



HAWAII DAV DEPARTMENT NEWS

October 15, 2010



“Building better lives for all of our nation’s disabled veterans and their families.”

Regulation 10: National Constitution Bylaws and Regulations

Priority: To help veterans, focus on resolution.

New NSO

Danny Soto is the new National Service Officer for the Department of Hawaii DAV. He is coming to us from within District 18 from Phoenix. Just as an aside, while researching for this short bio, his staff offered glowing remarks about his dedication and doing the extra things that bring success to his fellow veterans and their claims. He will be here temporarily in the 3rd week of October, then return to Phoenix to tie up loose ends in conjunction with the move to Hawaii. The office will be manned on an interim basis until his permanent assignment begins after his relocation is permanent and established. Meanwhile Bob Severence will continue to take DAV calls at the office.

Danny is retired Navy from the Medical field. He brings a seasoned medical background from time in military as well as time spent developing programs at Walter Reed. He has a history with Hawaii and has family in the islands. As an aside, Danny has a long standing relationship with Bert Erwin, our prior NSO. We welcome you Danny and look forward to having you participate in our local DAV.

Convention

60th Convention Chairman, Chapter 4’s Willie Howard, is busy organizing committees and assigning responsibilities. Tentative date is June 10, 11, 12. Expect a formal announcement with more details as soon as plans are finalized with documentation. If you have a preference and a desire for a particular aspect of the convention and want to volunteer, please make it known. Past experience that many of you have is always in demand. It will take a united and well coordinated effort to give the 60th

convention the status it deserves. The convention address and contact:

60TH DAV STATE CONVENTION 2011

Disabled American Veterans

P.O. Box 860945

Wahiawa HI 96786

808-621-8888 FAX 808-839-5376

Convention Chairman: Willie James Howard

phatcow99@AOL.Com

DAVA

Commander Lorna Kakesako reports DAVA is looking forward to having the State Convention on Oahu in 2011.

Hospital Service and Transportation Coordinator

HSTC Nalu Perez continues to expand the transportation program and is in need of more drivers. It is anticipated a request will be submitted for a new van for Oahu to replace the existing van nearing the end of its service life to the VA.

Chapter News

It should be noted any and all chapter news, great or small, will be considered and gladly published for all to appreciate. Please pass on your local news.

Chapter 7 has single handedly fund raised their way to a new van. They have raised the entire amount, \$14,100 necessary to submit a request to Columbia Trust for matching funds. A hearty congratulations is in order for Commander Hanato and his ambitious chapter members that have brought this to fruition. It takes everyone’s effort to make these things happen. So truly, this month, the acknowledgement of our mission; “Building

better lives for all of our nation's disabled veterans and their families" must go to Chapter 7.

Chapter 7 Adjutant Highley emphasized numerous events, and members' participation in the fund raising drives. The department extends its appreciation and gratitude to all you Chapter 7 members that gave your time and talents to this challenge. You stand as a model for all chapters to emulate.

As a point of interest, Chapter 4 on Oahu also has a significant amount of "van transportation" funds dedicated to purchase of a new van for Oahu. Several of the vans in service now will soon need to be replaced. This is a mandate for all chapters to prioritize fund raising and solicitation for the van transportation fund.

Vietnam Statistics of interest

Your editor has seen several of these statistics from a variety of sources. While all cannot be documented to the last detail. It is believed they are the best representation that can be assembled within reason.

These statistics were taken from a variety of sources to include: The VFW Magazine, the Public Information Office, and the HQ CP Forward Observer - 1st Recon April 12, 1997, and Vietnam War Statistics links on google.

The following are some statistics that are at once depressing yet, in a larger sense, should give you a huge sense of pride.

Of the 2,709,918 Americans who served in Vietnam, less than 850,000 are estimated to be alive today, with the youngest American Vietnam veteran's age approximated to be 54 years old."

2,709,918 Americans served in Vietnam, this number represents 9.7% of their generation.

25% (648,500) of total forces in country were draftees. (66% of U.S. armed forces members were drafted during WWII).

Vietnam veterans have a lower unemployment rate than the same non-vet age groups.

Vietnam veterans' personal income exceeds that of our non-veteran age group by more than 18 percent.

79% of the men who served in Vietnam had a high school education or better when they entered the military service.

63% of Korean War vets and only 45% of WWII vets had completed high school upon separation.

This next one is the strangest of all; INTERESTING CENSUS STATISTICS & THOSE TO CLAIM TO HAVE "Been There":

1,713,823 of those who served in Vietnam were still alive as of August, 1995 (census figures).

During that same Census count, the number of Americans falsely claiming to have served in-country was: 9,492,958..... Go figure!

As you read this, you are among the last 1/3rd of all the U.S. vets who served in Vietnam. Usually this is the kind of information associated with WWII and Korean War vets. A reminder to us all to appreciate our fellow veterans no matter what war or where they served.

SEC meeting in November

Mark your calendars, and submit your items for consideration on the agenda, November SEC meeting will be November 21st . Formal notice will be mailed.

A reminder, The Federal and State General Election is taking place on November 2, 2010. Please support and vote for your candidate of choice. No vote, No complain!

Future Events

VA's National Veterans Golden Age Games are May 26-31, 2011 in Honolulu, HI. Event Director: Dewayne Vaughan (301) 322-2468 Ext 6614 Local Host: Rick Valasquez (808) 433-0441.

Please give us your feedback and/or offer of assistance, PLEASE, on this newsletter; 808 833-3746 / Fax 808-839-5376; or HIwebmaster@davfrat.org

Edward K Keoho, Sr.

Commander, Department of Hawaii DAV