

**Disabled American Veterans  
Chapter 9  
PO Box 5202  
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**Commander's Desk**

Greetings to all my comrades! We are now into the middle of our first year as a Chapter. We have seen some growth in our membership and our outreach to other veterans in need, and it has been good. When this Chapter was organized all it took was the work of recruiting 50 new members, which we did with each others help. We are still the newest Chapter in the U.S. However, I have seen a growing trend that is happening in all chapters it starts out slowly and may take many years to manifest itself with the organization ending up dying. It has not taken that much time for us and I see it coming.

When we first started everyone was excited, and we still have some of that, but somewhere along the line some have gotten tired of it and no longer are involved. Just like a child with a new toy, after a time the child gets bored with it and forgets about it and leaves it alone. Another example is joining a sports team and finds it takes too much commitment or too rough and decide to quit, thus never really getting to know their own potential. This is so typical of life, at home, at work, in business and play.

There is a bright side to this scenario, and that is standing up to the challenge and running with it. To make lemonade out of lemons so to speak to embrace the challenge by stopping to think and ponder what you would like to see this organization do, either personally or for others. To be successful in a team you become a part of it and embrace the purposes and goals of that team, to take ownership of it in your own way. We have talented people in this organization that should begin stepping up to the plate and be counted.

Every member of this organization served in the military honorably for our own reasons and became part of a team which was bigger than our selves. Now you have joined another team, which is helping other veterans, like our selves, to get

help and to encourage other veterans in need. To be successful in anything in life we need to develop a passion for what we are doing. Some of us don't know what that is and we continue to search for it our whole lives and never find it. Maybe we did not listen to our inner voice or child and it passed us by. Start listening to your self and begin channeling some of your energy and talent and at the same time learn to share it with others.

My term as your commander will be up in April of 2006 and I hope to leave this organization in better shape than when we started it. This can only be done with your help so take some time to understand the mission of the Disabled American Veterans then ask yourself what you can do to further it.

### **Veterans Day Parade:**

This Chapter will be involved for the first time along with other veteran organizations and will be providing a trailer to those that are unable to walk the distance. We will be having a pot luck luncheon with the Sutter county Veterans of Foreign Wars located at the Veterans War Memorial Center in Yuba City after the parade. Bring either salad or desert to share and we will all have a good time.

### **Forget-Me-Not Fund Raiser:**

This has been the only fund raising event this chapter has had in the past. We usually hold them in April and November. The out come of these events determines our budget for year. We just finished our November drive earning \$2000+. I would like to thank all those who participated: Bert Johnson, Adam Garza, Jesse Harpol, Martin Ransom, Marvin King, Billy Wagster, Lane Noyes, Richard Sawyer, Tom Wallach and Willie Williams. Thank you for a job well done!

### **Medical Shuttle Van:**

You may or may not know that we now have a shuttle van to take veterans to McClellan and Mather. The van leaves the One Stop in Marysville at 0700 week day. To reserve a space on the van you need to call the veterans service office at least one day prior to your appointment. Pick ups will be off McGowan Park Way in Olivehurst and East Nicholas. The shuttle program is in great need of volunteer drivers so if you would like to, please call the vet center to put your name in.

### **Holiday Events:**

We will be having our second annual Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners this year at the Marysville Methodist Church beginning at 1500 on November 19th and December 17<sup>th</sup>. Those that plan to attend need to notify our Chaplain: Lane Noyes no later than the 16<sup>th</sup> and for Christmas by December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Plan to bring side dishes of salads and deserts for five people. If you can't it is OK we always have room for you. A free will donation of \$5.00 or more is encouraged to help offset the costs of the main course.

For Christmas we will have Santa Clause for the children. Purchase a gift you're your child's name on it and Santa will present it to them.

All family members are encouraged and welcomed to come. This is two of the three major events of the year for our families. So please call Lane to give the number of people in your party that will be attending.

**A Pioneer Warrior has just left the field:**

We recently lost one of the fore runners of the Marine Recon organization. Graydon Harn was a Marine Raider in World War II and served in the Pacific. He was part of the first major thrust to the enemy at Guadalcanal and was injured there. After the war he and his wife Josephine spent many years looking for Marine Raiders Missing in Action through various means including the internet. He left a legacy for all of us to remember, that of— keeping this world a little safer and helping to preserve our freedoms at home. Through his— along with many others— sacrifices to that end this nation is the place in which other nationalities are willing to give up everything including their lives to get here, and yet we take it for granted... We owe a great deal to our fathers for answering the call to fight for our freedom and our way of life. Thank you Marine Graydon Harn, you will be missed but not forgotten.

**I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas:**

I hope each of you will have a Happy and Joyful Holiday season. Be mindful of our men and women in harms way. Some of us have been there in the jungles, the sand, and on the river where all we had to celebrate were our buddies around us and food in a can or bag for our feast. Remember that and remember to thank God that we have those troops willing to fight for our freedom.

May God Bless you and Keep you all!

Marvin Bottum  
Commander