



**® DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
ARTHUR H. MUCHOW CHAPTER NO. 1
CHAPTER BI-MONTHLY BULLETIN
1519 W. 51st Street - Sioux Falls, SD 57105
(605) 332-6866
SD.dav.org/01 and www.dav.org
E-Mail: davsd@midconetwork.com
www.twittercom/DAVDeptofSD
www.facebook.com/DAVDeptofSD**

**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED**

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2018

"HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY"



**CONGRATULATIONS
OTTO LOGAN
"VETERAN OF THE
YEAR 2017"**

Otto Logan has received the 2017 Veteran of the Year Award from the Sioux Falls Veterans Council on Veterans Day at Washington High School. Otto passed away on November 14, 2017.

May He Rest In Peace



DAV 2017 ANNUAL VETERANS DAY VOLUNTEER AWARD LUNCHEON

The DAV hosted this event for our OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS who received a DAV Vest. These volunteers have endlessly donated their own time, day in day out, to assist other Veterans.



HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY, GENE!!!!

The Chapter would like to wish this young Veteran a very happy birthday. Gene celebrated his 95th birthday with fellow DAV members on December 2nd.

**DAV AND AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
CONVENTION—DEADWOOD**

The DAV Department of South Dakota 79th Department Convention and the 67th DAV Auxiliary State Convention will be held April 27-29, 2018 at The Lodge at Deadwood in Deadwood, SD. The Northern Hills Chapter and Auxiliary Unit No. 11. are planning many activities for the delegates.

Lodging: Lodge at Deadwood 100 Pine Crest Drive, Deadwood, SD 57732 (877) 393-5634.

Forty (40) rooms have been reserved under the name of DAV. Please mention this when making your reservations. Room reservations must be made personally and paid for personally. Your reservation **MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 1, 2018**. The cost of each room is \$91.00 plus tax.

REGISTRATION, LUNCHEON, AND BANQUET: Prior to April 10, 2018, \$80.00 (which will include registration fee and one (1) lunch, one (1) soup & sandwich bar, and one (1) Commanders Banquet.

Individual Meal Tickets will be sold separately. Cut off time for meals will be April 13, 2018. Any special meals must be requested at the time of registration.

Lunch - \$15.00; Soup & Sandwich - \$20.00; Commanders Banquet - \$30.00.

Make registration checks payable to: DAV Chapter No. 11

Attn: Convention Committee

13059 Bethlehem Road

Piedmont, SD 57769-6400



**DAV ANNUAL
OYSTER—CHILI
FEED**

The Chapter will host the DAV Annual Chili and Oyster Stew Feed on January 13th, 2018, at 12:00 p.m. at the DAV Headquarters.

We would like to invite you and your spouse/friend to this event. Please make reservations by calling 332-6866 or email davsd@midconetwork.com. We will have door prizes.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN

**GRAND FALLS CASINO
DONATIONS FOR DAV IN
NOVEMBER**

The Chapter would like to thank Grand Falls Casino for their generous donation of \$10,210.00. During the month of November, Grand Falls Resort Club members could donate \$10.00 to the DAV and Grand Falls would give them \$10.00 in free slot play.

THANK YOU!!!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

MEMBERSHIP: AUX MEMBER _____ CHAPTER MEMBER _____

CHAPTER/AUXILIARY: (City): _____ No.: _____

Questions call Jaci Worth 605-484-5430

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

By Commander Dan Francis

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. As your Commander I would like to say THANK YOU for all of your help over the past year with volunteering. I would also like to put out a big THANK YOU to Grand Falls Casino for hosting the fund raiser in the month of November, raising more than \$10,000, for the DAV Hospital Transportation Network which provides free rides for our Veterans to the VA Health Care System and VA Clinics.

The Chapter presented DAV Vests to all our DAV Volunteers at the VA Hospital, volunteer drivers and volunteers at the DAV Headquarters. The DAV Volunteers really help a lot of Veterans enjoy a better quality of life. We THANK our "OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS" for making the DAV shine. If you didn't get a DAV Vest, please stop at John Huntington's office (DAV Hospital Transportation Coordinator) at the VA or the DAV Headquarters.

Let's not forget our Annual Chili & Oyster feed January 13th at 12:00 p.m. We are always looking for volunteers to help with Chili & Oyster feed. Please, call the Chapter (605)332-6866 to sign up, if not for the feed, we could always use your help for something. Please, sign up.

The Chapter also needs volunteers to update the Public Relations binder. This volunteer would research the Argus Leader and local newspapers for articles concerning veterans, make copies and place them into the binder on a weekly basis.

I would like to thank Jerry Kerkhove for volunteering to be the Local Veterans Assistant Program(LVAP) Coordinator. This position will need to gather volunteer hours, such as: work to support DAV Departments and Chapters, DAV-specific outreach efforts, fundraising (Forget-Me-Not and other approved fundraisers), direct assistance to Veterans, widows/widowers or families (yard work, home repairs, grocery shopping, ect.), support activities for homeless Veterans, etc., from our members and submit them to the Department LVAP Coordinator, Bob Frink. Members please turn in your LVAP hours to Jerry Kerkhove or the DAV Headquarters at the end of every month. Call or email the DAV Chapter Headquarters if you would like Jerry Kerkhove's email address.

Hot Legislation - Need members to contact Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds to support S.2193, Caring For Our Veterans Act of 2017.

Thank you once again for all that you do helping our Veterans through your volunteer work and gift giving. Wishing all of you a happy and prosperous 2018.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Chapter was very busy the months of November and December with Veterans Day Activities, Veterans and Legislators Round Tables, Chapter Christmas Dinner, and Christmas Morning with the VA Patients Party.

Otto Logan-Disabled American Veterans; Richard Rieck-Military Order of The Purple Heart; Steve Ruechhoff-Marine Corps League; and Michael Olson-Paralyzed Veterans of America were presented the "OUTSTANDING VETERAN OF THE YEAR" awards by the Sioux Falls Veterans Council at the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony. All have volunteered for many Veterans Programs and Services in the Sioux Falls Area.

"CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE VETERANS!"

The Chapter provides funds in November and December for DAV Programs and Services:

DAV Older Veterans Assistance Program	\$ 4,679.46
DAV National-Holiday	\$ 100.00
Sioux Falls Veterans Council	\$ 100.00
VAVS Program: Volunteer Awards Luncheon	\$ 5,755.89
VA Patients Christmas Party—Christmas Morning	\$ 2,879.92
Veterans Day Program	\$ 100.00
Veterans Relief	\$ 200.00
Vietnam Veterans Program	\$ 2,122.38

Please look over the DAV Coming Events on the back page. We invite YOU and SPOUSE/GUEST to the many activities. Remember the DAV Annual Chili-Oyster Feed on Saturday, January 13th at 12 p.m. Please make R.S.V.P. by calling 332-6866 or email us at davsd@midconetwork.com

Also, look over the DAV Facebook page: www.facebook.com/DAVDeptofSD, and websites: SDDAV.org/01 and DAV.org

SOUTH DAKOTA VIETNAM VETERANS & ERA REUNION

Friday	Registration	4:00 p.m.
Feb.23	Soup & Sandwich Supper	6-8 p.m.
	Music by Mega Sound	8-11 p.m.
Saturday	Registration	8:00 a.m.
Feb.24	Lunch at American Legion (Goodwill Donation)	12-1:30 p.m.
	Speaker at Ramada Inn (Agent Orange)	2-4:30 p.m.
	Happy Hour	5:30 p.m.
	Banquet & Speaker	6-7:30 p.m.
	U.S. House Of Representative Kristi Noem	
	Auction	8:00 p.m.
	Dance to Something New	9-Close
Sunday	MEMORIAL SERVICE	10:00 a.m.
Feb.25		

The DAV will host an information booth with USA Vietnam War Commemoration 50th Anniversary memorabilia; posters; give away items; and the new book Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home.

Name of Veteran _____ Friday \$35.00 each _____

Name of Guest _____ Saturday \$45.00 each _____

Date of Service _____ Both Days \$75.00 each _____

Send to: SD Vietnam Veterans & Era Reunion
PO Box 1026 Mitchell SD 57301
Contact number for more information:
605-996-211 or 605-999-2321

VIETNAM VETS: STILL COMING HOME

The DAV has available the *Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home – Their Stories in Their Words*, a 455-page full-color book written by Dr. Steve Feimer, DPA and Kristine Elin-Cable. The authors tell the stories of 31 Vietnam Veterans from each military branch who served in Vietnam between 1961 and 1974. Using their own words, the book is based on personal interviews with Vietnam Veterans conducted over the past eight years. Each unique story is couple with "in-country" photos taken by the veterans themselves. The authors are donating all the proceeds from the book sales to veterans' service organizations such as the DAV and the PVA of South Dakota. The writing and publishing of Vietnam Vets: Still Coming Home has been funded by private donations, the Chiesman Center for Democracy, and the authors themselves.

Visit website: www.thevietnamvets.com
\$59.95 Per Book + \$3.90 Tax + \$6.00 H/S

Copies are also available at:
DAV Headquarters, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD

ORDER 'VIETNAM VETS: STILL COMING HOME

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

Mail Payment to: **DAV DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**
1519 W. 51ST STREET, SIOUX FALLS SD 57105
PHONE-(605)332-6866 FAX-(605)638-5489
EMAIL: davsd@midconetwork



OPERATION: KEEP THE PROMISE DAV WASHINGTON UPDATE

S. 2193 CARING FOR OUR VETERANS ACT OF 2017

The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee approved S. 2193, a comprehensive VA health care bill, which includes provisions to overhaul the agency's community care program, provide additional funds to improve the VA health care system and extend VA's comprehensive family caregiver program to veterans of all eras.

On December 7, 2017 DAV joined with 25 other service organizations asking all Senators to push for approval of this landmark legislation, and we need everyone who cares about veterans make sure their voice is heard.

VA has been purchasing care in the community through the Choice Program, but this program has been troubled since its rocky implementation. S. 2193 contains numerous provisions DAV supports based on our resolutions, including one that would leave the decision to receive community care between veterans and their clinicians. To avoid implementation challenges, Choice would continue to operate as the new program is phased in and would provide additional funds for VA to fill thousands of clinical vacancies across the country.

One of DAV's top legislative priorities for the past few years is addressing the inequity in access to VA's comprehensive family caregivers' assistance program, currently limited to veterans severely injured on or after September 11, 2001. Veterans of other eras and their family caregivers have been left to their own devices without the critical and comprehensive support from VA's caregiver program.

Please help DAV and our allies convince the Senate to move this important legislation forward. We ask you to send the prepared email now.

Click the link below to send your message:

<https://www.dav.org/can/?vvsrsrc=%2fhome>

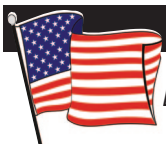
S. 1990 THE DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2017

This bill would increase dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) for surviving dependents and would lower the threshold of eligibility to allow certain survivors to receive this benefit who currently do not meet the requirements. This measure would:

- Increases DIC so that the base rate is equal to 55 percent of the rate of compensation paid to a totally disabled veteran, making it more equitable with rates provided to federal civilian employee survivors.
- Ease the 10 year rule for eligibility and replace it with a graduated scale of benefits that begins after 5 years and increases by percentage until reaching the full amount at the 10 year mark. If a veteran is rated as totally disabled for five years and dies as a result of a non-service-connected cause, a survivor would be entitled to 50 percent of total DIC benefits. This scale continues until the 10-year threshold and the maximum DIC amount is awarded.
- Reduce the age allowed for a surviving spouse to remarry and maintain their benefits from 57 to 55, consistent with other Federal survivor benefit programs.

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://www.dav.org/can/?vvsrsrc=%2fhome>



TAPS: May their souls rest in peace

*Donald Dummermuth, Darin Durfee, Charles Judstra,
Don C. Keiser, Gaylen Smith, Otto Logan, Lawrence A.
Post, Thomas J. Standenmaier, and Edwin Vreugdehijl*

VALENTINES FOR VETERANS JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY CONCERT

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System has announced that John Michael Montgomery will perform at the Valentines for Veterans concert Saturday, February 17, 2018. The concert will be held at the Washington Pavilion at 301 S. Main Avenue in Sioux Falls. It is the sixth annual concert the Sioux Falls VA hosted to honor veterans during National Salute to Veterans Month. Veterans will be able to reserve two complimentary tickets beginning January 15th at 333-6851.

SIoux FALLS VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM NEW CHIEF OF STAFF

Dr. Timothy L. Pendergrass is appointed to the position of Sioux Falls VA Health Care System Chief of Staff, effective January 21, 2018.

He is a retired Colonel with over 30 years of active duty military service, first with the Army and then the Air Force. Prior to joining the Department of Veterans Affairs, he was the Chief of the Medical Staff for 1800 Army and Air Force, civilian and contract licensed independent practitioners at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Dr. Pendergrass received his Bachelor of Arts, Biology in 1983 from the University of Colorado, and his Doctor of Medicine (MD) in 1987 from the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland. He completed a transitional internship at Malcolm Grow Air Force Medical Center, Maryland in addition to a Diagnostic Radiology Residence in 1998 from David Grant Air Force Medical Center, CA. Dr. Pendergrass was also a Flight Surgeon with more than 900 hours of flight time. He holds a Board Certification in Diagnostic Radiology from the American Board of Radiology.

THE SOUL OF VETERANS BUILDING SPIRITUAL STRENGTHS

The Sioux Falls Vet Center and the Sioux Falls VA Chaplain Service are hosting spiritual support groups for Veterans who have survived difficult and/or traumatic experiences. The groups help Veterans reduce spiritual and psychological distress and use meditative practices such as prayer and reading to aid in healing and readjustment. A group begins Tuesday, January 16 at the Vet Center, and Veterans must commit to meeting once a week for eight weeks. This group will end March 6, 2018. It is open to all Veterans. If you are interested in participating in the group, please call 605-330-4552.

VETERANS' ARTWORK SOUGHT FOR CREATIVE ARTS COMPETITION

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System is inviting area Veterans who want to share their creativity to enter visual art, including woodworking, painting, leatherwork, needlework, paper crafts, sculpture and more for the local Veterans Creative Arts Festival.

Veterans who receive care from the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center or one of its five outpatient clinics are eligible to participate and may enter up to two pieces. The pieces must have been created within the last year and be submitted no later than January 12, 2018.

Entries will be available for the public's viewing January 25, 2018 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on second floor of the Primary Care addition of the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center. Judges from the local community will name winners, and a reception and awards ceremony will take place at 2:00 PM. Veteran artists will have the opportunity to enter the National Veterans Creative Arts competition, which will take place in Des Moines, IA from October 28-November 5, 2018.

Employees will also display their arts and crafts during the show but will not compete with Veterans.

For more information about submitting artwork, contact Shirley Redmond at 605-333-6889 or Diane Larsen at 605-336-3230, Ext. 9-6418.



**I WANT YOU
INVOLVED IN
THE DAV
PROGRAMS
IN 2018**

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Sioux Falls Chapter 1
1519 W. 51st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
SIOUX FALLS, SD
PERMIT NO. 695

DAV COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 2018

- 1st - Monday..... “HAPPY NEW YEAR” - DAV Office Closed
- 2nd - Tuesday..... DAV Executive Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
- 9th - Tuesday..... Governor’s State Of The State Address – Pierre – 12:00 p.m.
SD 93rd Legislative Session Opens
DAV DINNER/MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 5:30 p.m.
- 11th - Thursday..... PVA Lunch/Membership Meeting - PVA Home - 12:00 p.m.
Military Order Of The Purple Heart Membership Meeting at DAV Home
7:00 p.m.
- 13th - Saturday..... DAV Annual Chili-Oyster Stew Feed - DAV Home - 12:00 p.m.
- 15th - Monday **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY** - DAV Office Closed
- 16th - Tuesday..... DAV National Service Office New Year Luncheon - VA Regional Office
Sioux Falls - 11:30
Vietnam Veterans of America Membership Meeting
DAV Headquarters - 7:00 p.m.
- 18th - Thursday..... Sioux Falls Veterans Council Meeting - VFW Post - 7:00 p.m.
- 30th - Tuesday..... VA Veterans Town Hall Meeting - DAV Headquarters - 5:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2018

- 1st - Thursday Deadline for DAV Dept/National Awards Recommendation
Due to DAV Headquarters 3rd - Saturday
Legislators Coffee - Holiday Inn City Centre, Sioux Falls - 10-11:45 a.m.
- 6th - Tuesday..... DAV Executive Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
- 8th - Thursday..... PVA Lunch/Membership Meeting - PVA Home - 2:00 p.m.
Military Order Of The Purple Heart Membership Meeting
DAV Headquarters - 7:00 p.m.
- 10th - Saturday..... Legislators Coffee - Holiday Inn City Centre, Sioux Falls - 10-11:45 a.m.
- 13th - Tuesday..... **DAV DINNER/MEMBERSHIP MEETING** - 5:30 p.m.
- 15th - Thursday..... Deadline for DAV Department Convention Booklet Information
Sioux Falls Veterans Council Meeting - VFW Post - 7:00 p.m.
- 17th - Saturday..... Valentines For Veterans Concert, John Michael Montgomery
Washington Pavilion
- 19th - Monday **PRESIDENTS DAY** - Office Closed
- 23rd - 25th..... South Dakota Vietnam Veterans & Era Reunion - Ramada Inn - Mitchell
- 24th - Saturday..... Legislators Coffee - Holiday Inn City Centre, Sioux Falls - 10-11:45 a.m.
- 25th - 28th..... **DAV MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**
(Tentative, Pending Confirmation on Capitol Hill) - Arlington, VA

**CHAPTER HOME OPEN 8:00 a.m. TO 4:30 p.m. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY WITH COFFEE, ROLLS, AND DONUTS.
POOL TABLES AVAILABLE FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT**

E-mail: davsd@midconetwork.com
Chapter Website: SD.dav.org/01
Department Website: SD.dav.org
Twitter: www.twitter.com/DAVDeptofSD
Facebook: www.facebook.com/DAVDeptSD

**OWEN RICHARDS
NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER**

VA REGIONAL OFFICE

2501 WEST 22ND
P.O. BOX 5046
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117
PHONE: 605-333-6896

CHAPTER OFFICERS FY 2017-2018

- Commander Dan Francis
- Sr. Vice Commander Owen Richards
- Jr. Vice Commander..... Christian Stokes
- Judge Advocate..... Larry Bouska
- Treasurer Gene A. Murphy
- Chaplain..... Gaylord Helmbrecht
- Quartermaster. Ronnie Simonsen
- Dept. Exe. Comm. Larry Bouska
- Dept. Alt. Exe..... Helen Parr
- Exe. Committee John Huntington
- Exe. Committee Terry “Hawk” Mayer
- Exe. Committee Steve Kilgour