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Disabled American Veterans Naomi Chapter 15 — Philadelphia, PA

Newsletter

November/December 2013

Commander

- Leonard M. Johnson
- (267) 254-9097

Senior Vice Commander

- Jerome Sungari

Junior Vice Commander

- Steven D. Lacey

Adjutant/Treasurer

- Harding Byrd
- (267) 292-2082

Chaplain

- James K. Chappelle
- (215) 387-5785

Judge Advocate

- Richard D. Fields

Sergeant-at-Arms

- Charles B. Clarke

2013 COLA 1.5%

Next year's cost of living allowance (COLA) has been announced as 1.5%. That is not what some were looking for but it is better than the 0% of a few years ago. Don't spend it all in the same place.

Hospital Party A Success

On October 24, 2013 Naomi Chapter 15 sponsored a hospital party that brightened the spirits of a group of Philadelphia VAMC hospitalized veterans. We thank the chapter members who came out and gave their support. Refreshments and bingo, with canteen books as prizes, were offered to all. Commander Johnson's grandchildren, Cyesha and Fredy dropped by and were the life of the party. Let Commander Johnson, and Cyesha and Fredy know how appreciated they are at PVAMC and Naomi Chapter 15.

Sickness and Distress

Our condolences, and last salute to the family and friends of Comrades John D. Bradley, Leon Bullock, Donald J. Guerin, Charles Heineman, Bettes B. Ramsey, Paul B. Reed, Thomas J. Reese and Charles Smith who passed away. Eugene Alexander, James Waddell, Julius Bennett, Odessa Thrower, Donald Daniels, Ronald Daniels, Dan Macintosh and George Murphy have been reported as under the weather. Help us keep our Sickness and Distress report up-to-date — report all sickness, distress or death to Chaplain Chappelle at 215 387-5785.



New Member Welcome

A hearty welcome to 8 new members of Naomi Chapter 15. Joining our ranks since the last issue of the Naomi Newsletter were Comrades Tanya Y. Alderman, Bruce Clark, Aleyanan Hersh, Jeffery S. Nast, Vernon J. Summers and Ralph Williams. Paul L. Earley and Robert L. King transferred in from other chapters. Welcome - come out and get acquainted. **Come out and get involved.**



Newsletter Fund

Due to increased membership and the high cost of production Naomi Chapter 15 has again decided to ask our members and friends to help bear the expense of publishing this newsletter. Our membership now stands at 1,367 and we want each and every member to share each and every victory - and to be aware of who we are, what we stand for, and why we labor on your behalf. We need your help! No donation is too small! Send your donation to the chapter at the return address on this newsletter. Make out checks or money orders to Naomi Chapter 15, DAV. Thanks!!!!

HAPPY
Thanksgiving
ONE
AND ALL

Care — Volunteer



November
Meeting
Nov. 25, 2013



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November/December Report

From The Commander's Desk



Greetings Comrades, on behalf of my entire leadership team I want to extend to all glad tidings and heartfelt sincere wishes for a joyous holiday season. As we enjoy the exchange of gifts with family and friends, let's not forget the unfortunate among us. This is particularly true of the homeless veterans living on the streets of the nation. Let them know we care — give generously, you will help a comrade make it through another day. Look around the neighborhood, identify the truly needy and respond. Naomi Chapter 15 continues to sponsor hospital parties on the third floor of the Philadelphia VAMC. Check our schedule and come out and help brighten the life of a hospitalized comrade. *As noted on page 1 we are asking our members and friends to help us to bear the cost of producing and distributing this newsletter. A donation from you will ensure that we can continue to keep you informed. Remember we need help in raising awareness of the unique needs of America's Women Veterans. Give me a call --- volunteer your services -- help us make difference. We ask that you keep us in your prayers.. Be a*

Santa helper, help make this a merry Christmas for a child in need. Remember, no meeting in December — see you at the next meeting in January — and then on to new challenges in the year ahead.

What is IU?

Individual Unemployability or IU is the basis on which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) pays service-connected disability compensation at the rate payable for a 100-percent evaluation to qualified veterans with combined evaluations that are less than 100 percent. To qualify veteran must meet minimum combined evaluation criteria and, in the judgment of the rating official(s), are unemployable due solely to their service-connected condition(s). For more info please contact Leonard Johnson, 267-254-9097.

Elder Care Benefits for Veterans

Many veterans and/or their families are not aware of the elder care benefits available through veterans health care, state veterans homes, home renovation grants (HISA Grants) or 2 disability income programs called Compensation and Pension. One program, called 'Veterans Pension' or commonly known as 'Veterans Aid and Attendance Benefit', can provide up to \$1,949 a month to those who qualify. This program can be used to pay for 'assisted living' for the veteran or the veteran's spouse. It can also be used for nursing home care for the veteran or his spouse. For detailed info contact Leonard Johnson, 267-254-9097.

DC Bus Trip

Put this on your calendar! February 25, 2014 is the date for Naomi Chapter 15's sponsored trip to Wash. DC. See Leonard Johnson (267-254-9097) for tickets which are just \$50.00 round trip. Support your National Commander's testimony before Congress.

Naomi Chapter 15 Web Site

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



CELEBRATE
VETERAN'S DAY



Naomi Welcomes VAVS Newcomer

Commander Johnson asks all of Naomi to join him in welcoming Gerry Ferguson to the Philadelphia VA Medical Center's VAVS family. Gerry, an intern, is an Army Veteran who holds a B.S. degree in Business Management from the the University of Phoenix. All are urged to welcome Gerry with a 'glad to have you on board' message to Gerald.Ferguson@va.gov

New Womens Veterans Committee

Recognizing the need to better identify, and service, the unique needs of women veterans in our midst, Commander Johnson has created the Naomi Chapter 15 Women Veterans Committee. To be effective that committee needs a few committed women to volunteer their talents. Interested veterans should contact Commander Johnson at 267 254-9097.

Claim Filing Procedure

Naomi has a detailed procedure for filing a benefit claim. Included are info on who to contact, what to include and tips for increasing your chances for success. Copies can be obtained by phone 267 292-2082/267 254-9097 or citizip74@comcast.net

Leonard M. Johnson

Chapter Service Officer

(267) 254-9097

Be Fit ——— Exercise



Seasons Greetings

No Meeting in December — Happy Holidays