



CHAPTER 10 ARLINGTON- FAIRFAX, VA

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>COMMANDER'S MSG</i>	<i>PAGE 2</i>
<i>STAND UP FOR VETERANS</i>	<i>PAGE 2</i>
<i>SICKNESS OR DISTRESS</i>	<i>PAGE 2</i>
<i>UPCOMING EVENTS</i>	<i>PAGE 3</i>
<i>METRO CARDS</i>	<i>PAGE 3</i>
<i>SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE</i>	<i>PAGE 3</i>
<i>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</i>	<i>PAGE 3</i>
<i>NEW GI BILL?</i>	<i>PAGE 3</i>
<i>JOINING THE DAV</i>	<i>PAGE 4</i>

CHAPTER 10 WEB SITE

The Chapter 10 Arlington-Fairfax, VA web site has information for members and non-members alike.

There are links to the National Headquarters, Department of Virginia, and other chapters' web sites. The site also contains information on news and events of interest.

Visit the Chapter 10 web site at www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/va/10/

CHAPTER 10 WEBSITE HAS ADDRESS CHANGE

The Chapter 10 web site has moved. The old address at www.dav10.org is no longer available. The new web address is www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/va/10/ The new web site has a lot of added benefits and some new features. So please visit it and explore what it has to offer for you. ★

CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO DISABLED VETERANS RULED TAX-FREE; SOME VETERANS MAY BE DUE REFUNDS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Payments under the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) program are no longer taxable and disabled veterans who paid tax on these benefits in the past three years can now claim refunds, the Internal Revenue Service said in a recent release.

Recipients of CWT payments will no longer receive a Form 1099 from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Disabled veterans who paid tax on these benefits in tax-years 2004, 2005 or 2006 can claim a refund by filing an amended return using IRS Form 1040X. According to the VA, more than 19,000 veterans received CWT in Fiscal Year 2007.

The IRS agreed with a U.S. Tax Court decision issued ear- continued on page 3

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENTS: INFORMATION FOR RECIPIENTS OF VETERANS' BENEFITS

This from the IRS dated March 12, 2008 and is for people receiving benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for disability, pension or survivors' benefits. The IRS and Treasury will be working closely with the Department of Veterans Affairs along with beneficiary organizations to ensure that all eligible individuals know what to do to receive a stimulus payment.

Normally, certain veterans' payments are not subject to income tax. However, the economic stimulus law passed in February contains a special provision allowing recipients of certain veterans' benefits to count those benefits toward the qualifying income requirement of \$3,000 and thereby qualify for the stimulus payment.

For eligible veterans who do not normally file a tax return, the IRS has prepared a 10-page informational package that includes instructions, a sample Form 1040A and a blank Form 1040A — everything needed to file a tax form today.

The package, Package 1040A-3, contains an 8-page infor- continued on page 3

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Newsletter Editor: David L. Barrette

CHAPTER 10 COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

At our next meeting on Thursday, April 17 we will hold elections for our 2008 - 2009 Officers. At the March meeting Arnold Sells, John Maki, and Chris Cheney were elected to the nominating committee. They are currently looking for and accepting input from all members who would like to participate in any activities for the upcoming year. If you are interested you can call Arnold Sells or John Maki. The phone numbers are on the left.

I wrote earlier of our need for funds to support our Chapter's activities and that we planned to hold our "Forget-Me-Not" drive over the Memorial Day weekend. The plan for the drive is in the works. However, we have had very few members volunteer to help. We really need your help.

James G. Hopkins
Commander

STAND UP FOR VETERANS

DAV on Capitol Hill. During its Mid-Winter Conference March 2-5, 2008, DAV is officially launched its nationwide Stand Up for Veterans initiative to educate the public and members of Congress on the health care needs of veterans. As part of this effort, hundreds of veterans were on Capitol Hill to meet with their members of Congress and gather support for a national petition urging the federal government to provide needed health care assistance to disabled veterans. DAV's national leadership also testified on legislative priorities before a Joint Hearing of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees.

Viral Video – DAV has produced its second video encouraging grassroots constituencies to support legislation to meet the health care needs of our veterans.

Web Site – DAV and Stand Up for Veterans has launched a new web site, at www.standup4vets.org, which includes issue briefs, a virtual press room, and personal stories that put a face on the health care needs of our veterans.

“Stand Up For Veterans” is a new initiative of the Disabled American Veterans. The initiative seeks to find public policy solutions for all veterans, particularly those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, who have incurred devastating injuries and disabilities, including traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and other psychological wounds of war. Our veterans stood up for us. It's now time we stand up for veterans. ★

SICKNESS OR DISTRESS

Past District Commander June Springer is in the hospital in Alexandria for heart surgery. Dave Barrette our newsletter editor is scheduled for a shoulder surgery. John Capriotti is recovering well from the surgery that removed his left arm and is scheduled for a prosthetic arm. Keep them in your prayers. Please notify the Chaplain or any officer of any sick or distressed members or their families.

Please remember in your hearts and prayers all those in "harm's way," especially those we have lost. Also pray for all the new disabled veterans. ★

COME TO A CHAPTER MEETING

The next Chapter 10 meeting will be Thursday, April 17. We meet at American Legion Post #176, 6520 Amherst Ave. Springfield, VA. (the Post is just off Backlick Rd., South of Old Keen Mill Rd.).

Please bring another DAV or potential member. Bring your wife and friends.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 3** Bingo at Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center Nursing Home.
Apr. 12 Executive Committee Meeting
Apr. 17 Regular business meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post #176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA.
May 1 Bingo at Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center Nursing Home. ★

continued from page 1 lier this year, which held that CWT payments are tax-free veterans' benefits. In so doing, the agency reversed a 1965 ruling which held that these payments were taxable and required the VA to issue 1099 forms to payment recipients.

According to the VA, the CWT program provides assistance to veterans unable to work and support themselves. Under the program, the VA contracts with private industry and the public sector for work by veterans, who learn new job skills, re-learn successful work habits and regain a sense of self-esteem and self-worth. ★

continued from page 1 mational package for people who normally do not file a tax return.

People should note that Line 14a of the Form 1040A and Line 20a of Form 1040 are designated for Social Security. However, these lines should also be used to include any veterans' benefits.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Individuals or families must have at least \$3,000 in qualifying income, which can be income from or in combination with Social Security benefits, Veterans Affairs benefits, Railroad Retirement benefits and earned income.
- People must have valid Social Security Numbers.
- People cannot be claimed as dependents or be eligible to be claimed as dependents on another's tax return.
- People must file a 2007 tax form, i.e. Form 1040A.

Even those who normally don't have to file a federal tax return will have to file one this year in order to claim the economic stimulus payment. Find out where to send yours.

For Those Who Have Already Filed

Some recipients of the benefits described above may have filed a 2007 tax return reporting at least \$3,000 in qualifying income. They do not need to do anything else. They will begin receiving their stimulus payments in early May.

Others may need to amend a previously filed tax return to include benefits to reach the \$3,000 qualifying income level. Adding these benefits on an amended tax return will not increase an individual's tax liability but will establish eligibility for the stimulus payment. Taxpayers can use IRS Form 1040X to amend a tax return in order to qualify for the stimulus payment. File the form after April 14, 2008, and allow 8-12 weeks of processing time before you receive your payment. ★

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE (Washington, D.C.): 202-530-9260
DAV NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE (Roanoke, VA): 1-540-857-2373
VA MEDICAL CENTER: 202-745-8000
VA CENTER FOR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER: 1-802-296-5132
WOMEN'S COORDINATOR (DC VA MED CTR): Fran Johnson: 202-745-8469
ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC,: 703-313-0694
ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME - WASHINGTON, D.C.: 800-422-9988
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: 703-607-8585
QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY: 703-221-2183

METRO CARDS

John Capirotti is still collecting cards for hospitalized and adjusting veterans at the DC VAMC.

If you have extra cards you can donate, please send them c/o DAV Chapter 10 or bring them to a meeting. ★

SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline has been enhanced to provide a new service for veterans in crisis. Veterans will be connected immediately to VA suicide prevention and mental health service professional by calling 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and pressing 1. ★

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for drivers for VA Hospital. Contact at VA Hospital 202/745-8320

Need Flag bearer(s) to carry the American and DAV Flag at National and Chapter events. ★

NEW GI BILL?

Washington, DC - Senators Jim Webb (D-VA), Chuck Hagel (R-NE) and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) recently reintroduced the "Post-9/a11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act" (S.22). Senator John Warner (R-VA) is one of four lead co-sponsors of the bill. Warner is a World War II and Korean veteran and recipient of benefits under the original GI Bill, a former Navy Secretary whose 30 years in the Senate includes service as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee. His support adds renewed momentum to the yearlong effort to strengthen educational benefits for the nation's veterans.

Senator Warner joins 37 other senators in support of the measure. The bill would provide service members who have served since September 11, 2001 with improved educational benefits similar to those provided to World War II-era veterans. The House companion bill (H.R. 2702) was introduced by Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and currently has 96 co-sponsors. ★

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT) SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MI	SUFFIX	TITLE
STREET ADDRESS				SPOUSE'S FIRST NAME		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE		SEX	M	F
BIRTH DATE	DATE ENLISTED	BRANCH	DATE DISCHARGED	RANK	V.A. CLAIM NO.	
I RECEIVE		<input type="checkbox"/> VA COMP	<input type="checkbox"/> VA PENSION	<input type="checkbox"/> PURPLE HEART	<input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE RETIREMENT	
DISABILITIES		<input type="checkbox"/> AMPUTEE	<input type="checkbox"/> BLIND	<input type="checkbox"/> HEARING IMPAIRED	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
APPLICANT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER				PERCENT (%) OF DISABILITY		
				%		
MEMBER CODE NO.		CHAPTER PREFERENCE				
		ARLINGTON-FAIRFAX CHAPTER 10				
SPONSOR'S NAME			SPONSOR'S TELEPHONE NUMBER ()			
SPONSOR'S ADDRESS			SPONSOR'S MEMBERSHIP CODE NO.			
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE			

 APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

() _____
 TELEPHONE NO.

The full cost of Life Membership is based on the applicant's age: 80 and over is free; 71-79 is \$140.00; 61-70 is \$180.00; 41-60 is \$230.00; and 40 or younger is \$250.00. A Life Membership can be paid for on a quarterly basis with a \$40.00 initial payment.

Mail completed application form to: Arlington-Fairfax Chapter 10, P.O. Box 4001, Arlington, VA 22204-4001

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE DAV?

Any man or woman, who was wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in the line of duty during time of war, while in the service of either the military or naval forces of the United States of America, and who has not been dishonorably discharged or separated from such service, or who may still be in active service in the armed forces of the United States of America is eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans. Others who are disabled while serving with any of the armed forces of any nations associated with the United States of America as allies during any of its war periods, who are American citizens and who are honorably discharged, are also eligible.

Dates of active duty service that are considered during "time of war": World War I - 04/06/1917-07/02/1921; World War II and Korea - 09/16/1940-01/31/1955; Vietnam and other engagements - 01/31/1955-10/14/1976; Iranian Crisis, Lebanon Crisis, Invasion of Panama and other engagements - 11/04/1979-01/31/1990; Persian Gulf Crisis and other engagements 08/02/1990 - present. ★



APRIL - Is Election Month For Chapter 10
April is also tax month
Next Meeting - Thursday, April 17, 2008



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 ORGANIZATION
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