

**Disabled American Veterans
Chapter 9
Marysville, CA**

September – October 2006 Newsletter

Edition: I

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Editor: Marvin Bottum

Chapter Officers:

Commander: Stephanie Ruscigno - 743-2267

Sr. Vice Commander: Thomas Wallach - 673-5333

Jr. Vice Commander: Thomas Mack - 300-5091

Treasurer: Billy Wagster - 673-5439

Chaplain: Lane Noyes - 755-1987

Veterans Service Officer: Marvin King - 743-2267

Adjutant: Marvin Bottum - 741-0878

Executive Committee Members: Mike Payne - Willie Williams

Letter from Past Commander:

It has been a joy and a privilege working with you over the past two years and for some longer than that. I am happy that we were able to start a new DAV Chapter two years ago. We have started some new traditions, such as the annual Thanksgiving and Christmas family parties. But most of all meeting new friends and seeing them grow in the Chapter and take on the responsibility of starting and running the first couple of years. I could not have done that alone. Without the support of all the officers and the membership we would not be growing as fast as we have been. When we started this journey we had to have at least 50 brand new members and today, just two years later we have 150 members and that number will most likely double by June of 2007.

As you know, we all have certain gifts that are just part of us. Sometimes we learn what they are during our lifetime and some just drift along not knowing or unable to identify them. Through our involvement in the wonderful organization we can begin to identify them when we accept a challenge and move out of our comfort zone. Each time that we move out of the zone we learn and grow a little bit. It is then that we begin the process of recognizing our gifts that then affect those around us in positive ways and then we begin to become leaders. I hope that I have been a part of some of this personal growth in some of you.

Our new officers make up a dynamic team that will lead us to the next phase of our development. The goal is now to get more recognition for our causes of help vets, regardless of age. To bring more awareness of the veterans issue to the public arena, which is one of our Commanders strong gifts and she will need our support to do so.

So I thank you for your support over the past years and for your continued involvement in this great organization.

Sincerely,

Marvin Bottum, Past Commander

Adjutants report:

This past year has seen many accomplishments of growth and support in our Chapter. As many of you know we are the newest chapter in California. To accomplish such a feat we needed to recruit 50 brand new members from the twin cities area to join the DAV. We did that in July of 2004. Since that time our membership has continued to grow through new members and transfers. This last year of 2005-2006 we achieved Dept. of California greatest recognition by receiving the " **Harry E. Wentworth Memorial Award** " for the largest percentage gain in life members. We had a 106% gain. Only one Chapter in the state receives this on an annual basis. I would like to see use apply our selves this year again to make it two in a row. As it stands now our goal is 15 new life members for 2006-07. We also received a second award for: "**the largest Numerical Gain of Life Members in a Chapter with 50-300 members**" we had 59 the second most in the state. This would not have happened without your support of this chapter and its mission "veterans helping veterans".

We hope to add a lot more members and transfers within the next year, which could possible bring our overall membership to 300+.

However, we need help in doing this through a means that is untapped at this point and that is recruiting help through the auxiliary. So on September 16 we will have a Past State Auxiliary Commander come and help us to form a new Unit. The Auxiliary is made up of spouses and other family members of Chapter members. This could include fathers and mothers as well.

We will have a combined meeting at 1100 A.M. followed by a short business meeting if needed afterwards. All we need is 10 brand new members to join to get it started and this can also include Chapter members. I would like to encourage as many people to attend this meeting because it will add a new dynamics to our organization.

If you need more information please feel free to call me.

Fund Raisers:

On November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th we will be having our biggest fundraiser of the year, which is our annual Forget-Me-Not campaign. We will need as many of you as possible to pull this through. The money we raise on this sets our budget for the year and dictates as to what charities and causes that we need to support on a regular basis. We plan to have at least four locations with some requiring up to four people in one location. There will be two shifts per day. To make this a success we will need at least 72 volunteers to make this happen.

Now is the time to fill in your calendar and be a part of this fast growing organization. I will be setting up locations this month and assignments this month so give me a call soon.

Chapter meeting time and place:

3rd Saturday of month beginning at 1100 A.M.
Marysville Methodist Church
730 D St., Marysville, CA

Marvin Bottum, Adjutant

Upcoming Events:

September 16th: Chapter and Auxiliary meeting, 11:00 A.M.

October 2nd: Veterans Town Hall Meeting at Yuba City Council Chambers

October 21st: Chapter and Auxiliary meeting

November 2nd, 3rd, & 4th: Forget-Me-Not campaign

November 11th: Veterans Day Parade

November 18th: Family Thanksgiving Dinner, 2:00 P.M. (reservations need to be made by Nov. 6th)

December 16th: Family Christmas Dinner and Party, 2:00 P.M. (reservations need to be made by Dec. 6th.)

Transportation Services:

For those that do not know it the VA is now offering shuttle service to veterans on a daily bases from the Yuba County One Stop. The Van leaves daily at 7:00 A.M. weekdays except holidays. Any veteran needing a ride should call the Veteran Service Office to make a reservation. All of our drivers are volunteers and must go through drivers training course, physical, and identity check in order to drive you. "So let us do the driving and leave the worries to us". If you would like to volunteer to drive please call the Veterans Center to find out how or talk to Marv Bottum or Tom Mack as to the process as well as Marvin King.