



YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Volume 24 Issue 10	Monthly Newsletter	October 2023
<p>ELECTED OFFICERS</p> <p>COMMANDER Larry Brewer</p> <p>SR. VICE CMDR. Russ Jordan</p> <p>1st VICE CMDR. Sharri Peck</p> <p>2nd VICE CMDR. LaShawn Boyer</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>The Department Fall Conference 2023 is being held on October 12-15, 2023 in Short Pump Richmond, VA. Several of our Chapter committed volunteers such as the Adjutant Ana Alicea, 2nd Jr Vice Commander LaShawn Boyer, Senior CSO Tim Valentine, PCC Terry Bohlinger, and Apprentice CSO Patricia Dobbins. An after-action report will be available upon their return and members will be brief during the next General Business meeting.</p> <p>The Poquoson Seafood Festival is being held on October 20-22, 2023 and we are still looking for volunteers to man our booth. Comrade Ted Imbasciani is the lead on this and there is a signup sheet at the Chapter facility.</p> <p>The Chapter Christmas Party will be on December 16, 2023 at 1300. We are asking for those attending to bring a side dish. If you can bring a side dish please get with PCC Larry Meade to coordinate it.</p> <p>DAV 5K - Walk, Roll, Run, Ride, to honor America's Veterans. Registration opened on August 11, 2023. In person Cincinnati and Virtual Nov 11-30, 2023. www.Dav.org - join team "Fresh Start."</p> <p>Flu shots are available at the VA Primary Care clinics on Monday through Friday, between 0800-1530 hours.</p> <p>COMMANDER: Larry Brewer, DAV Chapter #13</p>	<div data-bbox="380 1839 1419 1944" 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:

Your Judge Advocate attended 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 2014. 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.

Members are 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 veterans benefits and health care services.