

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER 1, INC.
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CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 17 Issue 3 – July to September 2017

Chapter 1 Officers

DAV	DAVA
Commander: Paul Markiewicz	Commander: Erlinda Loubier
Sr. Vice Commander: Leslie Eglinger	Sr. Vice Commander: Billie Jean Christian
1st Jr. Vice Commander: Richard Arceneaux	Jr. Vice Commander: Kathy Haines
2 nd Jr. Vice Commander: Greg Loubier	
Chaplain: Oscar McKnight	Chaplain: Zita Arceneaux
Treasurer: Thomas Ayala	Treasurer: Anita Ayala
Judge Advocate: Robert Young	

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

July 1-4 - Golden Corral Fundraiser
July 4 – Independence Day Holiday
July 15 - Vets4Vets Meeting
July 22 - NOTR 510 & DAV 1 Meetings
July 28–August 1 - DAV National Convention New Orleans
August 26 – NOTR 510 & DAV 1 Meetings
August 30 - Summer Youth Volunteers Appreciation Ceremony VAMC Lake City
September 4 – Labor Day Holiday
September 11 – Patriot Day (9/11 Remembrance)
September 15 – POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 20 – Rosh Hashanah – Shanah Tova (Have a Good Year)
September 22 – First day of Autumn
September 23 - NOTR 510 & DAV 1 Meetings
September 24 – Gold Star Mother's Day
September 29 – Yom Kippur – G'mar Hatima Tova (May you be sealed in the book of life)

Editor's Note: You've probably noticed that the layout of this edition is different from previous ones. Due to a "computer crash" all templates were lost and I was asked to start over from "square one." As Editor, I have modified some of the input for grammar and sentence structure. I owe a special "Thank You" to our Adjutant, John Markiewicz, for his submission to the "Upcoming Meetings and Events" calendar.

- John J. Donnangelo

FROM THE COMMANDER

Comrades,

I am honored and humbled that you have chosen me to serve as your Chapter Commander for 2017-2018. I will do my best to follow the examples set by Thomas Ayala and other prior commanders and continue to lead our Chapter forward to accomplish the mission of the DAV – "to build better lives for disabled veterans and their families." Veterans helping veterans will be our standard.

We are nearly 2/3 done with our flag pole and soldier memorials at the Golden Corral. Southside is completed. The flag pole and soldier have been installed at the Mandarin location and all that is left there is getting the plaque. If you get a chance, drop by and check them out. We are set and ready to go at the Merrill location, but Golden Corral has not chosen and prepared the site yet.

Our last Bingo outing at Lake City VA hospital was a huge success. We provided entertainment to over 40 veterans with the help of 15 volunteers. The veterans enjoyed the Bingo and camaraderie, as did our volunteers. Once again, veterans helping veterans.

We have a fundraiser coming up in July at the Golden Corral. Dates are the 1st through the 4th. We will be passing around signup sheets at the June meeting on the 24th. We need your help. Come out and support your fellow veterans. All the money we raise stays here in the Jacksonville area. Once again, veterans helping veterans.

I will be representing the Chapter at the Department of Florida Convention and at the National Convention in July. Don't forget our meetings on the 4th Saturday of the month. I'm looking forward to meeting our new members and welcoming back those we haven't seen in a while.

Semper Fi to all my fellow Vets

Paul Markiewicz

Chapter Commander

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Full Life Membership: Robert Hogan, Nicola Crooks, Robert Crooks, Steven Jenkins, Edward Poe, Kelly Bricko, Gary Bronner, James Gaskins, Robert Mitchell, William Pakers, John Sutton, John Villarreal and George Yeazitis

Part Life Membership: Daniel Allen, Chad Childers, Michael Holt, Vaughn Neuroh, Sara Pack, Vincent Edquiban, Theresa Francis-Scott, Kenneth Mabry, Jessica Sims, Ronald Avery, Angela Jones, Jean Kaszanits, Timothy Knoop, James Nogoy and David O'Keeffe

Transfers Membership: James Cargill Jr., Anthony D'Aleu, Manuel Silverio and Sharon Flowers
Leslie A. Eglinger Sr.

Sr. Vice Commander/Membership Chairman

FROM THE AUXILIARY COMMANDER

Hello!

We had a nice Unit meeting in April and held our elections. Our officers are Linda Loubier, Commander; Jean Christian, Senior Vice; Kathy Haines, Jr. Vice; Anita Ayala, Adjutant/Treasurer and Zita Arceneaux as our Chaplain. At this meeting we also had a Memorial Service for Betty Newsome a member of our Auxiliary and the Lake City Auxiliary VAVS Rep. We also attended the Memorial Service held at the Veterans Memorial Wall downtown on May 29, 2017.

We were donated multiple boxes of shirts from the Susan G. Komen Organization. Some of which have already been donated to the Lake City Veterans Hospital. We also held Bingo at the Lake City VA Hospital [where] the patients had a great time!

We attended the State Convention at Lake Mary mid-June, where the State elections took place. We voted in a new state Commander and Line Officers. Congratulation to the newly elected. Chairpersons were assigned to the different committees, [and] I was selected to be part of the Americanism Committee, so if any of you co-members have something in mind to contribute, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Our youth members have been busy making appreciation cards to be sent to the troops overseas and helping out around the chapter house.

In July we will be helping the Chapter with their fundraising, and if any of you would like to help as well let me know. At the end of July, we will be attending the National Convention in New Orleans.

The Forget-Me-Not drive will be September 1, 2 and 3rd at several locations in Jacksonville. Hope you can come and join us at the fundraisers and at our monthly meetings held every 4th Saturday of the month. We provide a light lunch to all who attend, hope to see you soon!

Erlinda Loubier

Commander, Unit 1

FROM NOTR Dugout 510

Hello Brother Rats,

I am happy that all are well.

Our dugout went to the rendezvous at Cocoa Beach this past April. We held nominations and elections for office. The following Officers were elected for 2016-2017:

- Golden Rodent – Richard Arceneaux
- Silver Rodent – Larry Eddy
- Blue Rodent – Aubrey Miller
- Red Eye Gnawer – Paul Markiewicz

Installation was held directly after elections. Congratulations to everyone.

Our next four rendezvous will be as follows: July 22, Aug 26, Sep 23, and Oct 28.

Enjoy your summer and be safe in these hot and humid months to come.

Richard Arceneaux

"Golden Rodent"

Mission of the DAV

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. We strive to meet our goals by:

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government;
- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically;
- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government;
- Extending DAV's mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level Departments and local Chapters; and
- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

Benefits Protection (Editor's Opinion)

Protecting our benefits as Veterans is of paramount importance to all of us. (See bullet number three above.) If we want our legislators to know what is important to us as Veterans, we must tell them.

A good place to start is with our Florida representatives in the US Senate:

- Bill Nelson (D) www.billnelson.senate.gov
- Marco Rubio (R) www.rubio.senate.gov

Each website has a link to contact the Senator.

I have created a Benefits Protection website for Chapter 1. There is a link to it at the upper right corner of our website home page at: fl.dav.org/1. You can go directly to it at benefitsprotection.weebly.com

