

COMMANDERS COLUMN



Greetings Comrade Veterans!

By now most of you have figured out that I am your new Commander.....I want to thank each of you that have helped me accept this position as well as your continuance of aid and support throughout of me and this chapter.

I am sorry to say we lost a lot of our upper team members at our last election, and I sincerely want them to know that we all have appreciated the time, effort and personal sacrifice that they each have given to this chapter.

In your support, I want you all to know that even though a door may not appear to be open with an issue or idea. I have an ear that will always listen, and will do my best to work towards anything that is a betterment for our chapter.

Please keep in mind that the Robert Flansburg Chapter 7 House is your house. Please support it and keep it in mind for your next get together. Whether it be a retirement, birthday, graduation, family reunion, or whatever...

Have a great summer comrades!

Roger Pettigrew – Commander

Special Occasion ADS

Anyone wishing to extend “Special Occasion Wishes” to family and friends may do so in the newsletter! Send \$10 and your announcement by the 15th of the month preceding the quarterly newsletter, and it will appear in the that upcoming newsletter.

Do you need to retire an American Flag? If so they can be taken to the DAV Transportation Office at the Lincoln VA Medical Center or to the Chapterhouse at 70th & Seward.

They will be retired with honors and according to protocol by the Dwight American Legion. We want to thank them for their help on this endeavor.

ADJUTANTS COLUMN



Greetings,

This is the first time authoring the Adjutants column as Chapter Adjutant. Our new Commander, Roger Pettigrew appointed me to this position after the elections were confirmed.

Chapter 7 has already reached our membership goals by over 100%. Thanks to our members and a special thank you to Bill Van Setten, who has over 40 new members signed up. To all keep up the good work and keep Nebraska number one in Region 4.

By the time you get this newsletter, the state convention in Kearney and the VA Music Festival in Lincoln will have already taken place. I hope you attended one of these major events.

Our Transportation Service Coordinator, Tom Vodvarka and his staff do an excellent service transporting our veterans and deserve a very special thank you. Chapter 7 purchased ball caps for all of Tom's staff, not only to be recognized as drivers, but also as a small token of appreciation from our chapter for what they all do.

Some of our members have requested D.A.V. merchandise such as caps, shirts, and t-shirts. You can purchase these items by going online to DAVstore.com and shopping the online store or by calling the DAV Store (877-426-2838, ext. 3252) direct and request a catalogue be sent to you or describe what you want and they will assist you with an order.

Our lounge has been doing very well do to efforts of our manager, Irv Cidlik. He works tirelessly to make the club a success. Let's support him and all of his special events.

I would like to thank all those who ran for office and were appointed to select committees. Remember it's you DAV Club.

Have a great summer, see ya at the club!

Bernie Koehne - Adjutant

DAV NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE

Greetings from the DAV National Service Office! FYI we are located within the VA Regional Office at 3800 Village Drive, Lincoln, NE 68501. Our office hours are 8AM to 4 PM, Monday thru Thursday and 8 AM to 12 PM on Friday. Our phone number is 402-420-4025.

I want to personally thank Bernie and Irv for making the Mobile Service Office (MSO) at the chapter house back in April a huge success for all the veterans who attended as well as for the chapter showing its support to assist veterans in need of assistance with their claims and VA benefit questions. I will be taking the MSO out on the road again for the last two weeks in September. This time out I will be stopping in Fremont, Tekamah, South Sioux City, Wayne, and West Point. If you know anyone in these areas needing claims assistance, VA questions answered, general information, or just want to say hello.....have them come and visit the MSO.

Last May, mother nature was not kind to the residents of Sutton, Cordova, and Beaver Crossing. After being declared a National Disaster Tornado Area, Both Mark and I went on the road for a week reaching out to service connected veterans that were affected by the disaster on behalf of the DAV National Disaster Relief Program. We went door to door checking on veterans and rendered on the spot financial support for those veterans in need. I want to personally thank those locally who selflessly assisted when we asked for help at the disaster site getting in touch with veterans in need.

Lastly, if you are not enrolled on eBenefits, you need to consider going electronic to keep up with the new VA and how claims and claims information is shared and processed. Once you enroll in eBenefits, you can check on the status of your claim, benefits, compensation and prescriptions, etc., all from one location. In addition to all of these options, we can file claims for you electronically without you having to leave your home. Electronic claims are processed roughly 60% faster than the standard paper claim. Currently, electronic dependency claims are being paid within 14 days of submission. If submitted as a traditional paper claim, processing time varies from 9 to 18 months.

Thanks for your Service!

NAS Mark Moore, NSO Bill Van Setten, and Kelly Paulsen

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7/04/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	\$2.50 Hamburger Night
7/07/2014	7:00 PM	DAV/DAVA Meeting
7/08/2014	7:00 PM	Marine Corp League
7/11/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
7/14/2014	7:00 PM	Rats Meeting
7/16/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Wings & Rings w/Drink, \$9
7/17/2014	7:00 PM	Fleet Reserve
7/18/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
7/22/2014	7:00 PM	VFW 7722
7/24/2014	5:30 PM	Thrift Store Board Meeting
7/25/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
7/28/2014	7:00 PM	Executive-Board Meeting
7/30/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Chicken Dinner w/Drink \$10
8/01/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	\$2.50 Hamburger Night
8/04/2014	7:00 PM	DAV/DAVA Meeting
8/08/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
8/11/2014	7:00 PM	Rats Meeting
8/12/2014	7:00 PM	Marine Corp League
8/13/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Wings & Rings w/Drink, \$9
8/14/2014	7:00 PM	Fleet Reserve
8/15/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
8/22/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
8/26/2014	7:00 PM	VFW 7722
8/27/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Windsor Loin w/Drink, \$10
8/29/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
9/01/2014	7:00 PM	DAV/DAVA Meeting
9/05/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	\$2.50 Hamburger Night
9/08/2014	7:00 PM	Rats Meeting
9/09/2014	7:00 PM	Marine Corp League
9/10/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Wings & Rings w/Drink, \$9
9/12/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
9/18/2014	7:00PM	Fleet Reserve
9/19/2014	5:00-8:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu
9/23/2014	7:00 PM	VFW 7722
9/24/2014	5:30-8:00 PM	Fish Fry w/Drink, \$10
9/27/2014	5:00 PM	Regular Friday Night Menu

From the Lounge!

I want to personally thank all of you who are supporting the lounge. The Wednesday and Friday nights have been very good. I have added some Wednesday night specials to help make us profitable. Your response has been great! Thank you so much! Also a BIG thank you for all the volunteers that help everything a success.

Thanks,

IRV, Mgr

The Chapter #7 newsletter and the Chapter calendar of events is available on line at: ne.dav.org/7 and clicking on the "News" and "Events" buttons.

DAVA AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S COLUMN

There were three great programs on Memorial Day this year. At Wyuka in the morning DAV members, Unit members, State DAVA Junior Vice Commander Breanne Commander and myself walked in the Memorial Day Parade with several other organizations. Not many know that the ROTC escorts a Daughter of the Union organization to the bridge over the pond. She will then toss a wreath into the pond in honor of the civil war veterans signaling the beginning of the walk to the civil war circle where the Memorial Day Program will be held. This year we had 15-year-old Junior Clarke Chandler carry the American flag and Floyd Williams retired Army and Desert Storm Veteran. The morning held up beautifully for our speakers, laying of the wreaths, and the releasing of the 21 doves representing the souls of our departed veterans and the conclusion with Taps and releasing of Red, White and Blue Balloon to Lee Greenwood melody.

Next we are on our way to Lincoln Memorial for 11:15 service. This year a twist, the Legion Riders road into the cemetery in formation carrying the American Flag and presented the flag to the JROTC Color Guard. VA Dr. Emler was quest speaker. Reading and Folding of Flag by JROTC. (Reader DAV member Ron Lechner).

In the evening was the Veterans Memorial Garden In Antelope Park program. Bagpipes by Edwin Mususha signals the beginning of the candlelight program. DAVA Junior members Clarke Chandler and Conner Linnenman helped with passing out the candles. At the candlelight ceremony I participate in reading of the names, there are seven of us that are readers. We had 500 names to read from Lancaster County.

With Memorial Day over looking forward to State Convention held June 13-15. National Convention will be held Aug. 9-12 in Las Vegas at the Balley and National Fall Conference will be held in Lexington, Kentucky Sept. 25-27 at the Hilton.

We will be sending out our Yearly Forget-Me-Not letter shortly. It will be sent separately from the Newsletter. Our mission remains the same. We service Approximately 264 veterans in the area Nursing Homes during the Christmas season (we have them fill out a wish list), The gifts are around \$10 a piece, the Veteran will list 3 items in need, we also will do haircuts and postage stamps, we do food baskets at Thanksgiving, give Veteran and family gift certificate during holiday, furnish coffee for the VA medical center, help Veteran or family in need of assistance, utility bill etc. Your donations have made this possible; we thank you from Unit # 7.

Rebecca Bowman—Unit # 7 Commander

DAVA AUXILIARY ADJUTANTS COLUMN

I would like to begin by saying Thank You to the Unit #7 Auxiliary members who have been patient with me learning my new role as their adjutant and supported my growth this past year. I would also like to extend a very grateful Thank You to Commander Becky Bowman for having the confidence in me to select me as her Adjutant last year and again this year. Commander Becky Bowman has made herself available to me for many questions throughout this year and has given me the guidance needed to be a Unit Adjutant, managing to do so with her very committed schedule. Because of the Commander's confidence in me, along with the encouragement of my Mother and Father, Rene' and Gregory Holloway, I have had several opportunities this past year to be involved in the DAVA on many levels, which has been a very enriching experience. My Mother and Father have been great supporters of me and my involvement with the DAVA, I cannot thank them enough. The Unit would like to create more opportunities for junior member involvement. The thought is to start small and have one or two activities centered around the participation of junior members, however junior members are welcome to participate at any other Auxiliary activity. It is known that several junior members live out of state, so as we begin this endeavor attendance numbers may be small. If you do have grandchildren, nieces, nephews, step-children, etc., please sign them up and stay tuned for some Junior Activities.

I would like to encourage Unit # 7 Auxiliary members to become more involved. It is understandable that it is hard to make time for activities such as monthly meetings, volunteering in the community, etc. As of June 1, 2014, Unit #7 Auxiliary had 369 members and the average number of Auxiliary members to attend Unit monthly meetings this past year was 12. With that said the Unit was amazingly able to have great yearend numbers for Community Service. Auxiliary members donated 2,566 miles, 571 hours and \$7,250.79! If we can donate this much to our veterans and community with a small number of participating members, imagine how much more of a difference we can make with 20 or 30 members at a meeting. There are so many committees and activities that members are currently involved with and would welcome you to come help make our Unit the best it can be.

I would like to close by saying that I am truly proud to be a part of the Robert Flansburg Unit #7 Auxiliary. I have gained so much about life from being around such giving people, many I now call friend. I am so grateful that I am able to help the DAVA full fill its mission. With my first year as Unit #7 Adjutant behind me, I am looking forward to this coming year and working with the new Unit #7 Officers for the betterment of our organization.

Breanne Chandler—Unit #7 Adjutant

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

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July-August-September 2014

**COMMANDER
SR. VICE COMMANDER
AUX. COMMANDER
AUX. ADJUTANT
ADJUTANT**

CHAPTER HOUSE

**ROGER PETTIGREW
MATT BURKE
REBECCA BOWMAN
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TAPS

Harry Large

Member 28 Years

Robert Schmitz

Member 54 Years

Arthur Fry

Member 1 Year

Gerrie Hayeh

Member 9 Years

Vincent Sullivan

Member 43 Years

Kenneth Daniels

Member 10 Years

James Kubert

Member 2 Years

Henry Esquivel

Member 32 Years

Lonnie Liming

Member 13 Years

Wesley Kline

Member 46 Years

May They Rest In Peace

Paul Carpenter, Chaplain

Advertisement Section Announcement

Anyone wishing to have their company's business Card or advertising published in the Chapter Newsletter, may do so by the issue or a full year! To have your company advertisement is a nominal donation of \$25 per issue or \$80 for the entire year. Please submit your business cards to the lounge staff, commander or adjutant by the 15th of the month in March, June, September and December newsletter, and it will be displayed in the upcoming newsletter. If your business has a custom logo or advertisement, we can work with you to fit your needs.



NEED A NEW FLAG?

**THE DAV HAS FLAGS FOR SALE
AT THE BEST PRICE AROUND!!**

3' x 5' NYLON STICED & EMBROIDERED FLAG

\$15.00 EACH