



Volume 21 Issue 9	Monthly Newsletter	OCTOBER 2021
<p>ELECTED OFFICERS COMMANDER Larry Brewer SR. VICE CMDR. Tim Valentine 1st VICE CMDR. Russ Jordan 2nd VICE CMDR. George Robinson ADJUTANT Ana Alicea-Diaz TREASURER Jim Hughes CHAPLAIN Ted Imbasciani JUDGE ADVOCATE Bill Townsley APPOINTED OFFICERS CERTIFIED SERVICE OFFICERS Greg Baskin, Bob Michaels, Terry Bohlinger, Carl Garrett, Jim Hughes, Cheryl Huggins, Tim Valentine, Laura Skeith, Dave Austin OFFICER OF THE DAY (vacant) SERGEANT AT ARMS Chuck Silvers BENEFITS PROTECTION OFFICER Bill Townsley ASSISTANT TREASURER (vacant) MEMBER-AT-LARGE Russ Jordan, Bob Michaels SOCIAL MEDIA Greg Baskin, Bill Townsley VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE Chuck Silvers, John Schuster</p>	<p>COMMANDER'S CORNER.</p> <p>DAV Mission Statement: "We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish that by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life."</p> <p>Department Fall Conference 14 - 17 October 2021 being held in Chesapeake, VA. No Claims Service Officer training this fall. If you wish to attend you can register on virginiadav.org site.</p> <p>Who is eligible for a Pfizer-bio booster shot? People 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings should receive a booster shot. People aged 50 to 64 years with underlying medical conditions. People 18 to 64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting. It's not offered at all VA Medical Center. Contact local VA facility. Veterans who receive care in VA and are due for a booster shot will be contacted. NOTE: Veterans can also get their FLU vaccine at the same time.</p> <p>NSO ROANOKE will be conducting a Virtual CSO LEVEL 1 Training on October 23, 2021. This training is for those that are not current CSO's. If interested in taking the virtual training, please coordinate with Commander Larry Brewer and/or Senior Vice Commander Tim Valentine.</p> <p>Our next Monthly Member meeting will be held on October 23, 2021 at 1700 George Washington Mem Hwy, Ste E, Yorktown, VA. We would love to have as many members attend. Looking forward to seeing you there!!</p> <p>COMMANDER LARRY BREWER, CHAPTER #13</p>	<p>WWW.DAV13VA.COM dav@dav13va.com (757) 596-0062 1700-E George Wash Mem Hwy, Yorktown, VA 23693</p>

Every year, DAV and its Chapters help more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways by helping them access benefits they earned, like health care, education and disability, and connecting them to meaningful employment opportunities. DAV is the nation's most resourceful veteran's service organization, keeping the promise to support America's veterans.

Beginning October 2, 2021, the online redesigned Statement will be made available to call my Social Security account holders.

VA launches new ways to manage tinnitus among veterans: Tinnitus and hearing loss are among the most common service-connected disabilities suffered by veterans. While there is no cure or perfect solution, there are proven methods of treatment that help patients manage the persisting symptoms of tinnitus. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, has forced physicians to develop new ways of reaching out to patients suffering from the disability.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will assign five regional offices to decide veterans' claims for conditions due to military sexual trauma (MST), the agency announced at a congressional hearing in May. Previously, these claims were processed through the Veterans Benefits Administration's National Work Queue, but due to the highly specialized nature of these cases, VA employees in these five locations will receive focused training to help adjudicate these claims correctly.

In the 116th Congress, a number of DAV's key priorities were enacted, including historic women veterans' legislation, mental health and suicide prevention, survivors' benefit reforms, benefits for Blue Water Navy veterans and the addition of three diseases, bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism, as presumptive to Agent Orange exposure.

For the 117th Congress, DAV is actively working to achieve these Critical Policy Goals:

- [Benefits based on toxic exposures](#)
- [Protecting veterans in the claims and appeals process](#)
- [Enhance survivor benefits](#)
- [Building a Veterans Health Care system for the future](#)
- [Minority and underserved veterans access](#)
- [Improving mental health and suicide prevention](#)