



Volume 22 Issue 5	<i>Monthly Newsletter</i>	JULY 2022
<p>ELECTED OFFICERS</p> <p>COMMANDER Tim Valentine</p> <p>SR. VICE CMDR. Russ Jordan</p> <p>1st VICE CMDR. George Robinson</p> <p>2nd VICE CMDR. Laura Skeith</p> <p>ADJUTANT Ana Alicea-Diaz</p> <p>TREASURER Jim Hughes</p> <p>CHAPLAIN Ted Imbasciani</p> <p>JUDGE ADVOCATE Shay Odom</p> <p>APPOINTED OFFICERS</p> <p>CERTIFIED SERVICE OFFICERS Greg Baskin, Terry Bohlinger, Carl Garrett, Jim Hughes, Tim Valentine, Laura Skeith, Dave Austin, LaShawn Boyer, Shay Odom, Ana Alicea, Sharri Peck</p> <p>OFFICER OF THE DAY (vacant)</p> <p>SERGEANT AT ARMS Chuck Silvers</p> <p>BENEFITS PROTECTION OFFICER Shay Odom</p> <p>ASSISTANT TREASURER Sharri Peck</p> <p>MEMBER-AT-LARGE Greg Baskin</p> <p>SOCIAL MEDIA Ana Alicea, Terry Taylor</p> <p>VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE Chuck Silvers, John Schuster</p>	<p>COMMANDER'S CORNER. 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>I am extremely grateful for your support in electing me as your DAV, York County Victory Chapter #13 Commander and I want to assure you that I am going to work hard to make sure that all members and veterans who visit Chapter #13 are heard and any concerns addressed. Whether or not you voted for me in this election, I want you to know that I am dedicated to serving you. When we work together, I know that we can accomplish great things. During these uncertain times, my highest commitment is to the members of this chapter. Our committed volunteers have built this chapter with compassion toward each other, our commitment to decency, and respect to all who walk through our doors. We will remain focused on what matters most, serving our Veterans and their families.</p> <p>Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings. First 3 Wednesday of the month from 1900-2100 hours at DAV Chapter #13 Yorktown VA. Join in!!</p> <p>Thank you to all the volunteers who participated at the 4th of July parade at Yorktown Beach. It was a great success! Looking forward to next year and hoping that we have more participation from the Chapter members.</p> <p>Chapter #13 will have an information booth at the Poquoson Seafood Festival Oct 14-16, 2022. We still need volunteers! Please contact Chaplain Ted Imbasciani if you can volunteer some of your time to this endeavor.</p> <p>Thank you to all who joined us last month for Bill Townsley's going away cook-out. It was a great success! We thank Bill for all his dedication to this chapter – he will be greatly missed!</p> <p>COMMANDER: Tim Valentine, DAV Chapter #13</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p> WWW.DAV13VA.COM dav@dav13va.com (757) 596-0062 1700-E George Wash Mem Hwy, Suite E, Yorktown, VA 23693 </p> </div>



Upcoming:

General Member meeting will be held on September 17, 2022, at 0900 at the Chapter building 1700 George Washington Memorial Hwy, Suite E, Yorktown. Come join us!

Judge Advocate Corner:

The Department of Veterans Affairs has proposed changes to the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities that pertain to the respiratory and auditory systems. The changes will incorporate medical advancements for treating certain disabilities and modern medical knowledge to more accurately compensate veterans for their service-connected disabilities, according to the VA. “Veterans who currently receive compensation for a service-connected condition in these body systems will not have their disability rating impacted when the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities is updated,” said Thomas Murphy, the acting undersecretary for benefits. Some of the proposed changes include modernizing the evaluation criteria for sleep apnea by evaluating it based on the symptoms’ responsiveness to treatment. If symptoms are fully treated with a CPAP machine or other treatment, a veteran would be rated at 0% and not receive compensation; the VA will award progressively higher percentage evaluations based on how symptomatic the condition remains after treatment. In public comments, DAV stated that the proposed change is a failure to “address the functional impairment caused by sleep apnea” and asserted that the current 50% rating is appropriate. For tinnitus (ringing in the ears), proposed changes would recognize that symptom as part of a veteran’s broader ailment. The veteran would receive service-connected compensation for tinnitus through the disease to which it is attributed, rather than as a stand-alone disability. DAV also opposes this change, noting the proposal contradicts a legal precedent decided in 1994 that said veterans are entitled to separate evaluations— and distinct ratings—for conditions that stem from a single disability if they are not duplicative. “No change to a veteran’s current rating would automatically occur due to these proposed changes,” said National Service Director Jim Marszalek. “When and if the proposed changes are finalized, veterans should seek assistance from a veterans service organization like DAV before filing a claim for increase to determine the impact of the final rules



--	--



--	--