



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Victory Chapter 13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 8

Monthly Newsletter

AUG 2018

ELECTED OFFICERS

Commander

Charles "Terry" Bohlinger

Sr. Vice Commander

Larry Brewer

1st Jr. Vice Commander

Pete Fitzpatrick

2nd Jr. Vice Commander

Tim Valentine

Adjutant

AJ "Doc" Moreno

Treasurer

Jim Hughes

Chaplain

Ted Imbasciani

Judge Advocate / Newsletter

Daniel L. M^{sc} Donald

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Certified Service Officers

Greg Baskin, Bob Michaels,

Terry Bohlinger, Carl Garrett,

Pete Fitzpatrick, Mike Taylor,

Frank Perna, Jim Hughes,

A.J. Moreno,

Cheryl Huggins, Tim Valentine,

James O Moore & Mike Taylor

Officer Of The Day

Mike Taylor

Sergeant At Arms

Leo Poniatowski

Benefits Protection Officer

Daniel L. M^{sc} Donald

Assistant Treasurer

Roy Larson

Members-At-Large

Larry Brewer, Ed Marvin

& Bob Michaels

Social Media

Greg Baskin, Cheryl Huggins

& Emily Hartle

Volunteer Committee

Mike Taylor & Val Clark

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades: Remember the first day of summer?...where did summer go?? We've been busy here at DAV 13, even on TV WAVY 10 a few times, most recently with the visiting DAV National Service Officer Mobil Service Van. A very busy day with veterans arriving shortly after 0600 to see an NSO on 7 August. We were fortunate to have two NSOs on that busy day.

Reminder: Comrades and Auxiliary members *Please report all your volunteer hours* including your hours assisting your chapter and/or unit and other veterans in your neighborhood...our Chapter is currently in third place among the DAV Virginia Chapters but another chapter is so very close behind us...we need you to **report all your hours on the LVAP form and provide it monthly to the Chapter Adjutant promptly just after last day of the month.**

Remember we've got a **DAV 13 Family Picnic on Saturday 25 August** (the Saturday following our monthly meeting) at the MWR Bethel Park Family Camp. Please plan on bringing a dish to pass around. **YOU DO NEED TO SIGN-UP IN ADVANCE...last day to sign-up is Tuesday, 21 August at noon.** Have a favorite game to play?...a favorite lawn chair to sit in? Bring them...enjoy, play, eat and have fun.

The Executive Board also approved only selling our service ball caps and "B.S. flags" during chapter events such as meetings and other functions...including the picnic.

On 13 September is the VAMC Hampton's Annual Day of Caring....we hope to again give craft kits as we did last year...we sure could use some chapter and unit volunteers...Please sign-up.

Stop by during the week we are still open 8-1500 hrs (3 pm) each weekday... and a CSO is here after our monthly meetings to assist you with your Veterans Affairs questions and or claims.

Our DAV Auxiliary Unit 13 is meeting at 1100 hrs. each month following our DAV 13 meeting at 0900 hrs. 3d Saturday morning. (*So we need to clear the meeting room quickly so they can meet and discuss their business without our voices interfering!*) Please ask your family members to consider joining our DAV Auxiliary Unit 13 and assist veterans through DAVA activities. They do need to grow in membership. You now see their presence in our meeting room with their recently obtained wooden desk.

Chapter Service Officer Training is scheduled for September and the DAV Department Fall Conference is scheduled in October.

Commander Terry Bohlinger

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UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **MONTHLY BREAKFAST:** The next breakfast will be at 7:30 am on **Sep 15, 2018** at the Chapter home.
2. **MONTHLY MEETING:** The next meeting will be at 0900 on **Sep 15, 2018** at the Chapter home.
3. **EXECUTIVE BOARD:** The next meeting will be at 9:00 am on **Sep 11, 2018**, unless one is needed sooner in the Chapter home.
4. **DAVA AUX MONTHLY MEETING:** The next DAVA meeting will be at 1100 on **Sep 15, 2018** at the Chapter home.
5. **CHAPTER FAMILY PICNIC:** We are having a family picnic at Bethel Park Family Camp on **Aug 25, 2018** from 1200 to 1700. Bring a dish to share and your family for a time of fellowship and food.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

The following bills were passed by the House and forwarded to the Senate for consideration:

H.R. 2409 -- Would allow certain servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television and internet access service contracts while deployed. It extends existing federal protections to cable and satellite television services under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. Under this legislation, servicemembers would only need to provide notice and a copy of their active duty orders to cable and satellite providers to terminate their contracts without penalty.

H.R. 2787, the VET MD Act -- Would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out a three year pilot program beginning no later than August 15, 2020, in at least five regionally diverse VA medical centers to provide undergraduate students a clinical observation experience within VA.

H.R. 5538, The Reserve Component Vocational Rehabilitation Parity Act -- Would add eligibility for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) for active service under certain reserve orders.

H.R. 5864, The VA HELP Act -- Would (1) require VA, within 180 days of enactment, to establish qualification standards and performance metrics for VHA HR positions and provide a report to Congress containing such standards and metrics; (2) require

GAO to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs containing a description of the implementation and an assessment of the quality of such standards and metrics.

H.R. 5882, The Gold Star Spouses Leasing Relief Act -- Would allow surviving spouses to terminate residential leases at the time of a servicemember's death without penalty.

H.R. 5938, the Veterans Serving Veterans Act -- Would (1) require VA to identify the MOSs that correlate with open positions within VA, to coordinate with DoD to identify soon-to-be-separated servicemembers and to add those servicemembers' MOSs and contact information to VA's recruiting database with an opt-out option; (2) require VA to implement a program to recruit, train and certify former military medics as ICTs to work at VA medical facilities.

H.R. 5974, the VA COST SAVINGS Act -- Would (1) require VA to identify VA facilities that would benefit from cost savings associated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system over a five year period; (2) require VA to develop a uniform, regulated medical waste cost analysis model to be used to determine the cost savings associated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system; (3) ensure that, at each VA facility identified as a facility that would benefit from an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system, these systems are purchased pursuant to the purchase agreement known as the "VHA Regulated Medical Waste On-Site Treatment Equipment Systems Blanket Purchase Agreement."

H.R. 5693, Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act -- Would authorize VA, during a three-year period beginning on October 1, 2019, to transfer upon request up to 900 veterans for whom the VA is required to provide nursing home care to a medical foster home that meets VA standards.

VA & TRICARE NEWS

New Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie had his first day on the job July, 31, 2018. The major veterans service organizations have been supportive of Wilkie, while remaining wary of

private health care options being expanded too rapidly and possibly threatening the "privatization" of VA health care.

Inside VA's Major Overhaul

Do you remember the **VA MISSION Act** - the massive, most comprehensive health care reform bill passed out of Congress in over 25 years and signed into law by President Donald Trump on June 6?

VA has quietly begun working on implementing these major changes but recognizes it can't do so without veterans' help.

VA wants to know what questions veterans have about the VA MISSION Act as VA moves forward in rolling out these huge health system changes.

While veteran service organizations (VSO) have started working with VA to implement the legislation, veterans are central to making the transformation smooth and in helping the department meet the very tight deadline mandated by Congress.

Passage of the VA MISSION Act signaled Congress' readiness to implement major changes in VA's health care system - seen by some congressional leaders as long overdue reform.

One of the most significant changes veterans will see in the next few months is the elimination of the **Veterans Choice Program**, established in 2014, to provide temporary relief and help VA rebuild internal capacity to reduce long wait times for veterans seeking health care. A new, streamlined community care program will replace Choice and consolidate multiple community care programs currently managed by VA into a single program.

A few other major changes veterans can expect to see are:

The expansion of VA's comprehensive caregiver support program, opening up the program to eligible pre-9/11 veterans;

Veterans and their doctors will be able to decide the best option on where the veteran should get their care, whether inside VA or in the community;

More telehealth programs; and, walk-in health care services with local community providers.