

# March/April Report

## From The Commander's Desk



Greetings Comrades I would like to compliment all of you for your support of Naomi's projects in support of veterans in need. The call has come, we have answered and you were there. At the last meeting the membership decided to expand our parties to the VA Nursing Home. Although we have not set in place a definite date we will be doing our thing at the Nursing Home in the near future. By the time you read this we will have journeyed to Wash DC to support our National Commander as he testifies before a joint Congressional Committee advocating for continued support for benefits earned on battlefields around the world. Our next hospital party will be on March 24, 2011 and our response to requests for answers are not only accurate but prompt. I also would like to thank those of you who contributed to the Chapter's Newsletter Fund. Keep up the good work ----- your generosity is appreciated. Chapter election time is here again. officers for the 2011/2012 membership year will be chosen as noted below. Come out and participate ---- Come out and get involved!

### New Caregiver Benefits

Chapter Service Officer Sr. V vice Commander Leonard Johnson reports VA is launching the first of a series of new and enhanced services supporting family caregivers of seriously ill and/or injured veterans. In May 2010 President Obama signed into law the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 which authorized VA to establish a wide range of new services to support certain caregivers of eligible Post 9/11 Veterans.



Benefits and services available for the caregiver include; a monthly stipend, health care coverage, travel expenses (including per diem), respite care and mental health services and counseling. Further info is available via VA's toll-free Caregiver Support Line (1-855-260-3274 or website (<http://www.caregiver.va.gov>). Caregivers without phone or computer access should contact Social Work at the local VA Medical Center where additional info is available

### PA Veterans Benefits

Principal contact for PA and Phila. County veterans benefits is the Phila. County Director for Veterans Affairs, Edgar Howard. Located in Rm 494, City Hall, Phila. PA. (215 686-3256) fax\_215 563-3162, Director Howard's office can be your best bet for a variety of forms needed when filing for state or local veterans benefits.

## 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.

### The Fire

A fire at the NPRC in St. Louis on July 12, 1973, destroyed about 80 percent of the records for Army personnel discharged between November 1, 1912, and January 1, 1960. Approximately 75 percent of the records for Air Force personnel with surnames from "Hubbard" through "Z" discharged between September 25, 1947, and January 1, 1964, were also destroyed. If a Veteran learns that their records may have been lost in the fire, they may send photocopies of any documents they possess to the NPRC, particularly separation documents. The address is: National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. The NPRC will add those documents to the computerized index and file them permanently. Military veterans and next-of-kin (Defined as surviving spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, sister or brother) can easily request copies of discharges and other Personnel records at: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>

### Chapter Website

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

VA Suicide Prevention Hotline  
(1 800- 273-TALK)

### Nominations and Elections Set

Nominations for election of chapter officers for the 2011/2012 membership year will be in order at the March 28, 2011 chapter meeting. Nomination **and** election of officers for the same term will be in order at the April 25, 2011 chapter meeting

**Phila. Regional DAV NSO Phone Number**  
**215 381-3065**



## April Meeting — April 25, 2011

