



# Disabled American Veterans

Chapter 12

2115 Military Street, Port Huron, Michigan 48060

Phone: 810-984-1684

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**DAV Newsletter** Volume VIII issue August 01, 2010 Printed Quarterly

- Officers:** Commander...Wayne Weaver...810-985-3528  
Sr. Vice Commander...Charles H. Whybrew...810-982-3564  
Jr. Vice Commander...Tom Meinhardt ...810-985-6595  
Treasurer...Ken Porrett...810-622-8737  
Adjutant...Carol M. Gernand...586-405-1935  
Chaplain...  
Assistant Chaplain...Jim Meade...810-325-1712  
Service Officer...Robert Thomas...810-982-0928

**St. Clair Co. Dept. of Veteran Affairs...Debra Worden...810-989-6945**

**New Chapter 12 DAV Officers** were sworn in by the Zone I Commander, Chris Sardo during meetings on May 10 and June 14, 2010.

**A note from your new DAV Chapter 12 Commander Wayne Weaver...**

*As many of you know, there has been a change of command for our chapter. In May 2010, Bob Durkee decided to step down as our DAV commander due to personal reasons. We thank Bob Durkee for his past 7 years of tremendous commitment as our DAV commander. Our Chapter would not be what it is today or even exist, if it were not for Bob Durkee's leadership. We wish Bob and his family the very best. I greatly appreciate seeing that many members are stepping up to volunteer and pitch in where needed. The State convention held this past June noted that many people are talking about the commitment and community involvement from our DAV Chapter 12 members.*

**Flag Flying Days in future months...**

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|--|-------------------------------------|
| Aug 04 - U.S. Coast Guard Birthday       | Oct 27 – U.S. Navy Birthday         |
| Sept 06 - Labor Day                      | Nov 10 – U.S. Marine Corps Birthday |
| Sept 11 - Patriot Day                    | Nov 11 – Veterans Day               |
| Sept 17 - Constitution & Citizenship Day | Nov 25 – Thanksgiving Day           |
| Sept 18 - U.S. Air Force Birthday        | Dec 07 – Pearl Harbor Day           |
| Oct 11- Columbus Day                     | Dec 25 – Christmas Day              |

**New DAV Members Sworn-in** are Thomas Greer, Charles A. Ouellette, Harold W. Peters, John M. Prange, Thomas Siemoneit, Joseph J. Skrypkun, Charles A. Snyder, and Enos F. Whiteye. It is wonderful to see our DAV Chapter 12 growing.

**Forget-Me-Not Fund raiser** dates are **September 10, 11, & 12.**

Volunteers are needed! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. In the past, proceeds received have gone to help Veterans in need through building wheelchair ramps; paying rent, heating bills, car repairs, scholarships, and providing food for our Thanksgiving baskets. These are a few of the many opportunities we have had to help our fellow Veterans. Your help by volunteering just an hour or more to collect at one of the several spots throughout St. Clair County and Lexington would be greatly appreciated. DAV Treasurer, Ken Porrett will have a schedule of places and times available at the next meeting on August 9th or give him a call at 810-622-8737 to volunteer. Approved Forget-Me-Not fund raising locations are

Neiman's Market in St. Clair	IGA in Lexington,
Kroger North in Fort Gratiot	Kroger South in Port Huron,
Day Break Café in Fort Gratiot	Cheap Charlies in Fort Gratiot,
Golden Corral on Veterans Day in Fort Gratiot.	

Women Auxiliary will staff Walmart in Fort Gratiot and Vickerers in Wadhams.

**DAV meeting dates are** Aug 09, Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 08, & Dec 13, 2010. DAV meets are held the second Monday of each month starting at 6pm with social hour and light meal. Then our meeting starts promptly at 7pm. DAV meeting information is also advertised on the TV COMCAST Channel 6 Community bulletin board.

**Honor Guard** has taken part in 144 funerals since Jan 2010 and participated in numerous St. Clair County community events to include the Memorial Day Ceremony, Senior Olympics, Blessing of the fleet, visiting Regency and Medilodge residents. The Honor Guard van's transmission has broke and must be replaced. They are in need of donations that are specified towards the St. Clair Co. Allied Vets Honor Guard. Donations can be mailed to the DAV Chapter 12 who will ensure all donations are passed to the Honor Guard.

**Chaplain's Corner:** Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd.

In June 2010, our Chapter's Chaplain, John Totten has stepped down due to medical reasons. Please let one of our chapter's officers know if you are aware of who would be able to full fill the obligation as the Chaplain for our Chapter. Thank you to everyone who has passed along names of people who have been sick or hospitalized. We are grateful to everyone who helps with the communication of our Veterans in need.

***Remember the passing of our Comrades. May they rest in peace. God Bless!***

Theodore W. Angott died 07 May 2010

Chalmer O. Ellis died 17 May 2010

Allan G. Kelch died 05 March 2010

Michael Kindret died 17 June 2010

John Wherwein died 21 April 2010

**\*Note!** If you are **a surviving spouse** and wish to remain on our mailing list, contact our Adjutant Carol Gernand at 586-405-1935 or email:

carol.gernand@us.army.mil Also if a name is listed and should not be there call Carol. Thank you for all your support!

### **Operation Coupons from Adjutant, Carol Gernand**

As many of you know we have a coupon program going. The Chapter is sending coupons to soldiers and their families over to the Family Support Center, 51<sup>st</sup> MSS DPR (AFRC) in Osan, Korea, Air Force Base. The program is going real good. We are sending about \$2,500 to \$3,000 worth of coupons every other week to Osan. I wanted to thank everyone that is saving the coupons for this program. A real big thanks to everyone who is helping to cut the coupons out upon turn in is a huge help and time saver so the coupons can be mailed to Korea faster. Coupons up to 60 days past the coupon posted expiration date can still be used for this program. I hope to keep this program going, so if you can help us please save the coupons and get them down to our DAV Hall. If the Hall's door is locked when you arrive, please just drop the coupons in the mail slot. Thank you again for your help.



## Legislative news...

### Caregiver Legislation Signed Into Law

President Obama signed Public Law 111-163, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act on May 5, 2010. The DAV worked with other veterans, military and family service organizations to bring about the introduction and passage of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010. This precedent-setting legislation established a number of critical new programs to address DAV's highest priority legislative goals over the past several years identified through our Stand Up for Veterans campaign. The law provides a monthly financial stipend, CHAMPVA health care and additional benefits to financially burdened family members providing care at home to the most severely wounded and disabled veterans.

## EVENTS...

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS Department of Michigan

#### 5TH ANNUAL THOMAS MCMASTERS GOLF OUTING

9am Shotgun start "Scramble" format on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at Selfridge ANG Base Golf Course in Selfridge, MI 48045. To sponsor a hole or register to golf, please call the DAV at 1-888-448-2328 or 583-269-4659

Boats for Veterans - August 07, 2010 at 10AM, with rain date Aug 21, 2010 at the Tashmoo Marina South on Harsens Island, MI. The event honors service men and women out for a day of fun on the water and a meal.

\*\*Reservations are a must, so please e-mail or Call Mike and Betti Shawl by Email To: [mshawl@boat4vets.com](mailto:mshawl@boat4vets.com) or Web Site: [www.boat4vets.com](http://www.boat4vets.com)  
Home Phone 810-742-0173 or Cell Phone: 810-241-8025

Please remember to wear soft soled shoes and bring your swim suit. Thank you for your service to this country and God bless you.

Motorcycle and Vehicle Benefit RIDE with all proceeds towards the St. Clair County Allied Veterans Honor Guard for maintenance and upkeep of their equipment to support Military Honors. The Ride will be held Saturday, August 07, 2010 from 11am to noon with the last bike/vehicle in by 6pm. Cost is \$15 for rider and \$5 passenger. Ride and registration starts at the American Legion Post 449 located at 229 East Huron Blvd in Marysville, MI. The ride has 5 stops. Other stops will include American Legion Posts and VFW Posts along the way. Food available at cost, after the benefit ride

**Buff's Car Wash** on 1734 Lapeer Road is working with us to support our DAV Chapter 12. Each car wash ticket cost \$6. Half of each ticket sold comes back to support our Chapter. Keep your vehicle clean by supporting your local DAV. For tickets call Ken Porrett at 810-622-8737.

**Local Vet brings home Silver and Gold** - Port Huron resident and Veteran, named Charles Zimmer returned from the National Veterans Golden Age Games with 1 Gold Medal and 2 Silver Medals. Zimmer is a Vietnam Veteran, who participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Veterans Golden Age Games held in Des Moines, Iowa. Zimmer, who is Visually Impaired, brought home the Gold Medal in Shuffleboard, a Silver Medal in horseshoes and bowling. Zimmer has participated with the National Veterans Golden Age Games two years in a row and brought home medals each year. Zimmer says that the National Veterans Golden Age Games is a beautiful event. It brings Veterans from all wars together to compete, laugh and support each other. Zimmer is part of the Motor City Veterans Team of the Detroit VA Medical Center. Way to go **Zman!!!**

### **Conclusion**

#### **..Special Note:**

..Many young Veterans who received injuries or illnesses may qualify for membership in the DAV, but they are not aware of their VA entitlements and benefits of eligibility. DAV Members are strongly encouraged to ask veterans they know and meet "Are you receiving all the VA benefits that you served for and are entitled too?" Please direct these veterans to speak with our Service Officer, Robert Thomas or refer them to set up an appointment with the Department of Veteran Affairs in Port Huron to ensure our fellow veterans and their families members are receiving all their VA entitlements.

To ensure the successful enactment of veterans' legislation, the DAV and Auxiliary members must be active members of DAV's grassroots - DAV Commander's Action Network (CAN) - and we all must do our part to let our elected officials know about our support for legislation that helps to build better lives for our nation's service-disabled veterans, their families, and survivors. Thank you for your continued support.