

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT of TEXAS, HEADQUARTERS

BULLETIN

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DECEMBER 2006

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

GREETINGS FELLOW TEXANS

It was pleasant to see the patriotism expressed not only **state wide** but **nationally** this Veterans Day. I had the pleasure to attend Nacogdoches County Veterans Day celebrations this year. Chapter 83 Commander Dan Singletary invited me to enjoy the Veterans Day parade and participate in the Nacogdoches County Veterans' Plaza and Wall Dedication at the County Courthouse.



Their keynote speaker was Congressman Louie Gohmert who delivered an excellent address as he himself is a veteran. A catfish lunch was served after the dedication for all those in attendance. This was truly a great salute to the veterans living in East Texas.

It was said that the Veterans Day parade should be cancelled in Houston this year as there would be few, if any in attendance due to Veterans Day falling on a Saturday. City Council called that one wrong, 10,000 people showed up to enjoy the parade. Chapters from the Houston area were able to participate in the parade this year and all who did expressed how much they enjoyed this event.



This year I drove to Alvin to support and visit with the members of Chapter 195 working the Golden Corral's Military Appreciation Monday. As always this is a well attended event, and DAV is proud to be in partnership with such a great company that supports our organization Nationally.

Christmas is around the corner and I have more invitations by Chapters from all over the State than I can attend. After Thanksgiving, and the Chapter parties I will be able to attend, I'm afraid I'll have to shed a few pounds!

I hope all had a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, and wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours in comradeship,
Rex Lloyd

Department Commander

DAV AUXILIARY STATE COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Veterans Day included many opportunities to show our appreciation to the men and women who have served in our armed forces. The parades, ceremonies, patriotic music, and the involvement of our schoolchildren and young ROTC Cadets was

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awesome. I wish I could share with you the wonderful "big" and "little" things that happened at various activities I attended that were so outstanding and memorable but space won't allow. I know many of you had similar experiences.

Our great Nation is a total of her great People. I was in the presence of many Great People this Veterans Day week!

The month of December and the **Holidays** are upon us. I know you are busy in your units preparing for special events that will include remembering and serving those who served our country, and who are serving it now!

Many opportunities are out there that allow us to reach out to others, to bring some cheer to those who despair, hope to those who have lost much of their hope, and visits to those who have nothing but time on their hands as they are unable to get out and about during what is suppose to be the happiest time of the year.

One of the amazing things about our Auxiliary is the way our members, women, men and juniors, give so much of themselves to others. All year long you volunteer to help those in hospitals, nursing homes and others in our communities. During the holidays it is amazing to watch the members as you decorate rooms at the hospitals and nursing homes, wrap gifts and deliver them to our Veterans and to others less fortunate, or who are in need, or alone.

Again this year our military is serving around the world to keep us safe and free! So many are away from home, so many for the first time. Remember them in your prayers and if given a chance, shake their hand and tell them "thank you".



Our School of Instruction was a *Mission* successfully accomplished! To those who took part in

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presentations, I cannot thank you enough for the outstanding job you did!

From a Nurse with the biggest hypodermic needle you've ever seen, to a Pork Barrel Senator who came to campaign for his "pork barrel" issues, to solving the puzzle of the Mae Holmes award report and examples for Junior membership cards, the School was filled with information that many of you have been asking for.

Our State Chairpersons or their representative, Past State Commanders, and State officers did a great job and it was obvious they worked hard to bring us up to date on many issues and brought up new information on their subjects. Included was a review of the District officers and State Unit officers jobs. Our panel did a great job of answering questions that were in the **Questions** Box!

It was especially exciting to have so many members there for the first time and we were happy many gentlemen joined us. Welcome to all of you and thanks to all who were there.

Our Auxiliary chaplain is Mary Michaels and she would like to remind you to inform her if you have a member who is seriously ill, been hurt, or who passes away so that she might send the appropriate notes or cards. Be sure to include the persons name, address and unit number so that she might contact the member or the family of a deceased member on behalf of all the members of the DAV Auxiliary in Texas. Mary's address is 9711 Boonsboro Drive, San Antonio, TX 78245

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary had the following Population Summary as of 11/14/2006:

Life Members	5,971
Total Members	6,602

THIS YEARS GOAL is:	7,053
UNDER Goal	451

I wish you the blessings of a Holy holiday season. May it be a joyful time for you and your loved ones.

Alice Armstrong

Commander, DAV Auxiliary

DAV MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS HAD THE FOLLOWING POPULATION SUMMARY AS OF, 11/14/2006:

Life Members	59,011
Total Members	81,494

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This years GOAL for full paid life members is:

Goal	61,004
Members to make goal	1,993

Membership is open to any man or woman, who was wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in line of duty during time of war, while in the service of either the military or naval forces of the United States of America, and who has not been dishonorably discharged or separated from such service, or who may still be in active service in the armed forces of the United States of America is eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans. Others, who are disabled while serving with any of the armed forces of any actions associated with the United States of America as allies during any of its war periods, who are American citizens and who are honorably discharged are also eligible.

Chapters and Department have partially paid and special program (Pre-separation/one year free) members that we are asking chapters to contact and encourage them to become fully paid members. The names of these members are available from the Department Adjutant as well as being shown on your Chapter's membership list. Please consider making contact with these individuals and encouraging them to become fully paid members.

If a member does not have sufficient funds in their life member account for dues distribution, or have made no payments for a period of three membership years (July 1 – June 30), the member is transferred to the Department at-large chapter. If no payments are received for an additional three membership years, the member is transferred to the National at-large (Nomad) Chapter. Once transferred to the National at-large chapter, Department no longer receives a distribution through the Department Fund Raising Program. This will be a three dollar loss per member.

I have spoken with National Membership Chairperson "Tony" Baskerville. We discussed what could be done to help the chapters with their membership drive, in an attempt to prevent the Department budget short fall for 2007. Mr. Baskerville, and I discussed several different plans and finally settled on the National Membership department providing Department Adj. Armstrong with a copy of each Chapters membership Roster of members owing under \$100.00. If you can convince these members to complete their payment, it should help greatly in making your fully paid life membership goal as well as preventing a loss of income for those who are transferred to National. If there are any questions feel free to call or e-mail me. 830-303-2914 DHerrle@the-cia.net

Doug Herrle
Membership Chairman

DAV ADJUTANT'S COMMENTS

Chapter, District, and Department officers are volunteers who work hard at conducting the business of the chapter. This requires some effort to do the job the way it should be done. One area is conducting meetings in an acceptable manner. I know that reading books on "how to do it" can be boring and requires some effort. Those who write articles put in a lot of effort to help those of us who need guidance. An example is to be found in a recently mailed item mailed to all chapters, OFFICIAL DAY PLANNER 2006-2007. In the back portion of that planner starting on page 45 is an article on PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE. It's a very worthwhile article for all chapter officers to read, but since the chapter received only one copy, it would be to everyone's advantage to copy those pages and distribute them to each officer. 'Nuff said.

As we approach a new year, a majority of the chapters in the state will be electing officers before the Department convention in June. Encourage comrades to volunteer their time and services by appearing before the nominating committee that the commander will be appointing. Give those elected your support and advice in doing their respective jobs but let them make their own decisions.

Please see my additional comments on page 9.

Eldon Armstrong

Department Adjutant / Treasurer

DISTRICT I

Well comrades I have been under the weather for a couple of months but by the time this is published I hope to be fully recovered. I want to thank those of you who called to ask about me. I didn't know missing a newsletter would cause such a stir so "THANK YOU".

With the Holidays fast approaching let us start planning how to help those veterans and family's of deceased veterans who are in need. Chances are you will have to go out and find them as they will probably not come to you because of their pride, or they do not know we are there to help. With everything that is going on in the world it is up to us to help our own, no one else will, so let's make this the "SEASON FOR THE VETS".

With congress in recess I guess our benefits are safe for the time being so I wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

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Let's rest up, enjoy the season, and come back in January with a renewed vigor in helping veterans.

W. "Ted" Monette
Commander, District I

DISTRICT II

Hello Texas!!!

Did you get out and vote on November 7th? If you voted, you were one of many that participated in the freedom of electing candidates to represent you in governing this country. We have now elected our representatives and senators to govern our country. We veterans have special issues that we would like supported. So, make your move to ask the newly elected representatives and senators to support your interest in veteran affairs.

Well, I attended my first School of Instruction as a Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary member. The school was held in Irving, Texas where excellent programs were presented. I would suggest that more DAV members join-up and support the Auxiliary.

Our nation has so many freedoms to which it should be thankful. Freedoms that no other nation has! These are freedoms that our veterans have fought to maintain. In remembrance of what these veterans have done, our nation gives recognition on Veterans Day, each November 11th. All around us we see many more cities and organizations picking up the banner and celebrating Veterans Day. This gives me a wonderful feeling about the future of our country. How about you?

In line with the Veterans Day theme, my chapter, Garland Chapter # 137 took part in veteran recognition programs at two nursing homes in the area. Patriotic entertainment and refreshments was provided for all attending. A flag with holder was presented to each veteran present.

Once again, Golden Corral has recognized our veterans with a Military Appreciation Monday. Many of you helped support the program by sitting at display tables or greeting veterans on Monday, November 13th. This was a very successful program for Disabled American Veterans. I want to take this time to thank each of you for your help in this endeavor but most of all I want to thank the Golden Corral Corporation for recognizing our veterans.

The Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall was on display at the Garland Senior Activity Center, Tuesday, November 14 through Saturday, November 18. The Moving Wall allows people to experience the

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Memorial within their own community. Visiting the "Wall" is a very emotional experience. This Memorial is meant to perpetuate the heroic service of our veterans. An exact scale replica of the Liberty Bell was also on site. As part of the festivities surrounding the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall display, the Veterans Tribute Garden was officially dedicated on November 18. A DAV Mobile Van was located on site to provide any veteran with benefit information and assist in making application for those benefits.

November was the month well known to most Americans wherein we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. From the early years when settlers in this country first gave thanks for their blessings, our nation has continued to celebrate this day of Thanksgiving.

We must not forget about the men and women that are serving our country in uniform to maintain our freedom. Say a prayer and give a word of thanks to each of them for their service.

My family and I extend to all of you a safe and wonderful Holiday season wish.

Yours in service,
Gerald Cowan
Commander, District II

DISTRICT III

Greetings to all of you in District III

The month of December brings to a close another year in our lives. Families join together to observe two special holidays, Christmas and Hanukkah. Both occasions celebrate important events in the Christian and Jewish religions. Unfortunately, in today's world, these days have become money-makers for all of the commercial businesses. Hopefully, all of you will revere them in their special way. Remember, because of the sacrifices of those men and women in the beginning of our country, throughout our history, and which continues today, we are all able to exercise our faith in freedom without reprisals from anyone or anything. How blessed a country are we? Many people in the world do not have that privilege! Remember?

Be on the lookout for the 2007 Call to Convention, which will be mailed in the month of January to each district chapter. Included in this correspondence will be a mini schedule of convention events, a delegate list, a deceased list, and a model of a resolution. Remember all of this information will need to be sent to Adjutant Dopkant, 810

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Mountain View Cove, Pflugerville, Texas 78660 by
March 15, 2007.

I was fortunate to attend the Veterans' Day Parade in Austin. Part of the ceremony is the reading of an essay contest held throughout the local High Schools and Middle Schools. The winners this year gave me hope in our future generation. I will quote from them. The eleventh grade student wrote: "Honor, service, courage, vigilance, dependability, trustworthiness, and honesty are all traits and ideals of the heroic soldiers we choose to commemorate once a year. There is nothing minor about what these soldiers have sacrificed and to sacrifice. There is nothing minor about what they protect. If people think that what they protect, their freedoms, liberties, rights, and everything the United States of America stands for is minor, then maybe they should try to sacrifice what they have, just as veterans have done." The seventh grade student had a wonderful prayer: Read: "God, thank you for the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Thank you for those who gave of their time and effort to protect us. We ask that you give special blessings of protection upon those who are in the midst of fighting, now. Help all of us remember to cherish and thank those who preserve our freedom. Amen."

I hope that all of you have a blessed holiday season. I hope that the New Year brings each of you an energized sprit of life, health, happiness, and prosperity. Be safe and remember to cherish those moments with your friends and family.

Yours in Comradeship,
James Prochnow
Commander, District III

DISTRICT IV

October was exciting. On the last day of September I had the opportunity to address approximately 650 retirees and their spouses at the Annual southeast Texas Retiree Appreciation Day. I emphasized the importance of joining a Veterans' Service Organization such as DAV. This would assure representation at the National level for concerns about post service benefits. I emphasized that retirees were Veterans and that all of us were in the same boat when Administration or Congressional initiated cuts in benefits were proposed.

I had the opportunity to go to Waco to participate in an Executive Committee Meeting. It was a pleasure to meet and realize how much the wel-

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fare of our disabled comrades is on the mind of the members of the Committee. It was a job well done.

I had the pleasure of speaking, on behalf of our Homeless Comrades, to Chapter 9. The Chapter Members showed their concern by voting \$1,000 to be used for meals at the Houston Stand Down to be held on November 8 and 9. Well done Chapter 9. Chapter 9 also voted to provide \$1,000 to an active duty soldier whose severely disabled daughter had medical expenses beyond what the military would pay for - an issue perhaps for our National's Legislative Agenda.

I had the pleasure of having lunch with Mr. Michael O. Ware, who is the Chief of Staff for Senator Larry E. Craig of Idaho and a powerful member of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. We discussed the Veterans Administration health care system and methods of making it more accessible to veterans. As Mr. Ware noted, Idaho has a similar problem to Texas, may veterans far from health care. He asked my opinion about improving the system so, remembering the guidance from our national Benefits Protection Committee, I suggested an increase of 20 Billion Dollars in the appropriation. Mr. Ware stated that he did not see that coming in the President's Budget. I responded that it certainly did not hurt to ask. There was additional discussion about Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC's) and how they solved some accessibility problems but increased referrals to specialty care. Mr.. Ware promised to take the Texas views back to the Senator and the Committee. Based on this experience I would encourage my fellow DAV members to accept opportunities to meet with politicians because you may strike a responsive chord that will ultimately benefit your fellow veterans.

I hope that all had a Happy Veterans Day, dined at the Golden Corral and met Veterans - got Donations, Recruited new members and, got a free meal in the process.

Yours in Comradeship,
Wolf Biedenfeld
Commander, District IV

DISTRICT V

Again this great country of ours allowed us the opportunity to cast our vote in yet another national election. I hope you took advantage of your constitutional right to vote. And as a veteran, I trust your vote, as best as possible, reflected upon those veteran rights issues that remain of great concern to the veteran community. I know that

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most are aware of these concerns, so I won't use this space to reiterate. However, to remain truly abreast of this situation, all should frequently review any and all sources regarding veteran benefits. For instance, Congressmen voting records on veterans' issues would be an ideal place to begin research. Nonetheless, our challenges on these issues must remain foremost on our list of things to accomplish individually and collectively.

A recent issue requiring our efficient monitoring to ensure success was the DAV and Golden Corral Partnership annual event outlining Military Appreciation Day on Monday, 13 November 2006. While the first phase of the event was completed at Golden Corrals' close of business on 13 November 2006, the final phase of the effort will not be completed until we have followed reporting guidelines previously provided. If you have any questions regarding our requirements, please call me at 210-493-2623. Thanks in advance for assisting me with our goal to provide accurate Golden Corral event reporting in a timely manner.

I am sure other District V Chapters are similarly involved, but I am aware two Chapters in particular have ensured some of our area veterans inclusion in various planned November 2006 Chapter events. Chapter 25 for example, led by Cmdr. Robert Sanchez, made arrangements to transport and host patients from Audie Murphy Medical Facility's Extended Care Therapy Center (ECTC) to participate in Golden Corral's Military Appreciation Day. Similarly, yours truly and Chapter 25 hosted ECTC patients for our annual Thanksgiving Holiday Dinner and Recognition event Sunday, 19 November 2006.

Finally, blessing to all for a great Thanksgiving celebration, plus be safe and prosperous during the rest of the holiday season. Until next time. . .

Regards,

James Scott

Commander, District V

BPT / LEGISLATIVE REPORT

THE RESOLUTION -- FORERUNNER OF DAV INITIATED LEGISLATION

A House or Senate bill, passed by the Congress and signed into law by the President, did not just "happen" to come along. It was born in the mind of someone, in response to a recognized need. The originator of the idea could be someone in the White House -- the President himself, or an advisor. It could be a member of Congress, a legis-

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lative assistant or a staff member of some standing committee. Perhaps an employee of any one of a number of federal agencies first came up with the idea. Perhaps it was a lobbyist -- those individuals who work in Washington for a myriad of "interest groups" located throughout the country (and the DAV is such an interest group).

But whoever acted as the "catalyst" in Washington and took the initial step toward bill introduction in the Congress, chances are this action resulted from "input" received from some other source -- more than likely individuals who would be affected by the legislation.

This certainly holds true for the Disabled American Veterans.

The annual Legislative Programs of the DAV consist of those measures that have been approved in resolution form each year by the delegates to our annual National Conventions, or, in the absence of a National Convention mandate, those resolutions approved by the National Executive Committee. Mandates and resolutions adopted at each National Convention shall be effective only until the next National Convention. In the absence of any mandate to cover any matter wherein laws already enacted by Congress are under attack, the National Commander, National Adjutant, and National Executive Committee are placed under a continuing mandate to resist and oppose any such changes in laws or regulations advocated by any Presidential commission, by Executive Order, by special investigative commission created by congress or by any legislative bill sponsored by any standing or special committee of the Congress that would repeal or deprive veterans or their dependents of benefits already granted by such laws.

DAV resolutions, conceived and brought to our annual National Conventions by individual DAV members, chapters, and state departments, can thus be viewed as the initial vehicles used in the promotion of DAV legislative objectives.

Jim Roos

BPT/Legislative Chairman

VAVS REPORT

Beaumont Out Patient Clinic

The Beaumont Out Patient Clinic (BOPC) opened its doors the 3 th of May 1977. The clinic is an associated with MED Houston VA Medical Center. It is 84 miles from the Houston VA. BOPC serves Orange, Jefferson and Hardin Counties. In 1999 the BOPC was relocated to a new facility with

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over 28,000 sq. feet. They have a primary health care clinic for sick and ailing veterans. The 2005 – 2006 year they saw over 73,000 out patient visits. At the BOPC there is a pharmacy, lab, radiology, physical therapy, mental health and a podiatry clinic. At the BOPC there are over 30 active volunteers with an estimated 30,000 hours of service per year. There are 4 organizations giving their time to the clinic. The DAV has over 12 volunteers at the clinic giving their time in some of the more than 15 different volunteer jobs. The Transportation program has over 9 volunteer drivers logging over 300 hours and 3600 miles a month. **Viola Derbonne**, the Volunteer Coordinator, one of the many hats she wears, would like to see more volunteers. The clinic is always in need of items like TVs, VCRs, coffee makers, books and magazines. Any questions about the program may be directed to **Viola Derbonne**, Volunteer Coordinator at 409-981-8560. A Special THANK YOU to all the volunteers who help make things happen at the Beaumont Out Patient Clinic.

Marcie Hill

Department VAVS Chairman

Women Veteran's Representative

Since being appointed Women Veterans Representative by Commander Lloyd I have had the pleasure of learning a lot of history on women veterans. I thought you may all enjoy this story of Captain Charlotte McGraw. Have a safe holiday !!!

Captain Charlotte McGraw has become well known for her work in photography throughout World War II. Her photos have been featured in National Geographic Magazine, Life, and Colliers to name a few.

During the period of September 1, 1942 to November 15, 1942, Captain McGraw, the only assigned Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) photographer, set up the entire photographic facilities of the First WAAC Training Center at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. She was responsible for all official pictures to the Director, WAAC for recruiting and other publicity purposes.

Captain McGraw was in the first class of candidates selected from the enlisted ranks and entered WAAC Officer Candidate School at Fort Des Moines on November 15, 1942. She was commissioned a 3rd Officer (equivalent to a 2nd lieutenant), December 24, 1942. During the time she was an officer candidate, she spent her weekends assisting the Photographic Section at the training cen-

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ter by taking and processing photos and instructing the section staff.

Upon commissioning on December 24, 1942, and until April 16, 1943, Captain McGraw was assigned as a platoon Commander, 1st Regiment (Officer Candidate School) and continued to provide assistance to the Photographic Section.

On April 16, 1943, Captain McGraw (called 3rd Officer McGraw) was ordered from Fort Des Moines to WAAC Headquarters in Washington, DC, where she was assigned temporary duty as the official WAAC photographer to the North American Theatre of Operations. She traveled to Constantine, Tunis, and throughout Algiers taking photos in many areas.

During these assignments she was an official photographer for the War Department Bureau of Public Relations and the Women's Army Corps (WAC). Her work enjoyed wide National distribution. During her assignment to the War Department Bureau of Public Relations, she personally handled the release of 73,660 photos. Her photos were used extensively for recruiting posters, informational folders, as well as other recruiting material.

Source: McGraw Collection - U.S. Army Women's Museum Archives

Yours in service

Teresa Johniken

Women's Veteran Department Appointee

ITEMS OF INTEREST

An attorney for the Estate of Chaplin Russell J. Carver, who died in 2004, has notified Department that as a part of his Estate he left a single cemetery lot at Laurel Land Memorial Park (Dallas) in the Veterans Garden III section which was not used by him. The heirs of Chaplin Carver desire to give the lot to a veteran in need of a burial lot. If you have any veterans or veteran's family that may be in need, please contact Marvin L. Levin at 214-350-7048 or at levinlawfirm@aol.com.

Fundraising? Try Bingo

It seems that DAV Chapters and Units sometimes struggle to raise enough funds to not only exist but also to have the ability to perform all of the veteran's service that they would like to do. Many of you have commercial bingo halls in your area and may be able to incorporate bingo into your fund raising and/or you may actually be able to hold the bingo events yourself. I would be

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happy to visit your chapter and answer questions or assist you in getting started. If we all become great at fundraising we also will be helping our department. Just give me a call at 936-634-1792 or email me at tjohniken@yahoo.com.

Teresa Johniken, Dept. 2nd Jr. Vice Commander

Disabled Veterans Assistance

In support of our men and women who have bravely served their country, McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. would like to offer its professional construction services to disabled veterans. Specifically, McCarthy is looking to assist a select number of veterans in the Dallas/Fort Worth area in making their residences more accessible to their disabilities. Examples would range from construction of wheel chair ramps to installation of hand and guard rails throughout their home. A potential project will require an initial consultation to determine the scope of work and McCarthy's availability of resources and manpower to complete that work. As our way of saying thank you to these hero's, McCarthy is offering our services, including all materials necessary to complete the job, **at no cost to the veteran**. Please contact Adjutant Eldon Armstrong at (972) 262-8600 for additional information.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

From the Desk of the Chaplain On This Day

Search out a forgotten friend.

Mend a quarrel.

Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust.

Write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer.

Encourage a youth.

Manifest your loyalty in a word or deed.

Keep a promise. Find the time. Forego a grudge.

Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologize if you are wrong.

Try to understand. Flout envy.

Examine your demands on others. Think first of someone else.

Appreciate and be kind and gentle.

Laugh a little more.

Deserve confidence.

Take up arms against malice.

Decry complacency. Express your gratitude.

Gladden the heart of a child.

Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth.

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Worship your God.

Speak your love.

Speak it again. Speak it still again.

Speak it still once again.

"Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year"

Dr. Charles E. Edwards, Jr.

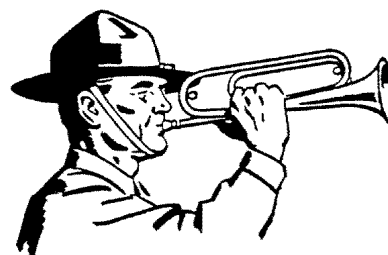
Department Chaplain



PRAYER LIST

Prayers answered:

During my recovery from recent hip-replacement surgery on September 14, 2006, your prayers, telephone calls, visits and the many get-well cards from my "extended DAV/DAVA family" were deeply appreciated by my children and me! According to my doctors I am going to be as good as new! *Dovie Hawkins*, DAVA PSC



TAPS

Department has been notified that the following comrades have been called into final formation above:

Clifford Graham, Ch 175 passed Oct 06

Clifton Jones Ch 175 passed Oct 06

Winston McLemore, Ch 57 passed Oct 06

Louis Powell, Ch 20 passed Oct 06

Harrison Will, Ch 2 passed Oct 06

Fred Evans, Ch 137 passed Aug 06

Enrique Infante, Ch 137 passed Jun 06

James Welch, Ch 42 passed Oct 06

May each one rest in honor.



Further comments from the Department Adjutant

I attended and brought greetings from Department to those attending the DAVA State School of Instruction held in November. A question was asked that I feel did not receive a definitive answer. The Department Judge Advocate was then asked for an opinion. His opinions follow. They are in italics:

Question: Is the State and local Auxiliary unit governed by the Constitution and By-laws of the parent organization? *Yes.*

ARTICLE 10 Section 10.2 addresses the requirement for auxiliaries to submit Financial and Officer reports.

What this means is the unit has 10 days from installation to send it's officers report to the national organization with a copy to the state DAV and DAVA. It further states that if there is a change in officers during the year a new report must be completed and provided as above.

Section 10.2: addresses the requirement to have an audit committee and submit reports. Failure to file annual financial reports will be cause to suspend or revoke the charter of the subordinate unit.

What this means is that each unit is required to conduct an annual audit of their finances and if their income, excluding income from membership dues, is \$10,000.00 or more then they must file a finance report with the National DAV.

The foregoing provisions shall not exempt a subordinate unit from the requirement of filing an annual financial report with the state department.

This means that a finance report must be filed with the State DAV no matter the income amount.

ARTICLE 15 - SOURCES OF INCOME

Section 15.3: addresses the required steps when conducting fundraisers.

This means that all fund raising efforts need the approval of the chapter if there is one, if not approval must come from the State DAV. It goes on to say that approval from the State DAV is not required on fund raising efforts expected to make less than \$5,000.00 and only thru personal contact of members and friends of members. If it is done by mail, or if the unit sets up in front of Wal-Mart, go out to the general public in any fashion, or requires a third party contract, they must have written approval from The Department Executive Committee (DAV). In any case the chapter/unit must give at least 30 days prior notice to the State DAV.

All of the above certainly points to the fact that both chapters and units do fall under the restrictions and guidance of the National Constitution and By-laws. I encourage any of you, chapter and unit alike, to feel free to contact either Department or State with your concerns or questions.

Opinion
Dennis Nixon
Department Judge Advocate

Disabled American Veterans
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