



Black Mt Chapter 12 Henderson NV News Letter



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May 2008

Chapter Meeting on 20 May 08

**Executive committee was held on The 3 May at
5:30 PM At the Commanders Suite in Laughlin**

From: the Commander

I will take this time to remind each of you that MAY is military Appreciation month, not because we are fighting Two Wars and Losing so many of our brave men and women everyday. But as a nation, it is important to observe and participate in holidays And events that celebrate our national heritage. National Military Appreciation Month provides all Americans an opportunity to recognize the incredible sacrifices of our nation's armed forces and to reflect on our military history.

On April 30, 1999, the United States Senate passed a resolution that designated May as National Military Appreciation Month. This resolution called on the people of the United States, in a symbolic act of unity, to observe a National Military Appreciation Month to honor the current and former members of the Armed Forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace.

A concurrent resolution, later agreed to by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, established May as National Military Appreciation Month.

Remember the scale of the War on Terror, know that defeating these enemies will take determination, skill and courage of those who wear the uniforms. Our military and military families are being tasked over and over. The Surge and extensions have taken their toll, the use of so many of our Reservists and Guardsmen are stressing the military and their families In so many ways.

The VA has just released some data concerning the mental health status of a large number of Reservist and Guardsmen who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, the research shows that 50% of veteran suicide are in this group. The ages appear to be between 20-29..

REMEMBER OLDER VETERANS GET INTO CRISIS TOO.

If you observe a fellow veteran having emotional problems, or if you are, please reach out for help: CALL 1-800-273-TALK OR CONTACT SUICIDE PREVENTION AT www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Joe Richardson Commander

The Senior Vice Commander message

As this newsletter goes to print, the chapter has to date collected over two thousand dollars for the "Forget Me Not" drive, we hope to received in donations approx. seven thousand dollars. I learned a lot this week and the chapter and its members will be much better prepared next year for the "Forget Me Not" drive.

"History Notes in the Month of April"

Did You Know! The U.S. Civil War ended on 9 April 1865, a total of 500,000 American deaths were suffered by both sides during the U.S. Civil War, and the U.S. has not lost that many soldiers in any war since.

On 15 April 1912 the Titanic struck an iceberg, off Newfoundland and sank with 2,224 souls on board, that lost brought on many changes in ocean liner construction and the birth of the Iceberg Patrol. At 9:02am on 19 April 1995 a very large bomb hidden in a rented truck destroyed the entire front side of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma killing 168, men, women and children. There are other bad things that happened in the U.S. during the month of April; I just wanted to remind all members to be alert always.

If you are an individual who normally does not file a tax return, in order to receive the 2008 economic stimulus payment you must file a return this year. IRS officials announced these individuals can use the IRS Free File program to help them file a 2007 return. Go to www.irs.gov, look under "Online Tools" and follow the directions.

Your membership in the DAV is very important to our organization, it gives us a voice in congress to help our Veterans, the more members the louder our voice. Sign up a new member today.

RICHARD D. WALKER, JR. Senior Vice Commander

Message from the Commander

Reminders from the Adjutant:

I know you get tired of reading the same reminders but we have some great programs going on to help Veterans and we need all the members help. Get the word out to you friends and family. Every month except July and August we have a meeting at the Senior center in Henderson. The ladies prepare a Great meal. The dinner is at 6 PM a social hour to dine and talk with each other. The meetings start at 7PM and over at 8PM Come and join us find out more about how the DAV can help you and others in time of need.

if you have a change of address or a death in the family please let me know. If you know of a member in the hospital notify the Chaplain Marina Jimenez so we can visit and send cards. Our address and phone number is on this front page. Hope to see you at the meeting.

The Chapter wheelchair program is managed by Bill Baumann, Ernie Clouse and Jerry Ogle. If you know of a Veteran that needs a wheelchair, manual or electric a walker or other support items, please contact one of the three of us. We also accept donations of Chairs that is how the program keeps going.

The Chapter will also accept donations of furniture, Appliances in good condition. Cars, Trucks, RV and Boats running or not This is a great way to dispose of a vehicle and have a Tax right of. The proceeds go to the Van Fund to replace vans. You can contact Bill, Ernie or Jerry and we will make arrangements

More information on Page 3 "Adaptive Housing Grants Expanded"

Jerry Ogle Adjutant and Semper fi

**BLACK MT. UNIT 12 D.A.V.A.
HENDERSON NEVADA
NEWSLETTER
May 2008**

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2008-09**

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Commanders Message

I was glad to see all of you at the meeting. I hope everyone will have a great time at the Convention and get all of your issues answered. I will give a report on the Convention at our next meeting.

The Forget-Me -Not Drive is going strong , happy to see so many of you participating, with your husbands or with another member Thank you.

Delegate slips will be given to you at Convention, and we will be electing new State Officers.

Thank you to Renate and Kathy for another wonderful dinner. See all of you at the Convention and have a lot of fun. Our next meeting is on May 20th hope to see you .

Commander, Gail Bocage

Adaptive Housing Grants Expanded

A change in the law that allows certain seriously injured veterans and service members with a "permanent and total disability" to receive multiple grants from the VA for constructing or modifying homes has resulted in many new grants.

Before the change, eligible veterans and service members could receive special adaptive housing grants of \$10,000 or \$50,000 from VA only once. Now they may use the benefit up to three times, so long as the total grants stay within specified limits outlined in the law.

The VA has three types of adapted housing grants available. The Specially Adapted Housing grant (SAH), currently limitation. \$50,000, is generally used to create a wheelchair-accessible home for those who may require such assistance for activities of daily living. The Special Housing Adaptations (SHA) grant, currently limited to \$10,000, is generally used to assist veterans with mobility throughout their homes due to blindness in both eyes, or the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or extremities below the elbow. The Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA) grant is available to eligible veterans and seriously injured service members temporarily living or intends to temporarily live in a home owned by a family member. Under the new TRA program, those eligible under the SAH program would be permitted to use up to \$14,000, and those eligible under the SHA program would be allowed to use up to \$2,000 of the maximum grant amounts. Each grant would count as one of the three grants allowed under the new program.

If you need more information contact the National or Department service Officers

*Happy Birthday
Members Born in
May*

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
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