



Disabled American Veterans Naomi Chapter 15 — Philadelphia, PA

NEWSLETTER

7900 Lindbergh Blvd #4610
Philadelphia, PA 19153
(267) 292-2082

March/April 2013

Commander

- Samuel Blow Jr.
- (215) 782-1674

Senior Vice Commander

- Leonard M. Johnson

Junior Vice Commander

- Steven D. Lacey

Adjutant/Treasurer

- Harding Byrd
- (267) 292-2082

Chaplain

- James Chappelle
- (215) 387- 5785

Judge Advocate

- Richard D. Fields

Sergeant-at-Arms

- Charles B. Clarke

Care — Volunteer



Easter Greetings
TO ONE AND ALL

March Meeting

March 25, 2013

Harding Byrd, Adj.
Naomi Chapter 15
7900 Lindbergh Blvd #4610
Philadelphia, PA 19153-2018

Hospital Party Scheduled

Naomi Chapter 15 will sponsor a party for hospitalized veterans at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center on March 28. The party will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor multi-purpose room. Refreshments will be served while patients take their chances playing bingo using the system donated by all (including Naomi) Philadelphia County DAV chapters. Come out and join us — show your care!

Sickness and Distress

Regretfully we render our last salute to fallen comrades, Leon McCoy, Francis C. Tucker and Joseph C. Messa. All were resourceful dedicated warriors who served family, friends, and country well. We send get well wishes to those under the weather including George Murphy, Dan McIntosh, James Waddell, Donald Daniels, Ronald Daniels, Julius Bennett, Frank Beck, Stephen Lacey, Samuel Blow, Jr., Odessa Thrower and Harry Crafton. Anyone having knowledge of the sickness, distress or death of any of our members is requested to notify Chaplain Chappelle at (215) 387-5785.

New Member Welcome

A hearty welcome to nine (9) new members of DAV and/or Naomi Chapter 15. Joining our ranks since the last issue of the Newsletter were Comrades Gerald A. Comrad, Patrick W. Cavaliere, Garrick O. Johnson, John A. Davis, William H. Donaldson, Kathleen M. Horn, Angel M. Navarro, Tyrone F. Ruley and Kelvin L. Thomas. -- Welcome - **Come out and get involved.**

D.C. Bus Trip Huge Success

On February 26, 2013 Naomi Chapter 15 sponsored a bus trip to our nation's capitol. The trip was scheduled to allow our membership, and a number of our friends, to support our National Commander during his testimony before a joint congressional committee on veterans affairs. We are happy to announce that the trip was a success, our mission was accomplished and we look forward to 2014 confident that veteran's benefits are safer when all of us insist that our message be heard.

Your Chapter Appreciates Your Support

Member support of Naomi's Newsletter Fund, and other projects as scheduled are appreciated. We acknowledge a recent contribution from K. Amumia Williams. We also acknowledge and appreciate contributions given anonymously at chapter meetings as well as the following who donated in support of our February 26, 2013 bus trip to Washington DC: Samuel Blow, Jr., Antonio Simon, Darrick Jenkins, William Montgomery, Ronald Speight, Haskell Carter, Willie Smart, American Legion Post 738, Harding Byrd, George Murphy and Sybil Blanding in memory of her husband, and our fallen comrade, Lt. Col Zenola Blanding. We offer special thanks to a very special donor, Howard Smith.

"SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!"

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March/April Report

From The Commander's Desk

Greetings Comrades, Unfortunately, because of a bout with pneumonia I missed the Naomi sponsored trip to Washington DC in support of our National Commander as he advocated for continued budgetary support of the needs of veterans of America's wars during testimony before a joint committee of Congress. Like you I will have to get the details from Group Leader Sr. Vice Johnson who is to be commended for a job well done. I also appreciate the support of the membership, we could not have done it without you. In case you have forgotten it is March and time to start the process of choosing our leadership team for the 2013/2014 membership year. Nominations will be in order at the March meeting and nominations and elections will be in order during the April meeting. Sorry, no voting by proxy, you have to be present to vote. We are looking for volunteers for the Philadelphia VA Medical Center and ask you to share your skills in ways that benefit hospitalized veterans. We could also use drivers for the DAV vans to shuttle veterans to and from appointments at the hospital. Interested in helping out? Give Leonard Johnson a call at 267 254-9097. I want to thank all who sent get well wishes during my recent illness ---- you made my day. Again, thanks ---- see you at our next meeting!



Blow

Service Officer Report

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced upgrades to its self-service web portal (<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>). A joint venture with the Department of Defense eBenefits offers a wide variety of opportunities for veterans, service members and family members of veterans/service members to apply for benefits, view status of existing claims, file new claims, browse benefits links and explore job opportunities at the career center link. A link to a monstrous National Resource Directory (NRD) provides info on National/state/local resources providing veterans benefits. Registration is required for premium access, and can be done online. For info on this or any other benefit related matter please contact our Chapter Service Officer, Leonard Johnson, 267 254-9097.



Johnson

Blow

Veterans Advisory Commission Moves

The Philadelphia Veterans Advisory Commission has moved. It is now located on the first floor of City Hall, Room 127. The phone # is 215 686-3256, the contact person is Joyce McKeown.

VAVS Deputy Rep Needed

Leonard Johnson is the DAV VAVS Representative at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center. Rumor is he is looking for 2 deputies to help him manage the DAV volunteer program at PVAMC. Want to wear a red hat ---- call Leonard Johnson, 267 254-9097

Support Our Troops

Chapter Meetings

Your Chapter meets the fourth Monday at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, University and Woodland Aves. The time is 3p.m, the location is the 3rd floor. If you have any questions please call or write, either your Commander or your Adutant/Treasurer, at the phone number/address listed on page 1.

VA Hotline Has Birthday

Feb. 1 marked the second anniversary of the toll-free National VA Caregiver Support Line. The call center staff has helped connect thousands of veterans, family members and caregivers to earned services and resources. Veterans, friends, family and caregivers can continue to access these resources by calling 1-855-260-3274 or sending an email query through the VA's main page, www.va.gov. Local caregivers support coordinators assess the caller's needs and provide guidance and information VA programs and benefits, as well as brief supportive counseling when needed. The staff can also directly connect callers with the VA's other support lines, such as the Veteran Crisis Line (1-800-273-8255) and the Coaching Into Care Line (1-888-823-7458).

Chapter Website

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/Pa/15/default.aspx>

Just A Reminder

Just a reminder ---- your chapter needs your help. We are in need of your support in the form of any donation you can afford to give. Help us help others ---- help us make difference. Give what you can afford.

VA Benefits Toll-Free Number
1 800- 827-1000

Nominations and Elections Set

Nominations for election of chapter officers for the 2013/2014 organizational year will be in order at the March 25, 2013 chapter meeting. Nomination **and** election of officers for the same term will be in order at the April 22, 2013 chapter meeting

Phila. Regional DAV NSO Phone Number
215 381-3065



April Meeting — April 22, 2013

