



## Department of New Hampshire

140731

### *reilly's ramblings*

Yes, I am still alive and.... My hope is to see the 'ramblings' as a monthly event. Yet, to do this, I need you to provide the information. You need to tell me what is important, in your past, in your present and in your future. Our 'ramblings' is about you....

Kudos Korner

Ah, yes, some of us have been active in the past. For example:

MSO – (Mobile Service Office)

The MSO was on its July run; another one will occur in October. Domanique, our NSO, was at the wheel and visited the following locations, where several volunteers ably assisted her:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Veterans</u>	<u>New POAS</u>	<u>Claims</u>	<u>Volunteers</u>
Somersworth-	25	16	14	Gordon (18), Skip (23)
Tilton-	33	13	23	Gordon, Larry French (19), Mike Fitzgerald (4)
Conway-	16	12	7	Ed, Dave, ry (4)
Gorham-	7	3	5	Curry and Paul Pratt (23)
Littleton-	<u>19</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>no show Ch. x</u>
Totals:	100	53	63	8

Staff Meeting

Then we had the first staff meeting of our new year. Attendees were Gerry, Dave, Doug, Art, Ben, ry, Bill W and Mike Lareau, and Chris Christensen (our new HSC) (Mike is moving to Florida – Bay Pines to be exact. Guest: Bob Goulette. Excused: Gordon (MSO duty)

Birthday Party at CLC

Birthday Party for the Veterans. Sponsored by Ch.21. volunteers were Gerry, Dave, Doug, Art, and ry; Ann, Andrea and Jeri.

Friday Night Bingo

Then there was Friday Night Bingo for the veterans: Sponsored by Ch. 21. Volunteers were Denise, Frances, Jeri, Carol Myers, Andrea, Jeanne, and Ann.

Tilton cookout

Then there was the Vets Home cookout at Tilton. Volunteers were Ed, Ralph, Gerry, Larry French, Ben, Lukcas, ry, Frances, Ann, Jeanne & Roy, Carol and Andrea

140731

#### Medal Presentation at Sen. Shaheen's office

Gerry and Gordon attended the presentation of Medals to a deceased veteran, whose son received them from Senator Shaheen. Thanks.

#### Cookout at VAMC - June

Oops, yes, there was a cookout at the VAMC for the CLC Veterans. This was on June 25<sup>th</sup> and volunteers who made it a success were Gerry, Ben, Dave, Denise, Gordon, Art, Bob Buonopane, ry, Jeri, Ann, Jeanne/Roy, Taffie and Lukcas.

Our thanks to all who have participated in the above events

#### Sickness and Distress

There is other pleasant news about some of our members. Bob Burke finally received a kidney transplant about six weeks and is doing well. Unfortunately, while he was recuperating Maureen underwent surgery and lost more than a few inches of intestine. She is currently in rehab at the Salem Rehab Center. She is doing well, as best I know. You might consider dropping her a note.

Chapter 5 lost another warrior – Paul Steer, who died on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### DAV Legislative Webinar

Our participants were Gerry, Gordon and ry; Bill W was at the VA. It was 20 minutes of valuable information. I hope National will replay it for us again. Otherwise, we'll make some notes and share them. Much of the information discussed is available on the DAV.org website itself. The key is to be involved and communicate, to local, state and national levels. More importantly, communicate within the Chapters and Departments

#### So much for the past; now let's look to the future.

Yes, annual reports are due –

#### Chapter Officer Reports

If you are thinking about it, it's too late, they are way past due,

#### Form 990 Reports

Yes, you can submit your 990s now. No sense waiting until late October and then panicking. Also, please send me an email copy. Thanks.

#### Financial Reports

Yes, they are due before 30 September. Those of you who unfortunately, do not have more than \$10,000 in your accounts still need to submit a report – yours will go to the Department. The key in submitting the reports is to be specific as to where you raised your monies. Also, be specific on how these monies are spent. Remember, if you had income greater than \$50,000 you need to send a file to national. If you had less than \$10,000, you STILL need to submit a report, yet only to the Department. In answering your questions, be as specific as possible. We will be reviewing them and asking questions on items we may not understand.



## Department of New Hampshire

### Fundraising

Since our goal is always make this year a more meaningful year than the past, we need to raise more money through various activities to achieve this goal. Thus, we want to raise more money. Isn't this one of our goals? If we don't have it, we can't share it on worthwhile projects.

A thought, have you heard about grants? Most major corporations need and want to have tax deductions and at the same time, look good in our community, so they GIVE AWAY money. That's right, they GIVE AWAY money, you just have to write and ask for it.

In the past, Brian wrote many grants and several allowed us to earn a few dollars in fact, quite a few dollars.

The big question is, "Is anyone interested in writing grants to ask for these donations from major corporations?" If you are interested, let's talk. You could benefit, in more ways than you realize.

Plans for the Fall. What fundraisers do you have in mind? Let me know so I can enter them into the calendar. Think about grants from major companies, organizations, etc. Walmart is a great one for this.

Plans to increase membership. Who'll take home the awards? We all get older each day, so we need to get the young'uns who seem to age more slowly.... The department will exist long after we are gone, if we mentor new members to replace us.

Rumor has it we may consider raffling off two motorcycles? Any thoughts? Ready to go out and sell the tickets necessary to make this a success?

### Commander's Visitations:

These are an annual occurrence. What night have you set aside and coordinated with the Commander for his visit – before Christmas? You need to have your Adjutant's records and the Treasurer's records available for review.

### Convention15

Those responsible for the Convention are considering a seaside site in 2015. My concern is if we have it too close to home, many of us may choose to just attend the sessions and choose to drive home and not pay the price for a Seaside site. Seaside sites costs are a little higher than the Northern tier, especially on the first weekend in summer. For example, one hotel is quoting \$199 a night. A second hotel is quoting \$162.40 a night. Should I be overly concerned that many will prefer to make the long drive home each night rather than pay the cost for a seaside site? A thought – do have them occasionally - should we consider having it in May?

Yes, there is a cost. Yet, many of us can reduce our costs by selling ads, everyone, accept the elected Department officials can get 20% of their sales applied to their hotel stay? This being the case, maybe we should sell more ads and everyone would benefit? Your thoughts are invaluable in making this decision. Let us know what your thoughts are...

Commented [rr1]:

Up the Road with the DAV

August

- 5 – SVAC Day ?
- 8 – National Convention starts
- 8 – Friday Night Bingo, sponsor DAVNH
- 12 – Veterans Birthday party, sponsor DAVANH
- 18 – VSO meeting – Director’s Conference Room 6<sup>th</sup> floor
- 18 – Staff meeting – 1300 TBA
- 18 – Sign over returned vehicles
- 30 – Ice cream social at the NH Veterans Home in Tilton (?)
- 30 – Ch. 4’s Forget Me Not Drive starts at Portsmouth Liquor Store – 4 days

September

- 1 - First of several days at Kittery Trading Post
- 2 - SVAC meeting – a new year begins
- 9 - Staff meeting
- 9 - Vets Birthday party. Sponsor Ch. 7
- 12 - Friday Night Bingo. Sponsor is Chapter 7
- 19 - Cookout at NH Veterans Home 1130
- 20 - Department meeting at VFW in Merrimack TIME and directions TBA