



Our next Chapter #25 DAV meeting will be held on May 12th at the Armory on Withrow Road, starting with dinner at 6 p.m. and the meeting starting promptly at 7 p.m. Come join your fellow veterans for a nice supper and an informative meeting on Chapter # 25 and other DAV and Veterans issues. We hope to see you there.



Commanders Corner

It's time once again to elect officers for the new year beginning July 1, 2008. If you would like to run for office please notify our nominating committee before the May 12th, meeting. At this meeting we will hold our election, for Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, 1st Jr. Vice Commander, and 2nd Jr. Vice Commander. Joel Hoyle and Perry Mashburn will be running for Sr. Vice Commander, Darrell Heusinkveld is running for 1st Jr. Vice Commander, and Joe Dailey is running for 2nd Jr. Vice Commander. As a DAV Chapter #25 Member in good standing you are eligible to run for anyone of the aforementioned offices.

The month of May we're going to be busy. The following is a schedule of events that we have planned.

Wednesday, May 14, 2008 is the annual "Veterans Day at the Legislature". A courtyard in the Assembly Building has been reserved for veteran service organizations to display information and meet with our legislators and staff members. We encourage all veterans to make appointments to meet and speak with your state legislators in Raleigh on this day.

Saturday, May 17, 2008 is our annual VA Hospital Patients Fishing Trip at Lake Lure. We'll serve hot dogs, hamburgers and other goodies to our guests, if you have attended this function over the past four (4) years you know it's a day of fun for all. The patients get out of the hospital for a day of fishing and relaxation.

Thursday, May 22, 2008 We've been asked by Jean Arrowood, the administrator of the Rutherford County Memorial Cemetery if we would assist them in placing flags on the graves of fellow veterans, starting time is 9:00 A.M.

Friday, May 23, 2008 We will be putting flags on the veteran's graves at Cool Springs. and Alexander Mills Cemeteries, starting time will be 9:00 A.M.

Sunday, May 25, 2008 Once again the Rutherford County Honor Guard has been requested to participate in a Memorial Day service at Rutherford County Memorial Cemetery, starting time will be at 2:00 P.M. come and enjoy this service with us.

After all this effort to get the flags out and do the Honors for Memorial Day!!

Wednesday, May 28, 2008 We have the privilege to go out and take all the flags off the graves, and yes, the starting time will be 9:00 A.M. All veterans' organizations are invited to participate in the placing of the flags on our brothers and sister's places of rest.

Many thanks and God Bless you,

Peter

HOW TO OBSERVE MEMORIAL DAY

“...gather round their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with choicest flowers of springtimelet us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us as sacred charges upon the nation’s gratitude,- - - the soldiers and sailors widow and orphan.” - - - General John Logan

General Order No. 11, 5 May 1868

The "Memorial" in Memorial Day has been ignored by too many of us who are beneficiaries of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. Often we do not observe the day as it should be, a day where we actively remember our ancestors, our family members, our loved ones, our neighbors, and our friends who have given the ultimate sacrifice:

Just one day out of the year to honor our loved ones, our ancestors, our friends who died in conflicts and wars -- not to honor war, but honor those that died in those conflicts and wars. Some of the ways we can honor the fallen are:

- * **by visiting cemeteries and placing flags or flowers on the graves of our fallen heroes.**
- * **by visiting memorials.**
- * **by flying the U.S. Flag at half-staff until noon.**
- * **by flying the 'POW/MIA Flag' as well (Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act).**
- * **by participating in a "National Moment of Remembrance": at 3 p.m. to pause and think upon the true meaning of the day, and for Taps to be played.**
- * **by renewing a pledge to aid the widows, widowers, and orphans of our fallen dead, and to aid the disabled veterans.**

Fund Raising: Member volunteers were at Ingles on March 21st and 22nd, at Bi-Lo in Chesnee on March 28th and 29th, Wal-Mart on April 4th, and at Ingles on April 19th and Bi-Lo on April 25th and 26th. The raffle ended on April 30th and the prizes are as follows: 1st prize is \$200.00 cash; 2nd prize is \$100.00 cash; 3rd, 4th and 5th prizes are 2 tickets each to the "Richard Petty" Ride Along" at any track of your choice where they give the rides(Lowes Motor Speedway does). The 6th prize is a \$20.00 Gift Certificate at Rollins Cafeteria.

Economic Stimulus Tax Benefits

Recipients of VA disability compensation, pension and survivors benefits may qualify for economic stimulus payments this year from the federal government. Veterans who might not otherwise be required to file a 2007 tax return need to file a return this year to receive the stimulus payment.

NOTE: The Economic Stimulus Payment **is not** considered income for VA purposes. It will not be counted in financial assessments for determining a veteran's eligibility for VA benefits.

Chapter #25 Website

We have just started to add content to our new website. In the coming weeks and months we will have more and more information available on-line. Currently, you can get a listing of Officers of Chapter #25 and view the newsletter. Just click on the large bold links to the left and take a tour. The address is:

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/nc/25/default.aspx>