



Gamecock #5 Newsletter

Sumter, South Carolina

July 2016 Edition

Commander's Corner

Our DAV National Convention is in Atlanta, GA this year so make plans to attend. The registration is very inexpensive and the conventions are fun and educational. We may not see another National Convention this close to home for a long time, Hurry to make your reservations today.

The history of the \$200 club. As Jim Hinkle was cutting Charles Rayford's hair one day back in the late '90s they started talking about a way to raise money for a new building. The \$200 club came into being and continues today as a way to have funds on hand to make repairs to our building. We had to put on a new roof a few years back and our funds were pretty much depleted. We had a flood when our water heater kicked the bucket and that took our funds down to nearly nothing. Many of you responded last year and several more names were added to our plaque. Thank you! Let's keep this going in 2016 and see how many more names we can add to the \$200 club. (Make checks payable to DAV Chapter 5.) You will get your name on the plaque when your total reaches \$200.

Our Chapter home is currently unmanned. If you call, please leave a message with your name, phone number, date and the reason you called so that we may better serve you.

Mobility Equipment

We have several wheelchairs and adaptive appliances available if you or any Veteran you know might be in need.

Auxiliary News

Our July meal will be Christmas in July, a picnic with hamburgers, hot dogs, and the works. Please plan to join us.

Please remember to bring in donations for Christmas in July. Donations will be taken to Dorn VAMC after our cookout in July. We collect pajamas, sweats, underwear, slippers, socks, robes, reading glasses, hygiene items, lap blankets, stationery, puzzle books, etc. Our July meeting is dedicated to collecting and preparing donations to go to the Veterans who are inpatient at Dorn VAMC and those who live in the CLC. Nothing containing alcohol and no catalogs, please. Recent magazines and gently used paperback or hardcover books are welcomed as well.

Unit 5 still holds the record as the largest contributor. Please see the wish list we were provided by Voluntary Services at Dorn at the end of the newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

The DAVA collects food coupons throughout the year to send to service members overseas and canned goods to take to a local food pantry. Please bring your non-perishable items to our monthly meetings.

Please remember to record your volunteer hours in the Volunteer Book each month.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE JULY 26 at 6:30PM

Our meetings are the 4th Tuesday of each month. This month will be our picnic with hot dogs and hamburgers. We encourage each DAV member and Auxiliary to bring a dish; side items and desserts, to ensure we have enough food to go around.

Chaplain's Corner

Chapter 5: Fred Levi 803-481-4953
Unit 5: Doris Dawson 803-499-4423

Chapter 5 needs an assistant Chaplain. Please call Fred Levi if you would like to make a few phone calls or visit someone who is stuck at home. Could you write a card or two, it would be greatly appreciated? If you know of anyone who is sick, needs prayer, is hospitalized, or has passed away, please let us know.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of George C. Howell as they grieve the loss of their loved one.

Please keep Fred Levi, Dickie Graham, Paul Fisher, Jim Dawson, D Davis, John Rogers, Andie Miller, Gladys Gilmore Scarborough, George Spangler, Ruth Muller, Leon Holloway, T C Smith, Jim Wilder, Lee Pearson, Lori Levi and Lucy Amundsen in your thoughts and prayers.

Gamecock 5 Membership

Hello, everyone, we are down to 9. Only 9 new members and we make 100% this year!

HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

If you know of any events happening around town, please let us know so we can share with all of our readers.

Purple Heart recipients are welcomed to join the Sumter chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Call 803-506-3120 for more information.

Veteran's Coffee 2nd Tuesday each month
0900-1030 Blaney's Backyard Grill 1244
Pine St., Elgin, SC

Dorn VAMC has officially revived the CDSMP (Chronic Disease Self-Management Program) or BCBH (Better Choices Better Health) for short. DAV Gamecock 5 has 2 facilitators so we can have a class as soon as we get our participants together. It is a 6-week class and meets for 2 ½ hours each week. Please contact D Davis at Veteransrep@yahoo.com for more information and registration.

All ads have expired

Would you like to advertise with us? We have many spaces available and our newsletter reaches approximately 900 people. Your ad will run for a year and now your ad will have an online link to your website or any coupons you offer to our members and readers. For pricing, please call Paul at 803-840-1001.

Newsletter Committee

Please email all newsletter contributions to D Davis by the 1st Tuesday of the month so we have time to compile everything and get it ready to publish.
Veteransrep@yahoo.com
Your input allows us to continue to have an award winning newsletter.

Service Officers

DAV Service Officers are at the Chapter home on Monday and Wednesday mornings if you need claims assistance.

Fundraising Events

Please contact Paul Fisher at 803-840-1001 with any fundraising ideas or to volunteer for any events we have already planned.

This year's Camp Corral fundraising was a great success and we couldn't have done it without all of you donating your time and talents!

Transportation

The DAV has provided van service for veterans who have appointments at Dorn VA Hospital. The van leaves daily at 7:30AM from the parking lot near the Sumter County Law Enforcement Center.

If you are interested in community service and would like to help our veterans, this is a very fulfilling duty. You do not need a special license to drive the van but you will have to pass a physical. You must also possess a valid driver's license and a clear driving record. There is always a need for more van drivers. For more information or to schedule a ride, please call Valerie Brunson at 803-436-2302.

New Digital Newsletter

Our newsletter is now available on our chapter's website and by email. To receive your newsletters by email please email Veteransrep@yahoo.com with DAV in the subject line. Include your name, membership number and email address.

We value all of our readers and do not wish to exclude anyone. If you do not have the internet you will still be able to receive your newsletter by mail. We will continue to keep our local members informed with a monthly newsletter mailed to your home if you do not have internet access. All others will now receive a newsletter quarterly.

Legislative Happenings

Prior to Congress leaving for a seven-week break several veteran bills were either advanced or passed.

S.3055 passed July 13, this is the VA Dental Reauthorization Act of 2016; this reauthorized the VA Dental Insurance pilot program for another five years.

H.R. 5588 was passed by Congress; this is the Veterans' Compensation COLA Act of 2016, which authorizes a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for veteran benefits tied to COLA increases for Social Security.

S. 524 was also passed by Congress; this is the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, which aims to address the abuse of opioids throughout the country. Includes a number of provisions to curb the use of opioids to treat veterans with chronic pain and mental health conditions. It will also establish an Office of Patient Advocacy, which will oversee local medical facility patient advocates to ensure they fulfill their duties. Both bills await the president's signature.

Computer Tip: Increase the font of your Newsletter for easier reading

Trying to figure out how to read the digital newsletter and the font is too small? Here are the instructions to help assist you. It will matter how you are opening the file.

If using Internet Explorer or Edge you will find a + symbol in the upper right-hand corner; if it is not there move your mouse to this area and see if it appears. Once it is there click on it until you are able to read the newsletter.

If you are using Google Chrome then you will see a + symbol in the lower right-hand corner; if it is not there move your mouse to this area and see if it appears. Once it is there click on it until you are able to read the newsletter.

Patient and Medical Center "Wish List"

Household goods/appliances (New and gently used)

1. Washer/Dryer (new or in very good condition)
2. Microwave (new)
3. Hot Plate
4. Window Air conditioners (new)
5. Blanket Bed Sets
6. Sheet sets (single, double, queen)
7. Pillows (single, double, queen)
8. Pots and Pan set
9. Eating utensils
10. Plate setting for 4/6
11. Glasses (plastic)
12. Towels
13. Wash cloths
14. Face towels
15. Ironing Board
16. Vacuum cleaner
17. Cleaning supplies
18. Mop/Bucket
19. Laundry soap
20. Dish Soap
21. Broom
22. Dust Pan
23. Shower curtain
24. Shower curtain rod
25. Toaster
26. Crock Pot
27. Cups
28. Tupperware
29. Cutlery
30. Curtain/curtain rods

Patient Underclothing (Male and Female)

1. T-Shirts (new) M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL
2. Socks, white
3. Underwear (new) M, L, XL, 2X and up (Men and Woman)
4. Sports Bras (new) S, M, L, XL

Sweat shirts and pants, M, L, XL, XXL & XXXL

Winter hats, caps and gloves

1. Winter caps and hats
2. gloves, winter

Patient Comfort Items Individual size: (No glass please)

G20 cards -
Phone cards -

1. Disposable Safety Razors
2. Tooth Brushes
3. Toothpaste
4. Deodorant Men/Women (Stick)
5. Combs/brushes, Afro-combs
6. Shaving Cream or Gel
7. Hand & Body Lotion (Alcohol Free)
8. Body Wash
9. Hair moisturizer
10. Denture Kits
11. Nail Clippers
12. Emery Board
13. Petroleum Jelly
14. Music Headphones
15. Phone Cards (Generic)
16. Magazines (current within the last 6 months)
17. Books
18. Tickets for entertainment & sporting events
19. Back Packs/Duffle Bags
20. Blankets & Sleeping Bags for the Homeless Program
21. Single Bed Sheets and Pillow Cases
22. Thermos
23. Word puzzle books
24. Craft kits (i.e. paint by numbers)
25. Non-perishable items: Apple cider, cup of soup
26. MP3 Players
27. Candy
28. Large print playing cards

Gift cards (\$20.00 increments): Generic cards are used to purchase food items, clothing, gas, transportation for indigent Veterans.

No minimum quantity required we appreciate all donations.

Additional Legislative Information

A sticking point has arisen between the House and the Senate, over the Veterans' Preference in the federal government job market. Currently, when a Veteran applies for a federal government job they are given extra points during the application process. An amendment in the House would prohibit funds from being used to change the current policy on veterans' preference in federal hiring. This measure is a direct response to a provision in the Senate that would limit the application of veterans' preference to a vet's first job in federal service. The Defense policy bill is now in conference committee; the House version of it does not contain the language on veterans' preference.

The Senate provision would no longer permit veterans' preference to be a bonus in any subsequent federal jobs for which a veteran applied. In other words, vets could receive the additional points that veterans' preference provides for their first jobs in federal government, but not for any future positions. The measure additionally could affect close relatives of veterans, including spouses and parents, who are eligible for veterans' preference under unique circumstances while applying for federal jobs.

Frequently Called Numbers

Admissions	(803) 776-4000 x4983/7190
Appointment Line.....	(803) 647-5829
.....	(800) 293-8262
Billing and Insurance	
Collections – pay a bill	(888) 827-4817
General questions.....	(866) 258-2772
Medical claims	(803) 776-4000 x6763
Chaplain Services	
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	(803) 776-4000 x6332
After hours	(803) 776-4000
Compensation and Pension.....	(803) 776-4000 x6183
Enrollment Eligibility	(803) 776-4000 x7010
Information Desk (Dorn VAMC).....	(803) 776-4000 x4179/8055
Medical Records.....	(803) 776-4000 x6283
Mental Health	(803) 776-4000 x
MyHealththeVet.....	(803) 695-6783
Patient Advocate	(803) 776-4000 x7998/6937
Prosthetics.....	(803) 776-4000 x6323
Release of Information	(803) 776-4000 x6290
Telephone Advice Line	
Outside Columbia	(888) 651-2683
In Columbia	(803) 647-5829
Travel Office.....	(803) 776-4000 x4492/4525/4484
Veteran's Transportation Service	(803) 776-4000 6398
Veteran Service Organizations	
American Legion	(803) 776-4000 x7539
AmVets.....	(803) 776-4000 x2421
Disabled American Veterans	(803) 776-4000 x2422
Military Order of the Pearl Heart.....	(803) 776-4000 x2430
Paralyzed Veterans Association	(803) 776-4000 x2432
Veteran's of Foreign Wars.....	(803) 776-4000 x2443
Voluntary Services.....	(803) 776-4000 x6780/7081

Community-Base Outpatient Clinics

Anderson CBOC
3030 N. Hwy 81
Anderson, SC 29621
Tele (864) 224-5450

Sumter CBOC
407 N. Salem Ave
Sumter, SC 29150
Tele (803) 938-9901

Greenville OPC
41 Park Creek Drive
Greenville, SC 29605
Tele (864) 299-1600

Orangeburg CBOC
1767 Village Park Drive
Orangeburg, SC 29118
(803) 533-1335

Spartanburg CBOC
279 North Grove Medical Plaza
Spartanburg, SC 29303
Tele (864) 582-7025

Rock Hill CBOC
2670 Mills Park Drive
Rock Hill, SC 29732
Tele (803) 366-4848

Florence CBOC
1822 Sally Hill Farms Blvd
Florence, SC 29501
Tele (843) 292-8383



This listing has been cut from the new Dorn VA Medical Center Newsletter, *Palmetto Post*. We hope that it is helpful to all of our members and their families. Stay connected to the DORN VAMC using the following:

Dorn VAMC official Web site:

www.columbiasc.va.gov/

Dorn Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/VAColumbiaSC

Dorn Twitter handle:

@VAMCColumbiaSC



Stay up to date on happenings around the state. Visit va.sc.gov