

DAV



CHAPTER 10 ARLINGTON- FAIRFAX, VA

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CHAPTER 10 WEBSITE

The Chapter 10 Arlington-Fairfax, VA website has plenty of information for members and non-members alike.

There are links to the National Headquarters, Department of Virginia, and other chapters' websites. The site also contains information on news and events of interest. Visit www.dav10.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROBERT "ROB" REYNOLDS, DAV NATIONAL COMMANDER

Our own Chapter 10 member, Rob Reynolds (twice Chapter 10 Commander, and State of Virginia Commander), was elected DAV National Commander at the 2007 National Convention. Join us in wishing Rob a very successful year in these challenging times. ★

NEW REPRESENTATIVES HIRED FOR VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE IN FAIRFAX

FAIRFAX—The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) recently hired two new benefits service representatives to staff the Fairfax office located in the Virginia Employment Commission Building at 13135 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway in Fairfax.

Geoffrey White joined the agency on May 10 and Jason Williams joined on May 25. White is retired from the U.S. Navy with 20 years of service. He served as Assistant to the Chief Administrator, as a command career counselor and a health benefits advisor.

Jason Williams holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University in Health Care Administration. He served as a corpsman in the U.S. Navy from 1991 to 2001.

Benefits service representatives like White and Williams, work one-on-one with veterans and their families helping them obtain benefits and entitlements on a local, state and federal level. These representatives help veterans apply for medical services, disability benefits due to disease or injury incurred during or aggravated by time-in-service, or disability benefits due to secondary medical conditions resulting from a service connection.

DVS representatives also assist with other types of claims, such as veteran's compensation and pension claims, dependency and indemnity compensation for widows/widowers and children of disabled veterans, widows' pensions, dependents' education, veteran home loans and death benefit claims. In short, DVS benefits service representatives are advocates for veterans and their family members. They help veterans with their paperwork, track the claim with the VA, and represent veterans if they need to appeal a claim.

Statewide, the Department of Veterans Services operates 22 benefit services offices where representatives assist veterans and their family members in filing claims for federal veterans' benefits. The agency operates two veterans' cemeteries: the Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Amelia and the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk. A third state veterans cemetery in Dublin is in the initial stages of development. DVS operates the Virginia continued on page 3

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1ST JR. VICE CDR

Vacant

2ND JR. VICE CDR

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CHAPLAIN

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Arnold H. Sells 703-642-3611

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SGT AT ARMS

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SORRY!

As you all know the June-July Newsletter was addressed to someone other than yourself. This was my fault. In my attempt to find an easier way to handle the newsletter (it is so hard to find people to stick labels on each letter), I messed up the database. I will do everything in my power to see that this does not happen again. I was surprised that so many returned the newsletter. Hope you read it before returning it. Thought I had a good message. (It is on the website dav10.org) Again, sorry. Jim Hopkins, Cmdr.

CHAPTER 10 COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I just returned from the DAV National Convention in New Orleans. This was my first Convention. The experience was a very positive one. Unlike other conventions I have attended (i.e. The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assn.) where comradery and revelry are the order of the day, the DAV Convention was about discussing, planning and organizing ways to make the lives of all Disabled Veterans better. There was a great deal of comradery by DAV members dedicated to the mission of caring for veterans who are more disabled than they.

For Chapter 10, the greatest news was the election of Rob Reynolds, National Commander. Rob accepted the gavel from Bradley S. Barton, 2006 National Commander on Aug 14.

There were reports from all the DAV committees providing more information than this space allows. If you have Internet access, you can review this information at: www.dav.org/membership/2007_convention_highlights.html.

Discussed were the special needs of our newest Disabled American Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan: mental health services for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury; efficient and timely processing of disability claims; and the seamless transition from DOD to the VA. These, along with the need for adequate funding for VA health care, will be among the major issues addressed by this years DAV executives.

As the fourth largest voting DAV Chapter with 3,587 members and located where we are (Walter Reed, DC VAMC), I believe we could and should give and do more for the needs of our newest Disabled American Veterans. We're looking for ideas, money and help. Please e-mail me: jghopkins@earthlink.net.

James G. Hopkins
Commander

SICKNESS OR DISTRESS

The following members have passed away: William J. Price, Fairfax, VA; Peter G. Petro, Arlington, VA; Richard L. Stein, Fairfax, VA. We pray for them and their families.

John Capriotti, John Maki, Mary Reed, and Arnold and Ruth Sells all need your prayers, yet they continue to work hard for Chapter 10. Also pray for Chapter members: Silvia Werner (84) and her husband Curtis (88); they would like to hear from someone (703) 892-6589.

Please notify the Chaplin or any officer of any sickness or distressed members or their families. Please remember in your hearts and prayers all those in "harms 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 Tuesday, September 11. 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.) Our NSO Heather Mcivor will be there to advise and help with claims.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 3** Labor Day.
Sept. 6 Bingo at Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center Nursing Home. Contact John Capirotti if you can help with this volunteer activity.
Sept. 8 Executive Meeting.
Sept. 11 Regular business meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post #176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA.
Oct. 4 Bingo at Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center Nursing Home. Contact John Capirotti if you can help with this volunteer activity.
Oct. 5 The Fort Myer Community Center celebrates its 49th Retiree Appreciation Day at the FMCC. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. At 9:30 a bus will leave for the Tomb of the Unknowns for a wreath laying ceremony.
Oct. 6 Executive Meeting.
Oct. 9 Regular business meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post #176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, VA. There will be a speaker. Finding Help for Aging Veterans and their Families – Harriet Epstein, Unit 10 member, will give a presentation on sources of assistance for older veterans and their families outside of the DAV and the network of veterans' organizations. The discussion will include programs that are part of the Older Americans Act, Social Services programs, church and community resources and more. Copies of "The Guide to Retirement Living Sourcebook" will be available to take home.
Oct. 12-13 75th Anniversary of the Virginia District (see page 4). ★

continued from page 1 Veterans Care Center (VVCC) in Roanoke. The VVCC is a 240-bed long-term care facility offering nursing and domiciliary care for veterans. The 160-bed SitterBarfoot Veterans Care Center is under construction in Richmond and is slated to open in 2007. The agency also certifies that post-secondary educational institutions meet G.I. Bill funding and eligibility requirements, enabling veterans and family members to pursue educational opportunities.

For more information about the VA Department of Veterans Services, go to virginiaforveterans.com. To reach the DVS office in Fairfax, call (703) 803-1139. ★

CHAPTER 10 DELIVERS NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

If you would like to start receiving your Chapter 10 newsletter by e-mail as a pdf file, send an e-mail to: webmaster@DAV10.org. This will save the Chapter postage.

Past copies, as well as additional information, are also available on our website at www.dav10.org. THANKS! ★

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
COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, (near Ft. Belvoir): 703-360-1442
ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME - WASHINGTON, D.C.: 800-422-9988
ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME - GULFPORT, MS: 800-322-3527
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: 703-607-8585
QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY: 703-221-2183



FORGET-ME-NOT DRIVE

Special Thanks to (L to R) Steve Deines, Heather Mcivor, and Fiona Greenwood. They each spent more than thirty hours at Fort Myer raising money. Also pictured is Chapt. 10 Cdr. James Hopkins.

Scott Purvis, Roy Lee and C. Cunningham also contributed their time to the effort. ★

THE WINNERS

Lori Hill, a Chapt. 10 member, won the Redskins season tickets and Bill Perry, also a Chapter member, won the Redskins windbreaker. ★

DC VA MEDICAL CENTER BINGO GAMES

For more than 20 years John Capirotti, his wonderful wife, Ingrid, and his friend, Bill Ludeman, have conducted Bingo for those confined to the DC VA Medical Center Nursing Home.

John will soon be incapacitated for many months. Is there anyone out there who would commit one evening each month to share Bingo with those house bound? If you can volunteer for one evening a month, please contact the Chapt. 10 Cdr. ★

DAV VAN DRIVERS

We have 3 vans but only one driver. If you could spare a day or two during the month, maybe you could help take ambulatory patients to the DC VAMC. ★

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. ★

75th Anniversary

The Virginia District is celebrating seventy-five years of support to the Disabled American Veterans of Virginia and you are invited. On Friday, October 12th there will be a Hospitality suite near the entrance of the Hampton Convention Center and a Big Party Friday Night at the convention center. There will be dinner and a celebration at the convention center Saturday, October 13th. To reserve a room at the Embassy Suites for \$119 (which includes breakfast and cocktails in the evening) you must register before September 15th. To attend the dinner mail \$25 to Charles Craft. Information below:

Embassy Suites Hotel
Hampton Roads Convention Center
1700 Coliseum Drive
Hampton, VA 23666
(757) 827-8200

Charles W Craft, PDC
DAV Dept. of VA
1210 Moyer Road
Newport News, VA 23608-2453

*You are cordially invited to
Celebrate with us
The 75th Anniversary
Of the
Disabled American Veterans
Department of Virginia
In Hampton, Virginia
On October 12th and 13th, 2007
At the
Hampton Roads Convention Center*



TIME DATED MATERIAL
MEMBERSHIP GROWTH = STRENGTH
CURRENTLY, CHAPT. 10 HAS 3,587 MEMBERS



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
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ORGANIZATION
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