Co. event). I can assure you that you will be provided the opportunity to discuss and approve items at our monthly meetings when required.

The Officer Staff is dedicated to achieving the above action items. Some of the officers are new since the resignation of Mark Jaruszewski as Adjutant/Treasure, and Fundraising Committee Chairman. These new officers bring with them some new thoughts and ideas which are appreciated. Please refer to the Officers photograph in this issue of the Bullets which shows all the Officers for our Chapter.

In closing, I would like to share one my favorite quotes. This quote comes from Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Jim Kline, Commander

Adjutant's Column

Hello Comrades, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share with you my experience as a transitioning Veteran. Nearly one year ago, I was preparing for what would be the biggest change in my life. After 21-years of Military service, I decided to retire from the active Army and start planning for civilian life.

One day, my friend a DAV member, asked me, "have you been to the DAV"? What is the DAV, I replied? My friend explained that the DAV helps Veterans with transitioning. I soon met with a Chapter Service Officer who explained my benefits and outlined the VA system. He ended our meeting with a few words of encouragement, "The DAV is your family".

After retirement, I felt very out of place. I recalled the words "The DAV is your family", so I picked up the phone and made a call. I was greeted by the welcoming voice of our Secretary, Jill Ostby. Jill connected me with my predecessor, former Adjutant, Mark Jaruszewski and soon I was participating in Forget-Me-Not fundraising, VA medical center visits, and planning our Veteran-Fellowship programs. Jill's and Mark's warm demeanor encouraged me to get involved with Chapter 1. Their welcoming attitude reaffirmed with me that "The DAV is my family".

As your new Adjutant, I thank you for the opportunity to serve, I encourage you to get involved in Chapter activities, and ask that you welcome our new members with open hearts. They need you and they need our "DAV family". I close with a quote that comes to mind when I think of our new members, "I've learned that people will forget what you say, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." -Maya Angelou

Jason T. Garcia, Adjutant

I am sure some of you are WWII veterans, or know a deceased loved one who was. During WWII over 16 million Americans served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Because of the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people - we successfully defended our country on two war fronts.

In September of 2001, construction of a WWII Memorial began at the National Mall in Washington D.C. It opened on April 29, 2004. The WWII Memorial received over \$197 million in private cash and pledges, as well as \$16 million from the U.S. government. Today, the WWII memorial is still functioning. WWII Veterans can be honored by being entered in the Registry online at www.wwiimemorial.com (1-800-639-4WW2) . If the Veteran is unable to do this, or deceased, a family member could. The family member should use the WWII Veteran's Record and Report of Separation for verification information to enter (i.e. Battles and Campaigns, Decorations & Citations, Theater Dates).

Good Luck,

Doug Scofield, 3rd Junior Vice

Departed Comrades

2017

June

John P. Brown
William W. DeGonda
Thomas F. Danielson
Herman O. Flint
Thomas E. Joseph
Bruce A. Simcoe
Robert L. Slattery

July

William L. Devitt
Vernon R. Isham
Gerald W. Petersen
Rueben F. Mack
Walter E. Mapes

August

George R. Burley
Sam Hodroff
Fredrick Oelfke
Richard F.
Zdarsky

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



DAV Chapter 1 Leadership Team for FY 2018

Left to Right: Douglas Scofield (3rd Jr Vice), Luis Campero (Chapter Service Officer), Chuck Trisko (2nd Jr Vice), Don Nesheim (Chaplain), Jim Kline (Commander), Jason Garcia (Adjutant), Joel Schilling (Sr. Vice), Grant Paul (Treasurer), Ronald Schwerman (1st Jr Vice). Not pictured Tommy Johnson (Legislative Committee Chairman).

Dates and Times to Remember

October

- 03 5:45 pm *Dinner
- 03 6:45 pm *Chapter Meeting
- 09 **Columbus Day**
- 11 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 22 10:30 am VAMC Visitation
- 31 **Halloween**

November

- 05 **Daylight Savings Begins**
- 07 5:45 pm *NO DINNER
- 07 6:30 pm *NO MEETING
- 08 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 11 **Veterans Day**
- 23 **Thanksgiving**
- 26 10:30 am VAMC Visitation

December

- 05 5:45 pm *Dinner
- 05 6:45 pm *Chapter Meeting
- 13 **NO 6-5-4**
- 21 **First Day of Winter**
- 25 **Christmas Day**
- 25 9:00 am VAMC Visitation

January

- 2 5:45 pm *NO DINNER
- 2 6:45 pm *NO MEETING
- 2 7:00 pm 6-5-4
- 28 12:45 pm VAMC Visitation

The days are getting shorter with the approach of fall. This is the season where our organization makes a significant impact towards our future. While our total membership number has dropped since last year (our members who have passed away is larger than our new members) the important number is those who participate in the Chapter. Whether it be attend our Chapter Meetings, conducting VAMC Hospital visits, or helping with one of our fund raisers, this participation is what keeps our chapter alive and positioned for the future. Our yearly recruiting goal set by the DAV National Offices is 28 individuals; do you know someone who would benefit from being a member of Chapter #1? The more individuals who participate in chapter activities improves our chapter overall! You, the membership, helps us use our resources to help other vets and improve lives. Each of you makes Chapter #1 the largest and best chapter in Minnesota.

Joel Schilling, Senior Vice

***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.



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During World War I, Soldiers, Sailors & Marines fought, and some were injured. After the War, the returning veterans soon discovered that promises made were not always promises kept. For far too many, there was a street corner to sit at, a tin cup, and a sign: “Help Me, I’m a Disabled Veteran. The DAV was formed on 25 September, 1920.

Since that time, your DAV has worked to ensure promises made are promises kept—even though at times it takes a “little while” to ensure what was said is delivered. We do this through many ways—and all the things our Chapters do ensures that.. Our community involvement shows the importance of our organization to our neighbors. The sheer numbers of our membership gives our Legislative Team clout.

Through decades of fighting for what was promised and needed, we have learned the hard way that those promises are often not delivered out of the kindness of politician’s hearts: it is delivered because our members vote.

I often tell prospective new members that if they like the benefits they have earned and they want to see the next generation of Veterans keep the same benefits—they need to join the DAV. They may be younger, and may not have a lot of time due to jobs, family and hectic schedules, but it does not take a lot of time nor money to join and be counted in the ranks of DAV members. Maintaining what we have is an accomplishment. NOT a given. This is why we at the DAV have Benefit Protection Officers and Benefit Protection Teams.

While we like and need active members, the bottom line is this” *we need members!* All of the functions we do, work together to give veterans a reason to join us. Legislative accomplishments help membership recruitment efforts; new members help legislative efforts. Community involvement helps membership recruitment; new members can help make community activities better because many hands make little work.

In short: We are all involved in membership recruitment; we are all involved in the legislative process; we are all involved in community activities; all of our functions work together to ensure our motto—”Empowering Veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.”

Tommy Johnson
DAV MN Chapter 1 Benefit Protection Officer

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