

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
 JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER 1, INC.  
 1439 PARENTAL HOME ROAD  
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**CHAPTER NEWSLETTER**  
**Volume 17 Issue 4 – October to December 2017**  
**Chapter 1 Officers**

<b>DAV</b>	<b>DAVA</b>
Commander: Paul Markiewicz	Commander: Erlinda Loubier
Adjutant: John Markiewicz	Adjutant: Anita Ayala
Sr. Vice Commander: Leslie Eglinger	Sr. Vice Commander: Billie Jean Christian
1st Jr. Vice Commander: Richard Arceneaux	Jr. Vice Commander: Kathy Haines
2nd 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**

- October 3: William Washington DAV Chapter 7 celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - October 9: Columbus Day
  - October 12 -14: Jacksonville Veterans Stand Down
  - October 13: Navy Birthday
  - October 21: VAMC Lake City Fall Festival
  - October 28: DAV Chapter 1 Meeting
  - November 5: Daylight Saving Time Ends
  - November 7: Election Day
  - November 10: Marine Corps Birthday
  - November 11: Veterans Day
  - November: DAV Chapter 1 Thanksgiving Dinner - date to be determined
  - November 23: Thanksgiving Day
  - December 7: Pearl Harbor Day
  - December 9: DAV Chapter 1 Bingo/Christmas Party VAMC Lake City
  - December 12: Hanukkah
  - December 15: VAVS Patients Christmas Party VAMC Lake City
  - December 21: Winter Begins
  - December: DAV Chapter 1 Christmas Dinner - date to be determined
  - December 25: Christmas Day
- (Editor's Note: When determined, the date for each Holiday Dinner will be posted on our website.)*

**Below are the donors we need to thank for the previous quarter:**

**July 2017:** John Markiewicz (50/50 winnings donated), Benjamin Medina, Dillard Caldwell, Emilio Pitre and Jim & Sonja Day

**August 2017:** Paul Markiewicz (50/50 winnings donated), Benjamin Medina and John T. Sutton

**September 2017:** Pete Ison (50/50 winnings donated) and Benjamin Medina; and our monthly donors who are consolidated through the TRUIST Organization but are otherwise unidentified.

John Markiewicz, Adjutant

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**From our Commander**

Comrades,

During the past three months the Chapter Adjutant and I attended both the Department of Florida Convention and the National DAV Convention in New Orleans. The big news to come out of the above two conventions is regarding the status of the National Order of Trench Rats. Previously the NOTR was treated as an auxiliary of the DAV. As such we were suspended by DAV National shortly after the National Convention. This resulted in Dugout 510 not meeting in August. The NOTR National leadership was to meet with DAV leadership on Sep 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss issues of concern. The results of this meeting, as we have been informed, resulted in the National leadership of the NOTR withdrawing all affiliation with DAV. As of Sep 7<sup>th</sup>, the NOTR is an independent organization with no connections to DAV. Those members of DAV who have joined the Trench Rats may remain as members in good standing of both organizations. One major change is the requirement for membership in DAV in order to become a Trench Rat.

Hopefully you all survived the hurricane with a minimum of damage. We had numerous branches fall and have some roof damage – shingles coming off – at the Chapter House. We are looking into our insurance coverage and the possibility of FEMA funds to cover our damages. We recently assisted DAV National's efforts to offset some of the damages by hosting their efforts to disperse emergency disaster relief funds to local veterans. These funds mainly covered loss of food due to electrical outages and hotel funds for those flooded out. The NSO from DAV National was here for two days and dispersed relief to over 80 vets.

We are nearly done with our flag pole and soldier memorials at the Golden Corrals in our area. Southside and Mandarin are completed. 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 prepared the site yet.

Upcoming events include our annual Golden Corral fundraiser in November for Veterans Day. Dates are tentatively the 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>, and the 9<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. We will be passing around signup sheets at the October meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. 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.

Our chaplain, Oscar McKnight, will be spearheading our annual Christmas gifts for our veterans in local nursing homes. I'm sure he would welcome any help in preparing these gifts as well as distribution to the nursing homes. Once again, veterans helping veterans.

We also have the Lake City Fall Festival coming up on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October. We also have tentatively scheduled our Thanksgiving dinner for Nov 18<sup>th</sup> and Christmas dinner on Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, subject to members' approval.

Don't forget our meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 our Auxiliary Commander

Hello Everyone!

Our Forget-me-not fund drive held in Golden Corral restaurants in our hometown Jacksonville is once again a success. We met new friends, old friends, and most of all, we raised a good amount to help our own people in need.

Last week, [I] attended the Family Caregiving Conference held in WJCT Public Broadcasting. Amazed that there were a lot of sponsors as well as attendees. National DAV Auxiliary Conference in Lexington, Kentucky is a nice learning experience for us.

Our stand down in the fairgrounds will be downtown Jacksonville .We will be there on October 14, Saturday, to give away ditty bags to our homeless veterans. The following Saturday, which is October 21, will be our yearly October Fest held in Lake City hospital. I'm hoping that you will come out to help us share a joy to our hospitalized veterans. We will have food, fun and games.

Don't forget our Unit 1 always holds meetings every 4th Saturday of the month. Except [for] the coming November and December which is held on 3rd Saturday, for we will be having a Thanksgiving party and Christmas party consecutively. Hope to see you there.

Erlinda Loubier  
Jacksonville, Unit 1 commander

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## From our Chaplain:

I am retired 1Sgt. Oscar L. McKnight Sr., your new Chaplain for Chapter 1. I am ready to work as your Chaplain. Some of my background is [that] I am a Deacon in the church I attend, which is Southside Church of Christ. I enlisted in the Military in January 1967 and [served] to October 1988.

Now, as your new Chaplain, I am ready to work with you and for you. [I] might not do everything right the first time. You can help me get it right by telling me the right way because I want be the best for Chapter 1.

So let [us] join hands together and go forward.

**AMEN**

Oscar L. McKnight Sr., Chaplain  
Contact me at: [1Sgt.mcknightol@gmail.com](mailto:1Sgt.mcknightol@gmail.com)

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## From our Membership Chair (Leslie Eglinger):

	Full Life Membership	Part Life Membership	Deaths
<b>July 2017</b>	Kenneth J. Lehman; Lawrence C. Rudd; William Zinchuck	Stephen J. Butler; Ralph W. Cromley	None
<b>August 2017</b>	Gordon D. Cooper; William D. Holt; John H. Schofield	None	Donald E. Iddings – 7/24/17; Abe Robinson – 8/4/17; Robert F. Schuman – 8/20/17
<b>September 2017</b>	Thomas, Rexal D.; York, Barry L.	Glover, Sandra Ann	<b>See note on next page</b>

**Note:** DAV National reviewed our membership list and found the names of 32 Chapter members who were deceased but whose names had not been removed from our list of members. We do not know the dates of death for our comrades: Bebee, Donald J.; Camp, Joseph J.; Chandler, Billy R.; Gagnon, Raoul A.; Hurst, Milton T.; Kall, John F.; May, Woodrow; Moorhead, James D.; Mullen, Gloria A.; Palugod, Philander; Randolph, Walter B.; Shuman, George L.; Smith, Charles D.; Somes, Malcolm E.; Vallee, Robert P.; Williams, Ray H.; Benjamin, Gilbert T.; Carr, Loren D.; Edgar, Clifford E.; Hunter, Troy T.; Johns, William E.; Kavin, James P.; Mays, Paul; Morrett, John J.; Nowotny, Ludwig A.; Paterson, Theodore S.; Reda, Albertus G.; Smith, Albert J.; Smith, William E.; Stewart, Willie J.; Wheeler, Otto; Witherspoon, Eugene.



Editor: John J. Donnangelo