



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Victory Chapter 13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 9

Monthly Newsletter

SEP 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. Mac 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 & Laura Skeith

Officer Of The Day

Mike Taylor

Sergeant At Arms

Leo Poniatowski

Benefits Protection Officer

Daniel L. Mac 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: We are all so blessed to have missed most all the winds and rains of Florence. The devastation we see on TV in North and South Carolina is terrible. You can contribute to The DAV Service Foundation that assists veterans in need. During catastrophes like this our DAV National Service Officers go into these devastated areas and give veterans in need up to \$500 vouchers. You may remember that our Chapter and VFW 824 and American Legion 1991 contributed towards the hurricane relief in Puerto Rico that this area is still recovering from. This is the same fund that assisted one of our newest members who fled that devastation with her young son. Please consider contributing to assist fellow veterans and their families. We cancelled our September meeting due to the threat of extremely dangerous wet weather. Our October meeting is scheduled for the third Saturday, on 20 October.

On a lighter note, our first (what I hope will become annual) family picnic on 25 August was most successful – Val and Mike put together a well-organized, delicious event on a lovely day for this outdoors activity. Thank you, Thank you. Mrs. Lewis and her daughter Caroline and Misty (a beautiful miniature collie (of sorts??) attended as did the crew from "Flat Roofs by Pegram" that installed her new roof. This crew was especially helpful when we broke down the event and returned everything to the chapter. What a beautiful day it was to get together with friends.

Our July and August meetings were well attended. Hurricane Florence and postponed the 13 September Day of Caring at VAMC Hampton, it is now this week 27 September if you can assist please contact the chapter (ph 757-596-0062) Cheryl Huggins is P.O.C. Come join us as we give craft kits to these VAMC patients.

Today the DAV National Website placed Convention Highlights onto the website...includes the listing of new officers elected at convention and number of new FORD DAV Transportation Vans received and amount of major donations received including Camp Coral "Just B Kids" contributions and matching funds by DAV National. See it at: <https://www.dav.org/learn-more/news/2018/the-biggest-little-convention-in-the-world/>.

October 8th is the Chapters' birthday, on that day in 1976 our charter was signed by the DAV National Office.

"Terry" Bohlinger
Commander DAV 13 & CSO

Visit your web site at: <http://www.dav13va.com/> E-mail us at: dav@dav13va.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **MONTHLY BREAKFAST:** The next breakfast will be at 7:30 am on **Oct 20, 2018** at the Chapter home.
2. **MONTHLY MEETING:** The next meeting will be at 0900 on **Oct 20, 2018** at the Chapter home.
3. **EXECUTIVE BOARD:** The next meeting will be at 9:00 am on **Oct 16, 2018**, unless one is needed sooner in the Chapter home.
4. **DAVA AUX MONTHLY MEETING:** The next DAVA meeting will be at 1100 on **Oct 20, 2018** at the Chapter home.
5. **YORKTOWN DAY PARADE:** The Annual Yorktown Day parade will be on **Oct 19, 2018** beginning at 10:30 am. If interested in participating let the office know.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

On September 21, 2018 President Trump signed the first appropriations bill of the year. The \$147.5 billion package includes full year appropriations for VA to start implementation of the **VA MISSION Act of 2018**, streamline the process for appealing decisions on benefit claims, reduce the rate of suicide among veterans, and modernize its electronic health care record.

H.R. 6418 has been introduced in the House and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee Health Subcommittee would put pressure on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to make its websites and digital tools more accessible to the visually impaired. The **VA Website Accessibility Act of 2018**, would require the VA to review its websites for compliance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, submit a report to Congress, and create a plan to remedy each issue.

H.R. 6734 Full Military Honors Act of 2018 was introduced on 10 SEP announced the introduction of the Full Military Honors Act of 2018 to allow enlisted Medal of Honor recipients and Prisoners of War (POW) who are eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery to receive a full military honors burial, which includes an escort platoon, a military band, and a caisson (horse drawn casket) if available. Currently, full military honors are reserved for commissioned

officers, warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers.

Blue Water veterans update: Every major veterans' group and most military associations have urged the Senate to move forward with the House passed bill (H.R.299) that would provide health care and compensation for veterans impacted by Agent Orange. The bill is being delayed due to the VA Secretary's opposition to extending VA health care and compensation to tens of thousands of former 'Blue Water' Sailors and Marines with Agent Orange-associated ailments. **Each of us needs to call or write our Senators in support of this bill, our comrades have been waiting for too long.**

VA & TRICARE NEWS

Fully disabled veterans can now utilize Space-Available travel. Veterans with a service-connected, permanent disability rating of 100 percent will be able to travel in the Continental United States or directly between the CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa (Guam and American Samoa travelers may transit Hawaii or Alaska); or traveling within Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands on flights operated by Air Mobility Command. Travelers should contact their local Passenger Terminal for further details and review travel information found on the **AMC Travel Page** for specific details on the Space A travel program.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it is ready to hire an additional 50 Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) specialists following President Trump's signing of the **Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2018**, a new law shoring up support services to veterans impacted by the justice system. The law requires VA, within one year of enactment, to hire 50 additional VJO specialists and place them at eligible VA medical centers (VAMCs); the VJO specialists will, either exclusively or in addition to other duties, serve as part of a justice team in a Veterans Treatment Court or other veteran-focused court. Created in 2009, VA's **Veterans Justice**

Outreach (VJO) Program currently funds 314 VJO specialist positions across the U.S. For more information, visit the **VA Homeless Veterans webpage**.

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VA-enrolled Veterans Eligible for Free Flu Shot: Now through March 31, 2019, all VA-enrolled veterans are eligible for free annual flu shots at their local Walgreens or Duane Reade pharmacy. While this immunization program is limited to VA patients, Walgreens offers flu shots to most VFW members and their families through other coverage programs, such as TRICARE, Medicare, and many health care plans.

