



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

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
ARTHUR H. MUCHOW CHAPTER NO. 1  
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.twitter.com/DAVDeptofSD  
www.facebook.com/DAVDeptofSD

**MARCH - APRIL 2019**

**WE WELCOME ALL VETERANS AND MEMBERS TO SUPPORT  
THE DAV SERVICE AND LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS**



▲ **DAV ANNUAL OYSTER-CHILI FEED** The DAV Chapter hosted the DAV Annual Oyster-Chili Feed on January 12th. We thank all the volunteers who helped assist cooking, serving, and cleaning. We are very thankful for over 100 people who attended this event and hope to see you next year.

**WINNERS OF THE  
DAV PINOCHLE  
TOURNAMENT**

The DAV Chapter hosted their 1st Pinochle Tournament on February 2nd. 20 teams battled for the prize money and to be named the inaugural champion. Congratulations to the winners Gordon Aasen and Dan Francis. Next tournament will be March 30th at 10 a.m.



**DAV AND AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH  
DAKOTA CONVENTION – SIOUX FALLS**

The DAV Department of South Dakota 80th Annual Department Convention and the 68th Annual Auxiliary State Convention will be held May 17-19, 2019 at the Hilton Garden Inn – South in Sioux Falls, SD. The Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1, Sioux Falls is planning many activities for the delegates.

**Lodging:** Hilton Garden Inn – South 5300 S. Grand Circle, Sioux Falls, SD 57108 (605) 444-4500.

Thirty (30) rooms have been reserved under the name 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 16, 2019**. The cost of each room is \$99.00 plus tax.

**REGISTRATION, LUNCHEON, AND BANQUET:** Prior to May 1, 2019, \$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 May 10th, 2019. Any special meals must be requested at the time of registration. Lunch - \$15.00; Soup & Sandwich - \$20.00; Commanders Banquet - \$30.00.

**Make Registration Check Payable To:** DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1

**And Mail to:** Convention Committee  
1519 W. 51st Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP: AUX MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER/AUXILIARY: (City): \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

*Questions call the DAV Headquarters (605)332-6866*

**VIETNAM VETERANS DAY OPEN HOUSE**

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters will host an open house from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the DAV Chapter Home, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD on Friday, March 29 in honor of Vietnam Veterans Day. Vietnam Era Veterans are invited to display their memorabilia during the Open House, which will also include a presentation on the new South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery, and the Ho Chi Minh Trail 550-mile Bikepacking Expedition which mapped the historical route of the trail. The schedule will be as follows:

1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Open House - Vietnam Era Veterans are invited to display their memorabilia. Food and Refreshments will be provided.

1:45 p.m. South Dakota State Veterans Cemetery Program presented Kenneth Teunissen, Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter No. 5355

2:30 p.m. Ho Chi Minh Trail Program presented by Joe Stiller

**THE EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**JOB OPENING: DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
(DAV) OFFICE MANAGER POSITION**

The combined position of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Department of South Dakota and DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 Office Manager is open, as Ronnie Simonsen will be moving on to another employment opportunity.

Duties of this hands-on position include responsibility for day to day activities at DAV Headquarters, preparation for meetings and events, as well as providing leadership and support for Department and Chapter, working with legislative team, developing communications strategies, and more. Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 provides funding for 70% of the Office Manager salary, while the DAV Department of South Dakota provides 30%.

If any member would like to receive the job description and employment application, please contact the DAV Headquarters in Sioux Falls, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105; Phone (605) 332-6866, or e-mail at davsd@midconetwork.com.

### COMMANDER'S COLUMN

By Commander Dan Francis

This has been another great year for the DAV. All of us working together to "FULFILL THE PROMISES TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED." I will provide a report on the DAV Mid-Winter Conference that was held in Washington, D.C. on February 24th-27th at our March 12th Membership Meeting.

I am looking forward to the DAV Department of South Dakota Convention in Sioux Falls May 17-19, 2019. This Convention is a special one as it is in our home town. Convention is a great time of sharing our fellow members from around the state. Speaking of the Convention, let's sell the most raffle tickets. It's a great way to start a conversation about the DAV and so many will ask, "What is the DAV?" Once they know about the DAV, they will be glad to buy tickets and support our mission.

I invite all of you to attend the Department Convention and monthly Membership Meeting held on the second Tuesday of every month. We have seen an increase in our attendance and would like to see new members attend. If you have never been to a meeting or have not been in a while, I encourage you to attend. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. We need to bring in new people with fresh ideas.

I cannot thank my fellow Veterans enough for coming along side me this year. Working to help Veterans is truly gratifying. Let's work to keep lifting one another up in our actions and prayers. Let's work to embrace our younger Veterans, who need to carry on the great work of the DAV.

### EASTER EGG HUNT PARTY FOR KIDS

The DAV and Military Order of the Purple Heart will host the "Annual Easter Egg Hunt" for the kids on Saturday, April 20th at 1:00 p.m. The events of games, prizes, candy, and lunch for all the kids, parents, and guests. A SPECIAL INVITATION TO ALL THE YOUNGER VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES. Please call for reservations at 332-6866 or e-mail at davsd@midconetwork.com

### DAV OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FY 2019-2020

In accordance with the DAV Arthur H. Muchow Chapter Constitution and Bylaws, this is the Official Notice for the Nomination and Election of Officers for the Chapter.

**DATE OF NOMINATION:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

**DATE OF ELECTION:** Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

### DAV/PVA VA APPRECIATION DAY PIZZA PARTY TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY APRIL 26, 2019



A pizza party will be held for VA Patients, Volunteers & Staff at the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System on the VA Patio from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### DAV ELECTION OF DELEGATES FOR THE 2019 CONVENTION

The DAV and Auxiliary 2019 Department of South Dakota Annual Convention will be held on May 17-19, 2019, at Hilton Garden Inn-South in Sioux Falls.

The nomination and election of DELEGATES to represent the DAV Chapter at the convention will take place at the Monthly Membership Meeting on Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m. All members are welcome to be delegates.

**TAPS: may their souls rest in peace.**



*Robert M. Gravholt, Stanley J. Lavro, Bill Sheffield, David A. Wittle, and Joseph M. Young.*

### CHAPTER NEWS

Commanders Dan Francis, and Gaylord Helmbrecht, and Gene Murphy will provide a report about the DAV Mid-Winter Conference in Washington, D.C. at the March 12th Chapter Membership Dinner/Meeting.

The Chapter officers would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to provide the many programs and services to our Disabled Veterans and their families. You really do an "OUTSTANDING JOB" in making the DAV the "NUMBER ONE VETERANS ORGANIZATION."

A SPECIAL THANKS to the volunteers who did a SUPER JOB with the DAV Annual Oyster Stew and Chili Feed (Dick Amos and Crew).

The Chapter provided funding in January and February for DAV Programs and Services:

DAV 2019 Commander's Club. . . . .	\$ 200.00
DAV Hospital Transportation Network. . . . .	\$ 151.00
DAV Older Veterans Assistance Program . . . . .	\$2,571.91
DAV Department of South Dakota - HTP . . . . .	\$1,000.00
DAV Korean War Veterans Program . . . . .	\$ 690.68
DAV Vietnam War Veterans Program . . . . .	\$1,186.63
VAVS: VA Patients Pizza Party Hosted by DAV/PVA . . . . .	\$1,200.00
VA Town Hall Meetings Hosted at DAV . . . . .	\$ 184.47
VA Veterans Spouses Housing . . . . .	\$ 256.04
Veterans & Military Families. . . . .	\$ 108.58
Veterans Relief Program . . . . .	\$ 280.00
17th Annual PVA/Firefighters Fishing Tournament . . . . .	\$ 500.00

The Chapter has received a collection of Vietnam Books and material that can be checked out by members.

The Chapter will be building a garage in the spring to assist with the medical equipment program and to store items for the Homeless Veterans Program.

The Chapter host coffee, donuts, and rolls every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. with an invitation to you and your spouse/guest. Also, the pool tables and card tables are open for your challenges! All games are friendly!

### VIETNAM AND ERA VETERANS REUNION

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapters 463 and 1039, will be hosting a Vietnam and Era Veterans Reunion in Deadwood April 26-29, 2019. Itinerary for the three-day event is as follows:

#### FRIDAY - APRIL 26

7:00 pm Public Agent Orange Forum at Deadwood VFW (10 Pine St.)

#### SATURDAY - APRIL 27

10:00 am Vietnam Memorial Dedication at Black Hills National Cemetery (20901 Pleasant Valley Drive - Sturgis)

11:30 am Lunch at Deadwood VFW (10 Pine St.)

12:30 pm Public Agent Orange Forum at Deadwood VFW (10 Pine St.)

3:00 pm VVA State Council Meeting at Deadwood Gulch

6:00 pm Social at Deadwood Gulch Creekside Banquet Room

6:30 pm Banquet

7:30 pm Fundraiser Auction

8:30 pm Live Music

#### SUNDAY - APRIL 28

10:00 am Memorial Service - Deadwood Gulch Creekside Banquet Room

For more information on the reunion, please contact Martin Anderson (605.645.0055) or Jack Dean (605.393.0444).

DAV HEADQUARTERS HAS COPIES OF THE "REUNION 2019" REGISTRATION FORM; AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS; AGENT ORANGE FORUM; AND BLACK HILLS NATIONAL CEMETERY VIETNAM MEMORIAL DEDICATION.

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
ARTHUR H. MUCHOW CHAPTER NO. 1  
RAYMOND G. HAMMER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

The scholarship must be used for higher education: college (junior and senior year only) or vocational/trade schools. Funds will be paid directly to scholarship awardee. The scholarship amount will be a minimum of \$500.00 per academic year. Number of recipients and amount of scholarship will be dependent on funds available. Award of scholarship is for one academic year. Winners may apply again but cannot receive scholarship for more than two years. Receiving the scholarship does not guarantee award of scholarship the following year. Winners must reapply for scholarship.

Awardees will receive one half the scholarship amount, \$250.00 (minimum), per semester. Awardees must provide the Scholarship Committee a certified transcript of previous semester and proof of enrollment for upcoming semester to obtain funding. Awardees MUST MAINTAIN A 3.0 G.P.A.

Awardees will be announced at the Disabled American Veterans Arthur H. Muchow Chapter Meeting and the Chapter bimonthly bulletin.

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

1. Be a member in good standing of the Disabled American Veterans Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 or be a spouse or child (which may be natural, adopted, or step) or grandchild (which may be natural, adopted, or step) of a member in good standing of the Disabled American Veterans Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1
2. Be a senior in high school; GED recipient; or a student in an accredited college/university (going into junior or senior year) or vocational/trade school in the United States, taking studies leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate of completion.
3. Must be enrolled as a full-time student or accepted into a full-time program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, AND APPLICATION CONTACT THE DAV HEADQUARTERS.**

**NEW DIRECTOR AT SIOUX FALLS VET CENTER**

Heather Bailey has been named the director of the Sioux Falls Vet Center. Heather was born and raised in South Dakota, obtained her BS in Psychology from South Dakota State University and MSW from the University of South Dakota. She completed both an undergraduate and graduate internship with the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center and worked as a full-time social worker at the VA Medical Center for four years in the Mental Health Service Line in various roles as part of the Homeless Team. Heather's contact information: Heather.Bailey@va.gov and 605-330-4552

**ACTING DIRECTOR NAMED FOR SIOUX FALLS VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

Robert McDivitt, Network Director for the VA Midwest Health Care Network, has announced that, as of February 17, 2019, Ms. Barbara Teal assumed the role of Acting Medical Center Director for Sioux Falls. Barbara Teal has served as the Associate Director, Patient Care Services/Nurse Executive for the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System since 2010. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree with major in Nursing from South Dakota State University and a Master of Science in Health Professions – Health Care Administration from Texas State University (formerly known as Southwest Texas State University). She is certified as a Nurse Executive – Advanced (NEA-BC) through the American Nurses Credentialing Center.



**DAV  
2019 TALKING  
POINTS**

**All talking points are now available on the DAV website [DAV.org](http://DAV.org)  
DAV'S CRITICAL POLICY GOALS FOR 2019**

Our key legislative priorities and talking points for 2019 are as follows:

1. **Sufficient Budget for FY 2020**—Ensure VA is provided sufficient resources to meet health care needs of all enrolled veterans, while also fully, faithfully and timely implementing the VA MISSION Act—to include: Increasing VA health care capacity; modernization of capital infrastructure; IT development; improvements to hiring and retention efforts to fill VA's 45,000 employee vacancies; and implementation of a new VA DOD joint electronic health record.
2. **Implementation of the VA MISSION Act**—Promote full and faithful implementation of the VA MISSION Act, including: provisions strengthening VA health care system; establishment of Veterans Community Care Program; and Caregiver Program improvements and expansion.
3. **Women Veterans Health Program Improvements**—Advocate for introduction and approval of legislation based on key recommendations from DAV's 2018 Report—Women Veterans: The Journey Ahead.
4. **Burn Pits**—Advocate for introduction and approval of legislation to strengthen research, improve documentation, and provide a “concession of exposure” to airborne toxins for veterans from all eras who served in locations that had active burn pits.
5. **Improve Spouses and Survivor Benefits**—Advocate for introduction and approval of legislation to improve benefits and services for spouses and survivors of service-connected disabled veterans to include elimination of Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset; lowering DIC remarriage age; and reducing 10-year rule for DIC.
6. **Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans**—Advocate for passage of legislation to grant herbicide exposure to Vietnam veterans who served in the waters offshore of Vietnam.

**SARA ACKERT TO LEAVE SFVAHCS**

Sara Ackert, Acting Director for Sioux Falls Veteran Administration Health Care System (SFVAHCS), has accepted the associate director position at the Central Iowa/Des Moines VA. Des Moines is “home” for Sara and this is a career opportunity for her. Sara reported for duty in Des Moines on February 18th.

**SIOUX FALLS VA RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Sioux Falls Health Care System was recognized for leading the way in patient experience and employee engagement at the VA Patient Experience Symposium February 5-7 in Crystal City, Virginia.

Based on Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients (“SHEP”) scores and All Employee Survey (AES) results from Fiscal Year 2018, Sioux Falls was announced the top performer in the facility complexity level 2 category for overall patient experience. The overall winner across all complexity levels was Asheville, North Carolina. Iron Mountain, Michigan received the level 3 category award; and Cleveland, Ohio placed first in the level 1 category. Other facilities nominated were Alaska, Boston, Connecticut, and Madison, Wisconsin.

Four other VA Midwest Healthcare Network facilities were also nominated: Central Iowa in Des Moines, IA, Fargo, ND, Hot Springs, SD and Minneapolis, MN.

Barbara Teal, Acting Director, commented, “We’re proud to receive this award that demonstrates our staff’s commitment to providing Veterans and their families excellence in care and pledge our continued efforts for quality service.”





**I WANT YOU  
INVOLVED IN  
THE DAV  
PROGRAMS  
IN 2019**

**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**

**MARCH 2019**

- 1st – Friday ..... **DAV CONVENTION DEADLINE DATES**  
Award Committee accepting recommendations for National and Department Awards
- 3rd – Sunday ..... "Star Spangled Banner: Made U.S. National Anthem – 1931  
NSIC Basketball Event – Sanford Pentagon – Military Appreciation Day
- 5th – Tuesday ..... DAV Executive Committee Meeting – 5:00 p.m.
- 12th – Tuesday ..... **DAV DINNER/MEMBERSHIP MEETING – 5:30 P.M.**
- 13th – Wednesday ..... Legislative Session Ends - Pierre
- 14th – Thursday ..... PVA North Central Chapter Lunch/Meeting – PVA Home - 12:00 p.m.  
Military Order of the Purple Heart Membership Meeting at DAV Home - 7:00 p.m.
- 16th – Saturday ..... 40th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade – DAV HTP Van – Sioux Falls – 2 p.m.
- 17th – Sunday ..... **HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY**
- 19th – Tuesday ..... Vietnam Veterans Membership Meeting – DAV Home – 7 p.m.
- 20th -- Wednesday ..... South Dakota Veterans Council Meeting – PVA Home – 10 a.m.
- 21st – Thursday ..... Sioux Falls Chamber Military and Veterans Affairs – DAV Home – 4 p.m.  
Sioux Falls Veterans Council Meeting – VFW Post – 7 p.m.
- 29th – Friday ..... **NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY**  
Vietnam Veterans Open House Event – 1-3:30 p.m. Hosted by DAV, MOPH, VVA – DAV Home  
Legislative Veto Day
- 30th – Saturday ..... DAV Pinochle Tournament – DAV Home – 10:00 a.m.
- 31st – April 5th ..... National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic – Snowmass Village, CO

**APRIL 2019**

- March 31st – April 5th ..... National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic – Snowmass Village, CO
- 2nd – Tuesday ..... DAV Executive Committee Meeting – 5:00 p.m.
- 6th – Saturday ..... **MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART DAKOTAS CONVENTION – DAV Rapid City**
- 9th – Tuesday ..... **DAV DINNER/MEMBERSHIP MEETING – 5:30 P.M.**
- 11th – Thursday ..... PVA North Central Chapter Lunch/Meeting – PVA Home - 12:00 p.m.  
Military Order of the Purple Heart Membership Meeting at DAV Home - 7:00 p.m.
- 16th – Tuesday ..... Vietnam Veterans Membership Meeting – DAV Home – 7 p.m.
- 18th – Thursday ..... Sioux Falls Veterans Council Meeting at VFW – 7:00 p.m.
- 20th – Saturday ..... DAV/MOPH Easter Egg Hunt – DAV Home – 1 p.m.  
VA Whole Health – VA Vet Center – 9 to 11 a.m.
- 21st – Sunday ..... **HAPPY EASTER**
- 26th – Friday ..... DAV/PVA Annual VA Pizza Party – VA Patio – Sioux Falls

E-mail: [davsd@midconetwork.com](mailto:davsd@midconetwork.com)  
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Twitter: [www.twitter.com/DAVDeptofSD](https://www.twitter.com/DAVDeptofSD)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/DAVDeptSD](https://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 2018-2019**

- Commander..... Dan Francis
- Sr. Vice Commander..... Owen Richards
- Jr. Vice Commander ..... Annette Nystrom
- Adjutant ..... Ronnie Simonsen
- Treasurer ..... Gene Murphy
- Chaplain..... Gaylord Helmbrecht
- Quartermaster..... Orvin Hughart
- Dept. Exec. Comm. .... Larry Bouska
- Dept. Alt. Exec. .... Helen Parr
- Exec. Committee ..... John Huntington
- Exec. Committee ..... Terry "Hawk" Mayer
- Exec. Committee ..... Steve Kilgour



**CHAPTER HOME OPENS 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.**  
**Tuesday & Thursday with coffee, rolls & donuts.**  
**Pool & card tables are available for your enjoyment!**