

## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS | JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER 1, INC

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## CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 19 Issue 7 – July 2019

### Chapter 1 Officers

DAV	DAVA
Commander: Leslie Eglinger	Commander: Katherine A. Haines
Adjutant: Paul Markiewicz	Adjutant: Diana Locke
Sr. Vice Commander: Lynn Geiser	Sr. Vice Commander: Billie Jean Christian
1st Jr. Vice Commander: David Kirby	1st Jr. Vice Commander: Generosa McClay-Buchanan
2nd Jr. Vice Commander: Richard Arceneaux	
Chaplain: Oscar McKnight	Chaplain: Marilyn Miller
Treasurer: Larry Eddy	Treasurer: Diana Locke
Judge Advocate: Robert Young	
Benefits Protection: Standley Slowey	

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<u>Meetings and Events</u>	<u>Meetings and Events</u>
<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> – DAV Florida State Convention	4 <sup>th</sup> – Independence Day
29 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 1 Meeting (Moved from June 22 <sup>nd</sup> .)	4 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> – Golden Corral Fundraiser
	27 <sup>th</sup> – Chapter 1 Meeting

### A comment

At the July 28, 2018 meeting I proposed that if any members of our Chapter and Auxiliary submitted input to me *by the Wednesday before our monthly meeting* – without me having to ask for it – I would put it into a Newsletter and post it to our website at [fl.dav.org/1](http://fl.dav.org/1). I also offered to do it monthly, aiming to publish it by our monthly meeting.

If anyone has something of interest, please send it to me.

**This Newsletter would be much more informative if I were not the only one providing input.**

/S/ John J. Donnangelo

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### Prestigious Award to Chapter 1's John Markiewicz

"Dear Mr. Markiewicz,

Congratulations! DAV is proud to have selected you as our **DAV George H. Seal Memorial Award** winner for 2019. You have demonstrated a patriotic sense of compassion and have given tirelessly to our nation's veterans. This prestigious award honors only the very best of thousands of remarkable volunteers, and you earned it.

Accordingly, you will be presented with the National Commander's Award at our 2019 National Convention to be held August 3-6 in Orlando, Florida. We hope you can join us in person to accept this award during our opening session on Saturday, August 3.

Sincerely,  
/S/ Dennis R. Nixon  
DAV National Commander"

## **Getting to the Chapter Website**

The full “address” to our website is rather long:  
<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/01/default.aspx>.

Omitting the <http://www> and the </default.aspx> parts get you there but it still leaves [davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/01](http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/01) to type; for a hunt-and-peck typist that’s still a lot.

The address at the top of page one couldn’t make it any simpler: [fl.dav.org/1](http://fl.dav.org/1)  
([fl](#) for Department of Florida; [dav.org](http://dav.org) for National; [/1](#) for Chapter 1)

Hint: No matter how you get to the site, add it to your Favorites, Bookmark it, or whatever your browser calls it. Next time you’ll be only a click away.

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## **Know Your Risk: Atlantic Hurricane Season**

From the FEMA.gov Bulletin (May 2019): The Atlantic hurricane season officially runs from June 1 until November 30. There are tools available to help plan and prepare for hurricanes:

- Know what to do before, during, and after a hurricane.
- Create an emergency communication plan with your family before a hurricane.
- Know your local community’s evacuation plan and evacuation routes, sign up to receive local alerts and warnings, and listen to the advice of local officials before, during, and after a storm.
- Check your insurance coverage; damages caused by flooding are not covered under normal homeowner’s insurance policies.
- Strengthen your financial preparedness by collecting and securing personal financial, insurance, medical, and other records.
- Have emergency supplies in place at home, at work, and in the car.
- Download the FEMA mobile app for disaster resources, weather alerts, and safety tips. The app (available in English and Spanish) provides a customizable checklist of emergency supplies, maps of open shelters and recovery centers, disaster survival tips, and weather alerts from the National Weather Service. The app also enables users to receive push notifications reminding them to take important steps to prepare their homes and families for disasters.

Learn more on how to prepare before, during, and after a hurricane at [ready.gov/hurricanes](https://ready.gov/hurricanes)

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## **Volunteer for Veterans**

Last year, DAV launched a new site called [Volunteer-for-Veterans.org](http://Volunteer-for-Veterans.org) to give veterans and volunteers a new platform to request and give assistance. This nationwide resource was designed to connect volunteers with opportunities to lend a helping hand to veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

It's is essentially a database to match volunteers with volunteer opportunities serving veterans. Those opportunities are as limitless and varied as the needs of our Nation's veterans, particularly those changed by wartime service.

Veterans, caregivers, and survivors in need of assistance or mentoring can post opportunities based on their specific needs. So please visit [\*\*Volunteer-for-Veterans.org\*\*](http://Volunteer-for-Veterans.org) and sign up today. While you're at it, please encourage others in your chapter and community to do the same. Pass it on to other organizations who volunteer their time in the community.

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### **Breaking News: Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act Becomes Law**

Posted June 26, 2019, on [DAV.org](http://DAV.org)

Statement from DAV National Commander Dennis Nixon:

"After years of fighting to correct an injustice for disabled Vietnam veterans, DAV takes great pride in announcing that the president has signed in to law H.R. 299—the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act.

Passage of this law is a pivotal victory for Vietnam veterans who have not only suffered for decades from illnesses and diseases linked to exposure to Agent Orange but who also felt that their service and suffering had long gone unacknowledged by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DAV is thankful for the leadership of House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Mark Takano and Ranking Member Phil Roe; Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson and Ranking Member Jon Tester; and Senate Bill sponsors Kirsten Gillibrand and Steve Daines, who all worked in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to finally get this legislation through Congress.

Mostly, we are grateful to the Vietnam veterans, their families and survivors, all our members and supporters who have stood with us over the years to advocate for this

legislation and who have been so crucial to getting it across the finish line. I regret that many Vietnam veterans will have succumbed to illness before this victory could be realized, but rejoice knowing that countless others will finally be able to access the benefits they need and have rightly earned.

Fellow Vietnam veterans, I am proud to share this triumph with you. Congratulations, and welcome home.”

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### **A Veteran is ...**

