

Jacksonville Chapter #1 INC

Volume 8 Issue 1

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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>

Phone: 904-720-0244

OFFICERS

DAV

Guy Diffenbaugh	233-4125
Ray Paine	714-6677
Al Braun	821-2096
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.

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.

Editors: Ray Paine ligar@bellsouth.net & Staff

DAV COMMANDER'S REPORT

Happy New Year to all and may it be blessed and prosperous! We have made it through our busiest time of year with spectacular results, thanks to a hard working group of veterans and auxiliary. We had great peace of mind making a huge impact on many peoples lives. In our biggest year to date we made over \$3000 dollars on our Golden Corral fund raiser, participated in two parades, hosted the District meeting, provided 130 Christmas gift bags to veterans in the local nursing homes, served at the Fall Festival and Christmas party for the long term patients in the Lake City VA Hospital. We also purchased a much needed van to transport veterans to the hospital in Lake City, provided help to many veterans in our service office, and many other services culminating in a Christmas Party for our chapter. All of these service this past quarter! These efforts would not have happened without you and our hardworking Auxiliary-making things possible. We have an outstanding Auxiliary to be grateful for. First quarter 2008 will give us a breather but we must not become complacent. We have a Congress, which for the most part doesn't understand veterans and would not hesitate to cut our hard-earned benefits. It is the strength of veteran organizations such as ours that demands we not be forgotten. Make a New Years resolution to become involved in whatever capacity you are able. We need your strength and support.

Guy Diffenbaugh
Commander DAV

AUXILIARY COMMANDER'S REPORT

We have reached the last days of the year2007 and what a great year it has been. Jacksonville Unit 1 members should stand up, come forward and take a bow, for they have fulfilled their goal of making life a little more comfortable and much happier for so many of our disabled veterans. I am so proud and thankful for all the members who worked hard and gave so much of their time working in the unit projects this year.

I want to briefly look back and reflect on just a few of the projects the unit completed this year. Some members attended the Mid-Winter Conference in January and also the State Convention in June. We attended all District Bingo parties for the veterans at the Lake City VA Hospital, furnishing and donating refreshments for each party. The unit and chapter co-sponsored the Veterans Stand Down in August, where we handed out 50 tote bags filled with personal articles for the homeless veterans. Unit members prepared and served lunch to the National, State and Chapter Service Officers Mobile Van in October when Chapter 1 sponsored the Veterans Assistance Day at the Chapter House. Unit members provided, prepared and served snacks for the Unit & Chapter meetings this past year. The Unit purchased and delivered a supply of orange juice, coffee, etc. to the VA Outpatient Clinic of Jacksonville the first of each month. Auxiliary members spent Labor Day weekend collecting donations for the Forget-me-not fund drive at NAS Jax and NAS Mayport. Thanks to some of the dedicated Chapter members who worked with us, we had a very successful fund drive this year. Unit members helped the Chapter collect donations for veterans at the "Golden Corral" Veterans Night, which exceeded last years amount collected.

Thank you – Thank you – Thank you to all of you who supported the “No Bake Sale”, and to those of you who purchased tickets for the “Quilt Raffle”. Auxiliary member Marjorie Paine, who bought the winning ticket, took that beautiful quilt home. A big hug and a pat on the back for those members who have helped clean the Chapter House this year. Your efforts did not go unnoticed. I wish all of you could have attended the District Christmas party for the Veterans at the Lake City Hospital on December 8th. Unit member Susan Fischer was the seamstress who cut out and sewed 50 beautiful denim tote bags, which the unit filled with lots of personal toilet articles, a pretty lap robe and added a cuddle bear. The unit also filled and delivered approximately 50 more tote bags, made by Susan, to veterans in Jacksonville Nursing Homes. Over the holidays needy families appreciated our supply of donated canned goods and I have had the opportunity to give out filled tote bags and Christmas presents to homeless veterans on the street. Some unit members have furnished warm jackets and coats, which grateful people on the street were found who desperately needed them. Our supply of donated canned goods was appreciated by needy families.

This unit has truly been blessed to have the support and helping hand of our Chapter. I am so thankful to be part of an organization that does so much for our veterans who have done so very, very much for all of us.

Happy New Year to everyone.

Jean Christian
Commander Unit 1

CHAPLAIN’S REPORT

My fellow members we are nearing the time of year when we should especially worship the birth of Jesus, to fall in unity with Him and one another in harmony. We need Veterans who are willing to honor God, country and one another to keep our nation strong so as to keep us free from tyranny.

The following members have gone to meet the Supreme Commander this past quarter: Troy L. Haspel; Ricardo Quinones; William A. Dooley; Vincent J. Brennan; James E. Mulligan, Jr.; Hugh S. Crosson, Jr.; Glen E. Lequire; James E. Mullian; George T. Owen; Alvin Lee Kyle; Rufus Williams; William Allen; George Krevo; Clarence E. Long; **MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

Thurman Dubberly
Chaplin DAV

SERVICE OFFICE – REPORT

Some tips on avoiding identification scams: Don’t sign the back of your credit card – instead put “PHOTO ID REQUIRED”. Do not put the full account number on the “For” line of your checks – just the last four numbers. Use your work phone number instead of your home number on your checks. Never print your Social Security Number on checks. Keep key documents in a safe place. If your wallet is stolen, report it to the police immediately.

A new program for Tricare beneficiaries started in Aug ’07, which gives Tricare beneficiaries access to a Member Choice Center, where live customer service reps will assist in making the registration process easier. Their number is 1-877-363-1433. This program also tells physicians that prescriptions can be filled through mail order.

Tricare Prime beneficiaries referred by their primary care manager for specialty services more than 100 miles from the provider’s location may be eligible to have their reasonable travel expenses reimbursed by Tricare. Contact your Military Treatment Facility or the Tricare Regional Office for details.

Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) is designed to restore military retirement pay that has been offset by VA compensation when evidence exists to confirm associated disabilities are combat related. Some disabilities that resulted from conditions during peacetime may meet the criteria for CRSC. Eligibility requirement: Be retired with 20 or more years active service; have a compensable VA rating of 10 percent or higher; receive military retired pay that is reduced by VA disability payment. VA says those if you’re in doubt about your combat eligibility, submit a claim and let them make the determination.

SBP participants who reach 70 years of age and have made 360 payments (30 years) will no longer have to pay premiums for continued SBP coverage and will be placed in “Paid-up SBP” status.

If you legally change your name because of marriage, divorce, court order or other reasons, tell the Social Security Administration so you can get a corrected card.

A. L. Braun
Senior Service Officer

MEMBERSHIP

The following is from a 10/01/2007-12/31/2007:

NEW MEMBERS

Ariel S. Brezniak
Ferris C. Williams
Leroy Rickman
Harold Johnson
Jean F. Paul
Lawrenciz E. C. Jacobs
Lloyd Jackson
Michael S. Meeks
Jeffrey P. Humphreys
George M. Howell, Jr.
Richard G. Haller
Kurt D. Keller
Michael C. Ashmore
James R. Snellen
Clyde B. Evans
Richard M. Holsworth
Dennis G. Bezanson
Robert L. Freeman
Larry Blue

NEWLY PAID UP

LIFE MEMBERS

Ariel S. Brezniak
Ferris C. Williams
Leroy Rickman
James P. Keith
Phillip Spoelito
James L. Crawford
Francis E. Reed
Allen W. Ray
Marvin D. Lagle
Richard C. Gilbert

TRANSFERRED IN

Philip T. Harville
Scott A. Smith
David Martin
Robert C. Turney
Fred E. Wheeler
Gerald (Jerry) D. Budke

Congratulations to the new and transferees for joining DAV Chapter 1. Double congrats to all paid-up-for- life members. This has been a great year. Our membership has increased, and those that have become fully paid-up members are astounding.

If you know of any disabled vet who would like to join the DAV, or who needs assistance, please have them contact our Service Office. Also the Auxiliary is looking for spouses or those who wish to volunteer their time and services for the betterment of Veterans. Either way, call 720-0244. You will feel better knowing you helped.

Ray Paine
Membership Chairman

Social Security Disability Claims

If you (or a family member) are currently applying for Social Security Disability Benefits, or if you have an impairment that prevents you from working, then come talk to the professionals at

SPRUANCE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
A Full Service Disability Management Company
-SINCE 1989-

Gil Spruance
Susan Butler

Please allow us the opportunity of assisting
You with your disability claim.

Call (800) 382-7606
Jacksonville (904) 399-5357

FREE Consultation

NEVER A Fee unless we are Successful In Obtaining Your
Social Security Disability Benefits!

www.SpruanceRehab.com

We Support Chapter 1 of the Disabled American Veterans
And our Troops Overseas

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We want to thank our donors who have contributed this quarter. Their generosity helps us to continue our services to our members and to all of our Veterans. Unfortunately both of our computers crashed at the Chapter House early in the month of December and we lost all of our computer financial records, including our list of donors and sponsors. We have been able to restore one computer and replaced the other with one donated by M&M Computers. Our Treasurer, John Markiewicz, will begin reconstructing our records on the computer after the holidays from the hard copy paper records and hopefully we will be able to resume publishing our list of donors and sponsors in the next newsletter at the end of March 2008. We would like to thank Swisher International for their annual Christmas Donation, this year's donation was around \$2,500.00.

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

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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