



YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Volume 24 Issue 9	Monthly Newsletter	September 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 VETERANS COMMITTEE 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>It is with great pleasure that I wish to thank all our Chapter Service Officers (CSO) at Chapter #13, for their continuous dedication and hard work servicing all veterans and their families who walk through our doors. This Chapter services veterans not only in the Yorktown area but also from Newport News, Hampton, Virginia Beach, Smithfield, Suffolk, Farmville, Norfolk, Chesapeake, and as far as Fayetteville, Roaring River, and Barco, North Carolina. In honor of all the dedicated CSOs of Chapter #13, I, as the Commander, would like to dedicate this month's Newsletter to them and ask that you all take the time to thank them too. To all CSOs, you are ALL (Tim Valentine, Shay Odom, Rob Lurie, Carl Garrett, Sharri Peck, Terry Bohlinger, and LaShawn Boyer) doing an outstanding job and we truly appreciate you!</p> <p>Please join DAV's dedicated grassroots supporters and help protect veterans' benefits! Your involvement will increase our effectiveness in advocating for ill and injured veterans, their families, and survivors – and will unify and solidify DAV's message across the nation. We need your help in communicating DAV's legislative priorities to Congress, the media and the general public. Given the volatility of the current political environment – it is an important time to strengthen advocacy efforts so the much talked about reform of VA's health care system is done in the best interest of veterans, existing benefits are protected, and future benefits are developed in line with what matters to those who have served. Go to davcan.org for more information and to sign up for Commander's Action Network (CAN).</p> <p>DAV 5K - Walk, Roll, Run, Ride, to honor America's Veterans. Registration opens August 11, 2023. In person Cincinnati and Virtual Nov 11-30, 2023. www.Dav.org - join team "Fresh Start."</p> <p>Quick reminder that the Poquoson Seafood Festival is still on for October 20-22, 2023 and we are still looking for volunteers.</p> <p>COMMANDER: Larry Brewer, DAV Chapter #13</p>	<div data-bbox="380 1816 1419 1921" 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>



YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

	<p><u>JUDGE ADVOCATES CORNER:</u></p> <p><u>118th Congress</u></p> <p>DAV urges congress to:</p> <p>Allow receipt of earned compensation and military payments without offsets (H.R.3489, the Restore Veterans Compensation Act of 2023).</p> <p>Provide parity for survivors receiving Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)</p> <p>Allow receipt of Earned compensation and Military payments without offsets</p> <p>Enact legislation to repeal the inequitable offset between rightfully earned military retired pay and VA disability compensation for all veterans, including medically retired veterans.</p> <p>Provide Parity for survivors receiving dependency and indemnity compensation (S.1266 the Caring for Survivors Act of 2023).</p>
	<p><u>Critical Policy Goal</u></p> <p>Monitor the implementation of the PACT Act</p> <p>Emphasis monitor the number of claims filed related to the PACT Act, how these claims impact the overall workload, how many are approved or denied and why. As of July 5th, VA has over 850,000 claims pending and 243,000 of them are considered backlogged as they have been pending over 125 days.</p> <p>Recognize exposures and related diseases at K2</p> <p>Congress must enact legislation that concedes exposure to radiation, jet fuel and chemical weapons at K2, and provide for studies and recognize all presumptive diseases</p> <p>Provide parity for radiation exposed veterans and remove the dose estimate requirement</p> <p><u>Update:</u></p> <p>The Major Richard Star Act H.R. 1282 passed the House on June 21, 2023</p> <p>New PACT Act deadline: Health care enrollment for Veterans deployed to combat zones:</p> <p>Until 11:59 p.m. Sept 30, 2023 Veterans who deployed to a combat zone , never enrolled in VA health care and left the military between Sept 11, 2001 and Oct 1, 2013 are eligible to enroll directly in VA health care through the PACT Act. The special enrollment period gives Veterans who served in Iraq, Afghanistan and other combat zones an opportunity to enroll directly in VA health care without first applying for disability compensation benefits. VA encourages all of these Veterans to visit VA.gov/PACT.</p>