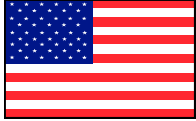
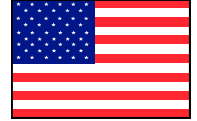




Disabled American Veterans Pacesetter



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



MAY 2008

Installation Dinner (new FY09 officers) CATERED.....Saturday the 10th
 (Dinner @ 1800, social hour 1700-1800 RSVP to Sr. Vice @ 471-8903 if you
 have not already signed up. See inside for details.

Country Fair at the Hampton VA Hospital gazebo area (need volunteers)
 call Bill Hons at 340-3516.....Wednesday the 15th
 from 1200-1600 (for details, see Chaplain's article on page 6)

Breakfast @ 0800 & XO Meeting @ 0900.....Saturday the 17th

Beacon Shores' Salute to Armed ForcesSaturday the 17th @ 1400

Mother's Day Brunch (see inside for details).....Saturday the 18th @ 1130

Chapter/Unit Meeting.....Tuesday the 20th @ 1930

Clean up @ the Veterans' Memorial.....Saturday the 24th @ 0900

JUNE 2008

Dept. Convention @ Lynchburg.....the 4th through the 8th

XO Breakfast @ 0800 & XO Meeting @ 0900.....Saturday the 14th

Flag Retirement Ceremony.....Saturday the 14th @ 1400

Chapter Dinner/Roast for CDR Jerry Lupejkis.....Saturday the 14th
 (Dinner @ 1800, social hour 1700-1800) (see inside for details)

Chapter/Unit Meeting.....Tuesday the 17th @ 1930

Clean up @ the Veterans' Memorial.....Saturday the 28th @ 0900

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE @:

(BEACHDAV.COM) AROUND THE 1ST OF THE MONTH AND WILL NO LONGER BE MAILED UNLESS REQUESTED. PLEASE CALL DIANA AT 471-8903 BY THE END OF MAY TO REQUEST A PAPER COPY BE MAILED TO YOU. WE CAN ALSO EMAIL IT TO YOU IF YOU PROVIDE ME WITH YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE USE AN ADDRESS THAT IS FREE, (e.g., GMAIL, HOTMAIL, etc.) OR ONE THAT WON'T CHANGE IF YOU SWITCH ISPs. WE HAVE OVER 2,200 MEMBERS SO IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME TO SORT THIS OUT. THANK YOU FOR SAVING THE TREES. GO GREEN!!!

COMMANDER

Gerald "Jerry" Lupejkis
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

Sam Jones
497-0282

servicesam20@aol.com

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 #.



JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (JLC)

The Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations provides a vehicle for veterans service organizations to collaborate with the Department of Veterans Services on meeting the needs of Virginia's veterans. The Joint Leadership Council is open to one representative from each qualifying veterans service organization in Virginia that chooses to participate.

The members of the JLC represent 23 veterans organizations (VSOs) in Virginia, and, combined, have more than 250,000 members. The JLC was created by Virginia Statute in 2003 to be a voice for Virginia's veterans. JLC members are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms and they meet at least four times a year and meetings are open to the public. Member organizations include: Air Force Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, American Legion, AMVETS, AUSA, Disabled American Veterans, Fleet Reserve Association, Homeless & Disabled Veterans, Korean War Veterans Association, Legion of Valor of the US, Inc., Marine Corps League, Military Order of the Purple Heart, MOAA, NAUS, Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Reserve Officers Association of the United States, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Virginia National Guard Association, WAVES, and the Women Marines Association.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Council provides advice and assistance to the Governor and the Department of Veterans Services on matters of concern to the veterans community, and provides a conduit of information to and from the veterans service organizations on policy and legislation, pending and enacted, as well as information on existing services.

VISION

The Council will:

- Give the Department of Veterans Services a broader understanding of the services needed by veterans.
- Give veterans a broader understanding of the services available to them as citizens of Virginia.
- Help veterans and veterans' organizations achieve legislation or policy changes needed to improve veterans' services.
- Enhance communications between the public, the state government, and the state's veterans.
- Help the Governor and the Department of Veterans Services develop policies that improve services for Virginia's veterans.
- Help the General Assembly develop and pass laws that more clearly respond to veterans' needs.

ISSUE IDENTIFICATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND ADVOCACY

As the voice of Virginia's veterans, the JLC identifies issues of concern to veterans, their spouses, or-

phans, and dependents, and serves in an advisory capacity to the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Each year, the JLC presents a list of prioritized key legislative objectives for the Governor's consideration. So, when you ask, "what are Virginia's veterans' issues," these are the top issues. In 2007, the Governor and General Assembly acted on five of the JLC's seven legislative objectives.

COMMUNICATION

The JLC supports DVS by communicating information to veterans about their benefits, events, and issues. JLC members promptly relay information to the members of their respective organizations, amplifying the effectiveness of DVS' communications and initiatives. Additionally, cross-sharing of information has resulted in partnerships and cooperative efforts among the various veterans service organizations.

Their website is: www.dvs.virginia.gov/jlc.htm

Veterans helping veterans,

Jerry Lupejkis

Sr. Vice Commander

Thank you all so much for helping us to make goal by paying up your life memberships. As I am waiting for the information on our Activity Report to catch up with our Membership List, I am confident that our goal will be made for FY08.



SEEKING COMPUTER GURU!!!



If any of our members out there are computer geeks or just computer savvy and are willing to donate a little bit of time here and there, please give me a call @ 471-8903 or email me @:

chiefkochis@gmail.com

At this time, I would like to give my condolences to Al Sequin's family. Al passed away³ last month and is finally with "Mama," his beloved wife Stella.

He missed her terribly and it gives me great peace to know that they are together again. Al had been a long-time member of our chapter and Stella, of Unit 20. My favorite thing to do was to introduce Al (to newcomers or my friends or family) as my boyfriend and then I would go to Stella and say, and this is my boyfriend's wife! They used to laugh like crazy, especially Stella!

We will surely miss both of them. Rest in peace together Mr. & Mrs. Sequin.



With deep appreciation and respect,

Diana Kochis

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH?

If any of you are interested in having a brunch in honor of Mother's Day, please call Diana Kochis at 471-8903 or Bill Hons at 340-3516 to RSVP. You do NOT have to be a Mom to attend! In the past, we usually held our Mother's Day Brunches a week later, so that families can be together on the real Mother's Day and also because our monthly dinner has always been the night prior. If you are interested, call me. We can either have it at the chapter, or meet for brunch at the Golden Corral on Independence.

This is yet to be determined, it depends on how many of you would attend. The date for this brunch, if we have it, will be May 18th @ 1130.

If you would like to volunteer at the VA Hospital in Hampton or the VA Clinic in Virginia Beach, contact Judith Curtis at the Volunteer Office at 722.9961. Orientation will be at the hospital every Wednesday and Thursday from 1-3 in building 10, room 501.

Jr. Vice Commander

On May 10th, 2008 at 6 p.m. will be an Installation dinner catered by the Golden Corral, Independence Blvd. Anyone who hasn't signed the list to be there prior to May 1st, call Diana Kochis at phone number 471-8903. We need to give an exact count, or close to it, to the Golden Corral so that we will have enough food for everyone. So far, 70 members and their guests have signed up. Coat & tie for the men is requested not required, and the equivalent for the women.

June 14th, 2008 at 6 p.m.. At this dinner, we will be roasting our Commander, Jerry Lupejkis. Our monthly dinner will consist of home made Chicken and Dumplings, also different veggies, tea, coffee and desserts. This Dinner will be prepared by "yours truly" Bobby Twiford, Jr. Vice Commander. This will be my final dinner as well as XO meeting breakfast. It has been my pleasure to have done this for the past two years. Thank you for all compliments for these things. This has been my honor. Many thanks to each of you.

Respectfully,
Bobby Twiford

Service Officer

—Open Letter to Veterans—

Dear Disabled Veterans,

Chapter 20 Service Officers remain available and committed to assisting you to file claims for the benefits which you have already earned as a result of your dedicated and selfless service to this great nation, the United States of America.

We are certified and perform our services under the same guidelines and criteria established and performed by the National Service Officers (NSO), the exception being that as volunteers, we submit your claims to the NSO in Roanoke, VA for adjudication (decision making and rating for disability compensation).

As this is a Veterans Administration program, we follow the guidelines established by the Department of Veterans Affairs in assisting you with your claims. Some information you are requested to submit may seem to be duplicated effort on your part. Try to consider this a small concession in your effort to get the highest rating based on the best information you have available.

As your representatives, Service Officers act on your behalf in submitting your claim through the DAV to the VA. We will follow-up, get answers to your questions, and submit additional information for you if you feel there is a subsequent need.

If you have questions about the "paperwork" your Service Officer mailed for you, we can usually assist you by return phone call. Just leave a specific message and the best time and phone number for a Service Officer to contact you. Please do not leave your social security number on the recorded message.

You have probably noted that our scheduled hours are Wednesday mornings. We make special concessions for individuals to accommodate their personal circumstances. Your timely calls to cancel or reschedule appointments are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your respect of our time and the consideration for other veterans that we can accommodate when you release a scheduled appointment time.

We look forward to our continued service to this great nation through serving you, our disabled veterans.

With sincere dedication,

*Bertha G. Myrick Terrell J. Wheeler Paul R. Karch
Wayne Dupree Samuel L. Jones*

Women's Representative

In early conflicts women lead the way in caring for the wounded. Early USA and USN nurses held relative rank, supervising only other nurses. Women in WWII held rank, but advancement was limited. The 1948 Integration Act lifted quotas and rank caps, but the first general officers weren't promoted until 1970. Today's NCOs and officers continue to inspire the leaders of tomorrow.

In 1975, Congress directed the service academies to open their doors to women and a year later the first co-ed classes entered the USMA, USNA, USAFA and USCGA. By the early 1980s, USNA and USCGA women were graduating at the tops of their classes. For 30 years, the number of women in academy classes continued to grow and by 2005, women comprised 15-17% of freshman classes. In 2006, the 30th anniversary of the integration of women, history was made again when children of the first women graduates followed in their mother's footsteps to attend a US military academy.



Veronica Staples,

The DAV has created another website for veterans and is asking each of us to sign the petition at this website urging Congress and the Administration to support the principle of making sure this nation's sick and disabled veterans can get the best care anywhere through the Department of Veterans Affairs, not just today but in the future. This signed petition will be delivered to Congress later this year...please add your name. Go to:

www.standup4vets.org

This website also permits checking current legislation in our US Congress. Check to see if your senator and representative is supporting full funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Check on HR 2514 and S2639 to see if they are supporting this very important legislation.

or 14 inch DAV/DAVA patches or the large 5 Virginia State DAV patches, contact Jerry Lujpejkis. They are \$18 each and are suitable for mounting/sewing on the backs of jackets.

MEMORIAL BRICKS



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

NEED A RIDE?

IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION TO THE VA HOSPITAL FOR AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL THE DAV HOSPITAL 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



Albert J. Sequin
William E. Hodges
Anthony Sabetini
Jesse L. Hobson

MAY THEY REST
PEACE

SICK CALL



Bobby Twiford
Laura Richter
Anita Gorrell
Nancy Dupree

SPECIAL EVENTS

MAY 10th, 2008

A special dinner for the Installation of the newly-elected FY09 officers

CATERED BY THE GOLDEN CORRAL

SOCIAL HOUR will be from 1700-1800

DINNER will be @ 1800 (Coat & tie requested
NOT required....equivalent for the ladies)

MAY 14th, 2008

Country Fair at Hampton VA Medical Center
(Gazebo area)

SET UP @ 0900

BREAKFAST 1100-1145 served at chow hall

FAIR 1200-1600 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

This is a top-notch event, with food booths and game booths, music and lots of active duty personnel, who assist the patients. Each DAV Chapter that attends has their own booth. Chapter 20 will be running a talent booth, whereby each patient will have to either sing or dance to receive their prize.

MAY 17th, 2008 A Salute to the Armed Forces at
Beacon Shores Nursing Home 1400-1600

All members welcome to help celebrate Armed Forces Day

JUNE 14, 2008

6

Flag retirement at Chapter Home @1400



Also on June 14th, 2008 @ 1800, we will be roasting our Commander, Jerry Lupejkis at our monthly dinner. Please have your barbs ready so that we can get him good and **I MEAN GOOD!!!**

Clean-up at the Tidewater Veterans' Memorial Park will be the last Saturday of the month at 0900 (unless indicated otherwise). After the clean-up, we go to the Beach Pub for breakfast—Laura is paying!

Adopt-a-Spot—next clean up is on May 24th and again on June 28th at 0900.

I'm DEC, so I don't have to work so hard anymore. It's good to show your face once in a while though.

Bill Hons
Chaplain



Vince

Damn you Jerry! Just you wait, you're gonna be dead meat when I get out of here!



What the heck am I supposed to do with all this junk? Lucette will kill me if I come home smelling like garbage. I'm hungry!



Bob aka Dad

I hear that Commander Jerry put his wife, Mary Lee, in the can for giving the Great state of Delaware too much money at Dover Downs the other week. Poor Mary Lee!

I see no evil, I hear no evil, and I speak no evil! Well, I try not to.



Vicki &
Haywood



Bill



Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary



With everyone doing their yard work and Spring cleaning all our Unit 20 ladies are keeping real busy getting things fixed up for the warmer weather. Several of the ladies have remarked about being so glad to be outside more.



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

At our April 15th meeting, Unit 20 held our elections. The following people have been elected for the new fiscal year:

Commander - Ivy Stoliker

Sr. Vice Commander - Elizabeth Sayer

Jr. Vice Commander - Laura Alexander

Finance Officer - Sylvia Massey

Adjutant - Kathy Tilton

SEC - Kathy Tilton

Alternate SEC - Mary Lee Lupejkis

Chaplain - Susan James

May 17th will be "Armed Forces Day." We will be at the Beacon Shores Nursing Home spending time with the Veteran patients.



We hope to see all our members at the "Installation of Officers Dinner" on May 10th. We will also be roasting Commander Jerry Lupejkis at the June Dinner. Please check inside articles for details on both Dinners, including the Chaplain's article under Special Events and the Sr. Vice's article about a Mother's Day Brunch on May 18th.

Several of our members will be attending the State Convention in Lynchburg June 4th to the 8th.



Ivy Stoliker,
Commander, Unit 20

May Birthdays

Fern Danilowicz, the 1st,
Ivy Stoliker, the 5th, Sybil
Naujoks, the 16th, Jodie
Munroe, the 17th, Mau-
reen Schuemann, the 21st

May Anniversaries

Patrick & Kimberly Leslie, the
20th
Josephus & Margaret
Broussard, the 28th

June Birthdays

Betty Dispennette, the 4th,
Sylvia Massey, the 18th,
Patricia Hendershot, the 20th,
Jenny Twiford, the 24th, Eliza-
beth Weeks, the 27th

June Anniversaries

Albert & Anita Gorrell, the
11th, Edward & Shirley Ad-
ams, the 11th, Richard &
Laura Alexander, the 24th

THE PACESETTER
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
CHAPTER 20
48796 KEMPSVILLE GREENS PKWY
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23462-6463

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America is # 1
Thanks to our
Veterans



Congratulations to our Senior Vice, "Lover Boy" Bobby Twiford, and his new bride, Margaret! We hope you have many happy and healthy years together.