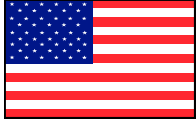
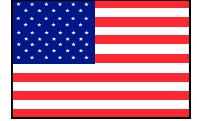




Disabled American Veterans Pacesetter



THE VOICE OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
CHAPTER 20, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA
 4896 KEMPSVILLE GREENS PKWY, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23462
MAIN PHONE: 757-519-9931 LOUNGE AREA: 757-233-7009
 Virginia Beach Thrift Store pick up: 757 461-4938
WEB ADDRESS: WWW.BEACHDAV.COM



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

JANUARY

Breakfast @ 0800 & XO Meeting @ 0900.....Saturday the 12th
CARS Luncheon & Meeting.....Saturday the 12th @ 1200
Pot Luck Dinner (International cuisine).....Saturday the 12th
 (Dinner @ 1800, social hour 1700-1800 (see inside for details))
Chapter/Unit Meeting.....Tuesday the 15th @ 1930
Clean up @ the Veterans' Memorial.....Saturday the 26th @ 0900

FEBRUARY

XO Breakfast @ 0800 & XO Meeting @ 0900.....Saturday the 9th
Valentines Dinner.....Saturday the 9th
 (Dinner @ 1800, social hour 1700-1800).....Saturday the 9th
Bingo Bash @ the VA Hospital.....Saturday the 16th @ 1930
Chapter/Unit Meeting.....Tuesday the 19th @ 1930
Clean up @ the Veterans' Memorial.....Saturday the 23rd @ 0900



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COMMANDER

Gerald "Jerry" Lupekis
853-1286

SR. VICE COMMANDER

Diana S. Kochis
471-8903

chiefkochis@gmail.com

JR. VICE COMMANDER

Bobby Twiford
498-1174

ADJUTANT

Paul Karch
497-2655

TREASURER

Dave Shaw
467-5748

dshaw37@cox.net

CHAPLAIN

William "Bill" Hons
340-3516

whons@aol.com

SERVICE OFFICERS

Bertha Myrick
519-9931 ext.4

Terry Wheeler Sr.
340-1229

tjwheeler1@verizon.net

CECS

Laura Richter
Bill Tilton

IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER IN ERROR, OR WOULD LIKE TO GET ON THE MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE IT, PLEASE SEND EMAIL TO: CHIEFKOCHIS@GMAIL.COM OR CALL OUR SR. VICE AT ABOVE #.

Commander Jerry Lupekis

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Happy New Year comrades...2008, whew! Our chapter had a very productive and rewarding 2007. November and December were very busy months where the chapter was involved. We had the veterans' parade at the beach, on November 12th, the free dinner at the Golden Corral for veterans past and present, and various veterans' functions throughout the community that we were involved in. Let me mention that we manned the Golden Corral store on Independence Blvd. for 81 straight days. There were 45 chapter members and 14 auxiliary members who participated for a total of 887 hours. A feather in our cap. For that, I want to Thank you! Thank you ! Thank you!

December was also a busy month with the chapter's involvement at Beacon Shores Nursing Home. We had 23 comrades participating for the Home's Christmas party. At the VA Hospital's Christmas Party, there were 19 of us there. We had the spinal chord unit/ward patients to party with. We had a saxophone player go room to room with us, a steel peddle guitar player (our own Judd French) in the solarium and Santa Claus. The patients, as usual, thanked us immensely.

We started, in November, to have a speaker on subjects of interest to our chapter members and their families. It was well-received so we plan to continue. For January, we will have a speaker on the VA Cemetery in Suffolk and in February, the talk will be on Social Security retirement, survivors, disability, medicare and/or the supplemental security income program. These speakers are well-informed and they are specialists in their field. Plan to attend. Our February social will be a week early due to a VA Hospital salute to veterans function. We will be there. Buzz word for 2008, INVOLVEMENT.

Veterans helping veterans,

Jerry Lupekis

IRS NEWS RELEASE IR-2007-198,Dec. 12, 2007

WASHINGTON—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 today.

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 earlier 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.

Sr. Vice Commander

Happy New Year everyone!

I need your help. Our yearly DAV membership goal is only based on full-life, paid-up members. In order for our chapter to meet this goal, we need 93 of you to finish paying your life memberships in full before June 30, 2008. So what I am respectfully asking you (and I'm asking you way ahead of time at the beginning of the new year) is to help our chapter achieve our yearly goal by paying your memberships in full before June 30, 2008. (as long as it does not create a hardship for anyone). There are six months left until then. For example: if your balance is \$230, and you divide it by 6, your monthly payment would be \$38.33 per month. Please check your balance by following the directions below. Call me if you have any problems @ 471-8903. I am forever grateful!

PAY YOUR FULL-LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS ON LINE

Go to: www.davmembers.org

You will be able to update your personal information (change of address, etc.), request transfers and make payments toward full-life membership. Once there, you will have to know your DAV membership number. Your default password will be your birth date typed exactly as the instructions read. You will then be prompted to immediately change your password. Once that is complete, highlight "Make/Receive Payments" (don't click on it). Directly to the right of it, click on "Payment Submission." It can fool you because when you put your cursor over it, the arrow disappears. Once you click it, you will have to fill out an online form, including all your payment information. Potential members can also sign up online.

With deep appreciation and respect,

Diana Kochis

Jr. Vice Commander

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At this writing, Bobby was in the hospital with pneumonia. He improved tremendously, and as you are reading this article, he will have been out and about and getting back into the grind of things.

Our Christmas Dinner was delicious and everyone looked great, especially our Commander in his tuxedo! We had a full house and good music and a very cool Santa Claus! Thanks for the memories.

On January 12th, we will be having an international pot luck dinner. Bring a dish based on your nationality or just bring whatever you feel like bringing. The Chapter will provide a main dish and hors d'ouvres. Social hour will be from 1700-1800. Dinner will be at 1800.



On February 9th, our Valentines Dinner will consist of Asian Food. Yum! If you would like to help make Asian food or know how to, give Bobby a call at: 498-1174. I could go for some good pancit! Hours are the same as above.



Since this IS Valentines week gentlemen, please feel free to bring diamonds for the ladies! Yeah!!!



For Bobby Twiford,

Diana Kochis

Service Officer

Comrades,

By now you know that this Chapter has increased the number of Service Officers by 150%. Our workload continues to increase. We welcome Paul Karch, Wayne Dupree and Sam Jones.

FAMILY HOLIDAY BUDGETING



Time to sigh and get stressed? Or time to relax and enjoy the true meaning of the season? With some preparation now—budgeting, planning—you can cherish the holidays without the fear of New Year's credit card statements.

We Americans are big spenders during the holidays. According to the National Retail Foundation, we spent more than \$450 billion during the 2006 holiday season and we financed almost one-third of that—approximately \$150 billion—with credit cards.

So, before you launch into your holiday shopping, start now with Christmas financial planning.

1. Draw up a list of expenses, but with a total already in mind. It sounds almost Scrooge-like but it gives the gift of peace of mind. How much to spend for each family member? How about holiday travel? Gifts to charity? Gifts to teachers, neighbors, deployed servicemembers? Wrapping paper, postage and decorations? Food and entertainment? A little extra for the unexpected?
2. Take a hard look at the expenses if they're above your budgeted amount. Will the family remember the latest electronic gadget, or will they remember driving around looking at Christmas lights and the cider at Grandma's? Try to balance a bit of each. Can some gifts be homemade? Pick a name from a hat and buy for that relative or friend? Share Christmas or Hanukkah entertaining? Come up with an expense breakdown that gives you

holiday happiness that you and your family can afford.

3. Decide how you'll set aside the holiday money, and stick with it. Track spending to avoid surprises. High-tech and low-tech options abound stuffing money in labeled envelopes, depositing in Christmas Club accounts, recording a line item on electron spreadsheets and financial management software. Use whatever simple, consistent method best matches your will-power and tech savvy.
4. Make a list and check it twice. No one gets forgotten, and impulse buying gets curbed. This leads directly into...
5. Start early on your shopping list to avoid the panic purchases. Sneak around early to discover what your loved ones would like. Enjoy making the homemade gifts. Make a plan to find the "hot" presents that someone is pining for. Shop for bargains that pop up before Black Friday and use the Internet to comparison shop and look for deals.
6. Be aware of mailing deadlines. Packages to servicemembers overseas have to be mailed early, and there might be restrictions on contents, dimensions, and weight. For far-flung relatives, send online and catalog purchases directly to them. Shop early enough to use economical shipping methods.
7. Continue to give to charity through the holidays. Keep the true meaning of Christmas alive by donating your time and other resources. And for our military family:

www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil is a Department of Defense website that links to more 275 Charitable groups that support our servicemembers.

8. Take a break occasionally. Enjoy the shopping hunt, but enjoy the family, the bubble bath, and the Christmas choir. It is such a special time of year, and treating yourself doesn't have to dent your budget! \$\$

Source: The Officer / OCTOBER 2007

Bertha G. Myrick Terrell J. Wheeler, Sr.

On the web: For information on military family money matters, including budgeting, visit:
www.emilitary.org/pay.html For tips on holiday spending, see:
www.stretcher.com/menu/topic.htm
#holidays

DUANE TROWBRIDGE HAS BRICKS FOR SALE!



SALE

For a measly \$45, (you too can buy a brick to be displayed in the chapter's memorial area) for yourself, your family members or friends, as long as they are service-connected, disabled veterans OR have received a Purple Heart. Here's what you do:

Write whatever you want etched in the brick on the lined side of a 3 X 5 card. You get 3 lines, 14 spaces per line (each space and letter counts as 1 space). On the back side of the card, write your name, address and phone number. Mail this card with a check for \$45 to:

Duane Trowbridge
4836 Bay Bridge Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
464-1133

Women's Representative

Women carrying weapons and executing policing duties has been debated nearly as long as women have served in the military. Policy has changed numerous times since WWII, when WACs trained as MPs without weapons. For the past 25 years, military women have not only trained to carry weapons but they've served as MPs, guards and lookouts alongside men in combat support roles.

WWII WASPs were the first women to pilot military aircraft, forging the way for women in military aviation. Nearly 30 years passed before women earned aviator wings again or trained as mechanics, loadmasters or navigators. In 1991, following the superb performance of women aviators in the first Iraq war, the ban was lifted on women flying aboard combat aircraft and by the second Iraq war, leading the troops into battle were scout helicopters piloted by women. And, in the space program, military women have crewed, piloted and commanded space shuttles, with nine in the NASA program today.

2007 Women's Memorial Calendar

Veronica Staples

FOR TRANSPORTATION TO THE VA HOSPITAL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENTS, YOU MUST CALL THE VA HOSPITAL, DAV TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR AT 757-728-3148. IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS TRANSPORTATION, YOU MUST HAVE A SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT. THE VAN DRIVERS CANNOT SCHEDULE TO PICK YOU UP, ONLY THE VA TRANSPORTATION DESK CAN ARRANGE THAT FOR YOU. MAKE SURE YOU CALL A WEEK IN ADVANCE!!!



CHAPLAIN

TAPS



None Reported

THANK THE LORD

SICK CALL



Al Sequin
Bobby Twiford
Stephanie Fulford
Ivy Stoliker

A wonderful thing happened to Stephanie Fulford—she got her new kidney! We are so happy for her. Stephanie is a fairly new member and has volunteered most Wednesdays at the Chapter. We are looking forward to seeing you Stephanie! Heal well and God Bless.

SPECIAL EVENTS

In November and December, as you well know, we were inundated with special events. Whew! Now we finally have an opportunity to breathe. January brings no known special events. The only thing we have scheduled in February is the Bingo Bash at the VA Hospital in Hampton. It will be on February 16th @ 1930. We will also bring food for the Veterans.

ADOPT-A-SPOT

Clean-up at the Tidewater Veterans' Memorial Park will be the last Saturday of the month at 0900. After the clean-up, we go to the Beach Pub for breakfast—Vicki pays!

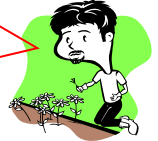
Adopt-a-Spot—next clean up January 26th.

Care to know who's in the can?



Help! Get me outta here!

She loves me
She loves me not
She loves me...



Bill



I think Bill has lost it!

Show off! So what you can carry 2 cans at once. Big deal!



Bob

Where's Bill?



Candy
(Beach Pub) or
Atlas

I'm cooking for my girls: Diane, Vicki, Laura & Becky. Oh yes, my Bob too!



Lucette

Happy New Year!
Best regards,

Bill Hons



Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary



UNIT 20 OFFICERS

COMMANDER

Ivy Stoliker
431-2506
ivy2868@cox.net

SR. VICE CDR

Elizabeth Sayer
425-8782

JR. VICE CDR

Laura Alexander
523-9743

ADJUTANT

Kathy Tilton
473-9154

CHAPLAIN

Susan James
497-6917

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a good Christmas. This past year has been a very busy year for our members. We want to thank everyone for all the hard work that has been put into the success of all of our many activities. This has been great team work!

So far there is nothing going on for the month of January other than our monthly dinner. It will be held on January 12th, which will be a "Pot Luck." Please read the Jr. Vice's column for details.

Our January Auxiliary meeting will be on Tuesday, January 15th. We hope to see you all there.

In February, our monthly dinner will be on February 9th., due to the "Bingo Bash" being held at the Hampton VA Hospital on February 16th. We are asked to be there at 6:30 to get things set up for the party for the patients. Our dinner on the 9th will be "Asian Night" with Asian food.



Take care everyone and we will be seeing you at our meetings and functions.

PLEASE CHECK FRONT PAGE FOR ALL FUNCTIONS, DATES & TIMES.

Ivy Stoliker
Commander Unit 20



January Birthdays

Mollie Carr, the 11th
Dottie Prospt, the 13th

January Anniversaries

Margaret & Ray Baez, the 18th,
Sylvia & Warren Massey, the 24th,
Curtis & Jenny Twiford, the 29th

February Birthdays

Margaret Baez, the 6th
Barbara Barto, the 18th
Laura Alexander, the 25th

February Anniversaries

NONE

**THE PACESETTER
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
CHAPTER 20
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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23462-6463**

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America is # 1
Thanks to our
Veterans

