

# Jacksonville Chapter #1 INC

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**Disabled American Veterans, Jacksonville Chapter 1, Inc.**

1439 Parental Home Road, Jacksonville, FL. 32216

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/01>

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## OFFICERS

### DAV

Guy Diffenbaugh	233-4125
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Al Braun	465-1791
Thurman Dubberly	751-4325

### DAVA

Commander	Jean Christian	646-1372
Sr. Vice Cmdr	Erlinda Loubier	221-6404
Adjutant	Marjorie Paine	714-6677
Chaplain	Annie Shortridge	641-2748

**Chapter Service Officers:** Al Braun, John Markiewicz, Dick Aquino, Guy Diffenbaugh and Kermit Griffin.

Service office is open Monday-Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Fridays by appointment only.

**Please call before coming to chapter house**

Membership meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Executive Committee meets at 12:00 p.m., on the same Saturday.

**Editor:** Ray Paine <ligar@bellsouth.net>

## DAV COMMANDER'S REPORT

Greetings! I'm writing my thoughts the day after the anniversary of 9-11 and I'm reminded of the courage and sacrifices of all Americans. I also just witnessed the appalling remarks and mockery of General Petraeus as he testified freely in his own words before the wolves of Congress on the war in Iraq. America can always rally to the cause but we have become complacent. As I've said before, Congress is becoming an increasingly nonveteran body and we must remain strong to be heard. I ask you to become involved in the life of our Chapter of the DAV if it is at all possible, recruit fellow veterans, and stand strong with us to protect the benefits you earned and so rightly deserve.

I bring a good report from our National Convention in New Orleans. The budget has provided more than the VA requested but, as our outstanding leadership warned us, this can go away if we become complacent.

Summer is over and we are moving into the busiest portion of our year. We need help to execute all on our plate this quarter. I am saddened that we can only get 10 or so at a chapter meeting with a chapter roster of just over 2000 and when we have a project or function the volunteers can be counted on one hand. I want to encourage you to step forward. Meetings as a general rule are a boring necessity but the comradeship of those that have paid the price more than compensates. You can make a difference. This is my heart that you once again become involved in passionate pursuit of the ideals that have made us the greatest country that has ever existed.

Guy Diffenbaugh  
Commander DAV

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

We have so much to focus on as we get older that we get confused with so much on our minds. We sometimes focus on the wrong decision, but the real thing or person is God the Creator. Just follow the commandments as close as possible and our lives will be better. Since our last newsletter Mr. Ervolino has lost his son. Hope to see you at the next meeting. The DAVA serves a good meal. God Bless you.

The following members have gone to meet the Supreme Commander: Willie J. Bailey; Harvey R. Clark; Stanley F. Kowalczyr; Benjamin H. Ogburn; Peter C. Sorenson; Gus N. Bacalis; Fred L. McCabe; Edwin M. Reily; Henry W. Steffen; George Dotson; Thomas T. Arnold.

Thurman Dubberly  
Chaplin DAV

## **SERVICE OFFICE – REPORT**

A recent survey shows that our U.S. Senators and Congressman have consistently compensated bills, which are of interest to veterans.

Can-Am Care LLC has announced they will provide, free of charge, Hugo folding canes to WWII and Korean vets. Call 888/412-4992 Mon-Fri 8-6 for more info, or visit [www.hugosalutes.com](http://www.hugosalutes.com) to order.

When a veteran receiving VA disability compensation dies, entitlement ceases on that day and his surviving spouse is not normally entitled to his VA compensation for the month of his death and must return the money for that month to the VA. However, we can request the VA to consider paying the survivor the benefits, which had accrued at the time of death.

The American Legion Magazine of July 07 has a very nice article on the Court of Appeals, but it does not mention an option for claimants in the section “The Appeals Process”. That is, the veteran can request a review of his claim by a Decision Review Officer when submitting a Notice of Disagreement to a denial of benefits claim. If the DRO also denies the claim, the veteran can request, with his submission of the VA Appeal form (FM 9) a request for a hearing before a VA hearing office in St. Pete, before the claim file goes to the VA Board of Veterans Appeals.

American Red Cross representatives typically do not contact military members or dependents directly and almost always go through the Commander or First Sergeant. Family members are urged not to give out personal information over the phone if contacted by unknown individuals.

Al Braun  
Senior Service Officer

## **AUXILIARY COMMANDER’S REPORT**

The long lazy days of summer have come and gone. The kids are back in school and the chill of autumn is in the air. The busy work season for the Auxiliary is just beginning, and we sure have much to do. The unit has already purchased some of the Christmas gifts for the Veterans when we found them on sale. During the coming weeks we will be decorating the large brown paper bags and filling them with Christmas presents for the Veterans in the Lake City VA hospital, Domiciliary and for Veterans in some of the local nursing homes.

Carnivals are a big attraction this time of year, so District III Units and Chapters will be decorating booths and setting up games for the Fall Festival at Lake City VA Hospital on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have never attended a Fall Festival with the patients, please consider joining us for the party this year. The veterans enjoy having someone to visit with and the time you spend with them is such a small price to pay for the Freedom they have preserved for us.

The Veteran’s “Stand Down” was held at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, for the needy and homeless Veterans. Our Chapter joined the Unit to co-sponsor the purchase of all the toilet articles needed to fill the 50 ditty bags which the Unit had ready to be filled. Past Commander John Markiewicz also made a healthy donation to this worthy cause and presto! The project was ready for delivery. Lola Dealy, Erlinda Loubier, Marjorie and Ray Paine joined me at the Veterans “Give Away Table” to hand out those filled-to-the-brim ditty bags. I hope we can repeat this project again next year.

The District III family lost one of its most dedicated members last week. Clyde Richardson passed away Tuesday night, September 11<sup>th</sup>. She had been Commander of Unit #7 for several years and was the Immediate past Commander of District III. Clyde never missed an opportunity to enlist the aid of others to help further the cause of veterans benefits. Clyde was a lady of class, who stood firm in her faith in God, her love of her family and her passion for the better treatment of the disabled veterans. Sympathy cards may be sent to her son Raymond Richardson at 1679 McMillan St., Jacksonville, Fl. 32209. Clyde was laid to rest in Edgewood Cemetery on Saturday September 15th.

In our last newsletter we promised you that the Quilt Raffle tickets would be mailed out in July. Well, I’m behind schedule. Hopefully they will be in the mail before the first of October.

This will be our last fundraiser of the year and the proceeds will go toward filling the Christmas packages for the veterans. Food baskets will be made up for the needy veteran’s families through Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Unit #1 and #7 will be decorating Christmas trees at the VA Clinic. If you can help, please come and join us.

We would love to have you join us for our meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm; it’s only for an hour or so in the afternoon. We could use a few more hands to help out by coming with us to Lake City for the Fall Festival and the Christmas parties.

You won't regret it. It will give you a good warm-all-over feeling when you see the pleasure they derive from someone showing an interest in them and their lonely world.

Thank all of you for your generous support throughout the year. It means so much to the veterans and **they do appreciate it.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS.**

Jean Christian  
Commander DAVA

**MEMBERSHIP**

The following is from a 05/01/2007-09/01/2007:

**NEW MEMBERS**

David S. Ballard  
Earnest Clevinger  
Howard G. Coward  
Christopher J. DeYoung  
Jose S. Encanto  
Neil B. Grissom  
Clyde A. Woods, Sr.  
Gorden E. Halbrook  
Noble D. Scroggins  
Harry J. Buffone  
James L. Hessenauer  
Leroy Rickman  
James R. Collins  
Rolando A. Ruiz  
Clark D. Sanders  
Joseph Santiago  
Michael S. Acuff  
Nes C. Mendoza  
Charles B. Richardson  
Dennis R. Shropshire  
John H. Page  
James P. Keith  
Juan R. Escudero  
Claude G. Lashley  
Fortunato F. Obispo  
Carlos Petty

**NEWLY PAID UP**

**LIFE MEMBERS**

David S. Ballard  
Earnest Clevinger  
Howard G. Coward  
Christopher J. DeYoung  
Jose S. Encanto  
Neil B. Grissom  
Clyde A. Woods, Sr.  
Gorden E. Halbrook  
Noble D. Scroggins  
Harry J. Buffone  
James L. Hessenauer  
Leroy Rickman  
McKenzie C. Fisk  
Maurice W. Moreau  
Wenceslao H. Nonaes  
Louis C. Siplin  
John Thompson  
Maurice B. Williams  
Mitchell S. Wright  
Billy G. Carswell  
Jose S. Encanto  
Harry L. Herman  
Milton R. Miles  
William W. Sambrook  
Ricky L. Shonyo  
James J. Nichols  
Ricardo Paz  
David E. Pritchard  
Laurence E. Beckett  
William F. Cobb  
Glen C. Lee  
George E. Matthews  
Leroy Rickman  
Kay A. Watkins

**TRANSFERRED IN**

Ronald K. Estep  
Emanuel Lauritaro  
Richard E. Ostrander  
Dwight C. Deyo  
Barry R. Hoskins  
Vernon B. Pearson  
Keith P. Timmons  
Clarence E. Hill

Congratulations to the new and transferees for joining DAV Chapter 1. Double Congrats to all paid up for life members.

**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS**

We want to thank all of our donors who have contributed this quarter. Their generosity helps us to continue our services to our members and to all of our Veterans. Those contributing since July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 are listed below:

**Corporate Sponsors**

Spruance & Associates  
United Way of Jacksonville

**In Memory of Peter Sorenson**

Freedman, Ellen  
Montgomery, Helen

**Donors to  
Chapter**

Christian, George & Jean  
Dealy, Al & Lola  
Elliot, Arthur  
Herah, Wayne  
Markiewicz, John  
Paine, Ray & Marjorie  
Rait, Don & Connie  
Reyes, Edison  
Skinner, Charles  
Veech, Robert & Lucille  
Wahl, Robert  
Walker, Roberta

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER NO. 1, INC.  
P.O. BOX 16444  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32245**

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