



YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Volume 24 Issue 11	Monthly Newsletter	November 2023
<p>ELECTED OFFICERS</p> <p>COMMANDER Larry Brewer</p> <p>SR. VICE CMDR. Russ Jordan</p> <p>1st VICE CMDR. LaShawn Boyer</p> <p>2nd VICE CMDR. Vacant</p> <p>TREASURER April Dozier</p> <p>CHAPLAIN Terry Taylor</p> <p>JUDGE ADVOCATE Shay Odom</p> <p>APPOINTED OFFICERS</p> <p>ADJUTANT Ana Alicea</p> <p>CERTIFIED SERVICE OFFICERS Terry Bohlinger, Carl Garrett, Tim Valentine, LaShawn Boyer, Shay Odom, Sharri Peck, Rob Lurie</p> <p>OFFICER OF THE DAY (vacant)</p> <p>SERGEANT AT ARMS Todd Davis</p> <p>BENEFITS PROTECTION OFFICER Shay Odom</p> <p>MEMBER-AT-LARGE George Robinson, Jacqueline Herrmann, Carl Garrett, Larry Mead</p> <p>SOCIAL MEDIA Ana Alicea, Terry Taylor, Bill Townsley</p> <p>WOMEN VETERANSCOMMITTEE CHAIR Lashawn Boyer</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>Emergency Relief (ER)/Homeless (H):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ER/H application consist of six pages, three of which are filled out by the applicant. The application can be found under forms at www.virginiadav.org. Application must be typed not handwritten. Applicant must fill out pages 1-3 and sign the acknowledgements on page 1 and 3. Page 3 incorporates monthly income and monthly expenses for veteran and spouse. For monthly income and expenses applicant must provide proof of both. Once application if completed and copies of proof of income and expenses is provided the Investigator assisting the veteran in need will provide their recommendation and the packet is then submitted to the Chapter Executive Board (CEB) for review and approval. If the CEB approves the recommendation the payment will be made to the entity not the veteran. If the CEB disapproves the recommendation they must provide a reason and further review will be conducted. If the Chapter is tapped and has no funds the application will be submitted to the DAV Virginia Department for assistance. <p>Reminder the General Member Business meeting is on November 18, 2023 at 0900.</p> <p>There will be no General Member meeting in December 2023. Chapter #13 will instead have their Christmas Party on December 16, 2023 at 1 PM. All members are welcome!! A sign-up sheet will be available to determine number of personnel attending.</p> <p>Chapter #13's participation at the Poquoson Seafood Festival was a great success – thank you to Comrade Ted Imbasciani who orchestrated our participation and those who volunteered.</p> <p>Women Veteran's Committee Chair LaShawn Boyer wants to invite all to attend the Virtual Zoom meeting of the DAV Virginia Women Veterans Committee being held on November 20, 2023 at 7 PM Eastern Standard time. Meeting ID: 89103129117 Passcode: 646697</p> <p>COMMANDER: Larry Brewer, DAV Chapter #13</p>	<div data-bbox="380 1837 1419 1942" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"> WWW.DAV13VA.COM dav@dav13va.com (757) 596-0062 1700-E George Wash Mem Hwy, Suite E, Yorktown, VA 23693 </p> </div>



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JUDGE ADVOCATES CORNER:

I attend the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations on September 20, 2023. Over 24 veteran service organizations were in attendance. The mission of the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) is to provide services and assistances to the Governor, General Assembly and the Department of Veterans Services on matters of concern to the veteran's community and provides a conduit of information to and from the veteran's service organizations on policy and legislation, pending and enacted, as well as information on existing services. Some of the Highlights included:

--The announcing of the soft opening of the Puller Veterans Care Center in Fauquier County and the Jones and Cabacoy Veterans Care Center in Virginia Beach.

--The announcing of the 5th consecutive year, the hillsides of the Virginia War Memorial will be awash the red, white, and blue of the twelve thousand Americas flags during the Memorial's Hill of hero's commemoration, June 23 to July 14. The flags are placed to honor and remember the nearly 12,000 Virginia men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the military from World War II to present day and whose name are inscribed on the Memorial's Shrine of Memory.

--Commissioner Daniel M. Gade who currently serves as the Commissioner for the Department of Veterans Services for Virginia, provided an update on HB 1759 from the 2023 General Assembly Session. This update was provided via memo to the Department of Veteran services. This legislation directed the commissioner to convene a workgroup to study and develop recommendations for implementing a statewide strategic plan to guide legislation to make Virginia the best state for Veterans. Some of Virginia surrounding states are offering more benefits and Veterans are choosing to relocate to access some of those benefits.

We continue the highlight and make mention to the PACT ACT. Claims related to the PACT ACT take an average of 155 days with just under half of claims taking less than 125 days. This Law has brought more veterans in the VA healthcare, with more than 240,000 enrolling from August last year to April this year, an increase of 36,000 over the same time the year before.

DAV members have already sent more than 445,000 emails to members of congress this year urging them to pass life-changing legislation for those who raised their right hands to defend our nation.

I encourage to sign up for the DAV Can (Commanders Action Network) where you can message your members of congress and throw support behind these bills and other key legislation aimed at improving veteran's benefits and health care services.