



# Disabled American Veterans Department of Florida Newsletter



By Al Linden, Executive Director

January 31, 2017

As of January 31, 2017 our membership was 62,335 needed 1,030 to make goal are life members.

## State Commander Jack Johnson Message

THANKS TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AND BANQUET.  
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER SERVICES WHO ATTENDED. ONE ITEM WE DID NOT TAKE CARE OF AT THE MID-WINTER IS THE INTRODUCTION OF THOSE WHO ARE ASPIRING FOR A HIGHER OFFICE TO ANNOUNCE THEIR INTENTION. I HAVE APPOINTED PAST COMMANDER RICH TOLFA AS OUR NOMINATING CHAIRMAN. PLEASE CONTACT RICH VIA EMAIL OF YOUR INTENTION AND WE WILL MAKE YOUR INTENTIONS KNOWN IN THE MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER. THE NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE FROM JULY 29 THRU AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> AT THE HILTON NEW ORLEANS RIVERSIDE. WE HOPE TO HAVE A GOOD REPRESENTATION FROM OUR DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT OUR CANDIDATE ANDY MARSHALL FOR 3RD NATIONAL JR. VICE COMMANDER. IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON DRIVING TO THE CONVENTION, THE HOTEL IS CHARGING \$49.00 PER DAY FOR VALET PARKING OR \$39.00 PER DAY FOR SELF PARKING. IT MIGHT BE CHEAPER TO FLY. MEMBERSHIP REMAINS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY. IF YOU NEED HELP, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SEND ME AN EMAIL [dav150jack@gmail.com](mailto:dav150jack@gmail.com).

## Candidates for State DAV Offices

Members interested in DAV Department of Florida offices should contact Richard Tolfa at [rtolfa@aol.com](mailto:rtolfa@aol.com) if you want to apply for an elected Department office. Candidates should send a letter to the Department for the May 2017 Newsletter.

## IRS 990-N Report Due by November Each Year

The IRS has complicated the filing of the 990N for those chapters who have total income of less than \$50,000. Login on to <https://www.irs.gov/.../new-form-990-n-submission-website>. Then follow instructions for first time users. You must follow the instructions and create a username and a password. If you have any questions, please call me as I did it successfully for my chapter.

Also be reminded that **Chapter Annual Financial Reports are due by September 30 each year.** **Chapter Officers Reports** are due within 10 days after installation each year or when changes are made. ALL chapters make \$50,000 and less and do not file any other IRS form must file a N990 by November 15 each year. Last year 4 chapters failed to do so and their tax exempt was removed and it cost them over \$400 to get it

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>		
As Of Dec 31, 2016		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,339,642	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$179,822
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TOTAL LIABILITIES&FUND BALANCES	\$1,339,642	

Bay Pines VAVS	\$2304
Gainesville VAVS	\$1000.00
Tampa VAVS	\$1950
Lake City VAVS	\$2225
WPB VAVS	\$1000
Miami VAVS	\$2200
Orlando VAVS	\$7550
Eglin CBOC	\$0



**It doesn't cost much  
to show you care**



**about  
Disabled  
American  
Veterans**

**on your next  
drivers license application,  
then they know you care!**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING SECRETARY

### VA Guidance for Federal Hiring Freeze

I know many of you are anxious about the impact of the Presidential Memorandum entitled “Hiring Freeze” issued on January 23, 2017. The Memorandum imposes a freeze on filling vacant positions existing as of noon on January 22, 2017, as well as a freeze on filling new vacancies. It applies to all executive branch departments and agencies.

Let me be clear that the Memorandum addresses “vacant positions” and “a long-term plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce through attrition.” The Memorandum does not change the status of any current VA employee.

We have been working with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as well as the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) on interpreting many aspects of the President’s Memorandum. We will be issuing clarifying guidance and implementing instructions as it becomes available from OMB and OPM.

The first VA issuance was published on January 26, 2017, authorizing VA human resources offices to proceed with:

- The employment and onboarding process for individuals who received a job offer prior to January 22, 2017;
- Detail assignments;
- Career ladder promotions;
- Excepted service appointments that confer non-competitive conversion to competitive service; and
- Personnel actions involving restorative rights, reasonable accommodations, and any other actions required to comply with law and collective bargaining agreements.

The Presidential Memorandum authorizes me, as Acting Secretary of VA, to exempt from the hiring freeze any positions that I deem necessary to meet national security or public safety responsibilities. To that end, today I exempted a range of occupations from the hiring freeze in this [memo](#).

I want to be clear, though we remain committed to ensuring that our Veterans receive the quality care and benefits they deserve, this is not business as usual. These exemptions are in line with the President’s intent.

Please let your supervisors know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for everything you do to support Veterans.

Bob Snyder

**INCOME / EXPENSES VS BUDGET**  
**Dec 31, 2016**

Actual	Budget	Difference	%
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**Ordinary Income/Expense**

<b>Income</b>				
6001 · Convention Income	1,540.00	5,680.00	-4,140.00	27.11%
6030 · Midwinter Income	2,872.00	8,700.00	-5,828.00	33.01%
6050 · Dues from National	241,339.49	140,000.00	101,339.49	172.39%
6100 · Donation fr Service Fd-Principl	0.00	383,695.00	-383,695.00	0.0%
6140 · National Fund Raisers	93,607.50	180,000.00	-86,392.50	52.0%
6200 · Chapter & Unit 10%	41,942.74	40,000.00	1,942.74	104.86%
6310 · Chapter Closeouts	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
6311 · Donations	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
6315 · Orange City Income	10,500.00	0.00	10,500.00	100.0%
6330 · Lake Panosofkee	2,050.08	4,000.00	-1,949.92	51.25%
6331 · Lakeland Bldg Mortgage	8,160.00	12,000.00	-3,840.00	68.0%
6333 · Orange City Mortgage	0.00	13,000.00	-13,000.00	0.0%
6350 · Drivers License Income	17,792.17	50,000.00	-32,207.83	35.58%
6410 · 2015 Service Officer's	11,995.00	10,000.00	1,995.00	119.95%
6411 · Service Program Donations	75.99	100.00	-24.01	75.99%
6450 · VAVS Donations	10,257.50	20,100.00	-9,842.50	51.03%
6800 · Miscellaneous	34,320.78	1,000.00	33,320.78	3,432.08%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>476,453.25</b>	<b>877,275.00</b>	<b>-400,821.75</b>	<b>54.31%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>476,453.25</b>	<b>877,275.00</b>	<b>-400,821.75</b>	<b>54.31%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
7000.2 · Convention Expense	4,205.00	16,100.00	-11,895.00	26.12%
7030.1 · Midwinter Expenses	0.00	19,700.00	-19,700.00	0.0%
7040.1 · Service Expenses	542,007.45	686,800.00	-144,792.55	78.92%
7570.1 · Legislative Expenses	0.00	5,100.00	-5,100.00	0.0%
8000.3 · VAVS Expenses	12,340.00	28,250.00	-15,910.00	43.68%
8260 · Headquarters Expense	30,880.29	120,600.00	-89,719.71	25.61%
8562.2 · National Convention Expense	13,907.82	0.00	13,907.82	100.0%
9500.1 · Foundation expenses	363.13	725.00	-361.87	50.09%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>603,703.69</b>	<b>877,275.00</b>	<b>-273,571.31</b>	<b>68.82%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-127,250.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-127,250.44</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
11001.4 · Testimonial Income	3,420.00	5,000.00	-1,580.00	68.4%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>3,420.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>-1,580.00</b>	<b>68.4%</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>				
11000.4 · Testimonial Expenses 2015	127.34	5,000.00	-4,872.66	2.55%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>127.34</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>-4,872.66</b>	<b>2.55%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>3,292.66</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,292.66</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-123,957.78</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-123,957.78</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



**MEMBERSHIP  
FOR  
Jan 31, 2017**

Chanter	Last yr	trial	part life	full life	total	Goal	% goal	needed	chanter name	11/30/16
001		1,906	8	149	1,728	1,885	1,779	97.13%	-51	JACKSONVILLE #1
002	G	11,164	1,776	979	8,490	11,245	8,479	100.13%	11	EVERGLADE STATE #2
004		2,567	3	145	2,418	2,566	2,463	98.17%	-45	JOHN C MCCARTHY II #4
005		583	1	59	526	586	548	95.99%	-22	THE TALLAHASSEE #5
006		291	1	27	262	290	274	95.62%	-12	ST AUGUSTINE #6
007		849	2	243	638	883	741	86.10%	-103	W WASHINGTON #7
011		1,681	1	73	1,549	1,623	1,574	98.41%	-25	CLEARWATER #11
012		1,497	1	96	1,392	1,489	1,420	98.03%	-28	CORAL GABLES #12
013		2,503	1	111	2,367	2,479	2,396	98.79%	-29	BAY PINE HLDY ISL #13
016		2,777	1	171	2,569	2,741	2,629	97.72%	-60	CENTRAL #16
017		761	0	39	735	774	738	99.59%	-3	PANAMA CITY #17
018		1,780	1	154	1,647	1,802	1,682	97.92%	-35	MANATEE COUNTY #18
020		356	1	21	333	355	343	97.08%	-10	LAKE CITY #20
022		309	0	14	289	303	296	97.64%	-7	JACKSON COUNTY #22
023		2,151	3	91	2,032	2,126	2,056	98.83%	-24	AL GRAY #23
029		617	1	48	576	625	590	97.63%	-14	PEMBROKE PINES-MIRAMAR #29
030		1,303	0	103	1,192	1,295	1,228	97.07%	-36	SEMINOLE #30
032		1,361	2	96	1,218	1,316	1,244	97.91%	-26	J L GOLIGHTLY #32
038		1,502	1	194	1,307	1,502	1,388	94.16%	-81	ORANGE PARK #38
042		1,834	0	88	1,749	1,837	1,772	98.70%	-23	WEST PALM BEACH #42
049		322	0	22	297	319	305	97.38%	-8	RIDGE #49
050		238	1	9	223	233	226	98.67%	-3	CENTRAL BREVARD #50
057		445	5	30	409	444	413	99.03%	-4	CRESTVIEW #57
063		164	0	7	153	160	155	98.71%	-2	TRI-COUNTY #63
065		555	0	33	516	549	524	98.47%	-8	ZEPHYRHILLS #65
067		1,249	0	58	1,167	1,225	1,190	98.07%	-23	HERNANDO COUNTY #67
070		597	0	37	546	583	560	97.50%	-14	GERALD A SHONK #70
073		367	2	25	339	366	343	98.83%	-4	TAMARAC #73
078		1,205	0	55	1,124	1,179	1,141	98.51%	-17	NEW PORT RICHEY #78
082		1,120	0	51	1,076	1,127	1,082	99.45%	-6	R L COCHRAN JR #82
083		1,042	2	134	930	1,066	969	95.98%	-39	C W BYERS SR #83
084		1,282	3	68	1,201	1,272	1,213	99.01%	-12	GREATER DAYTONA #84
085		1,141	0	41	1,070	1,111	1,080	99.07%	-10	SOUTH MARION #85
086		632	0	73	559	632	587	95.23%	-28	JIM BOOE #86
087		759	2	39	713	754	723	98.62%	-10	SGT WM E HILL #87
090		891	1	72	815	888	845	96.45%	-30	GATOR #90
094		1,059	0	34	1,005	1,039	1,021	98.43%	-16	C GUSTAFSON #94
097		564	0	39	504	543	518	97.30%	-14	BEE RIDGE #97
098		243	1	11	230	242	233	98.71%	-3	EUCHEE VALLEY #98
101		809	0	50	759	809	774	98.06%	-15	VENICE GULF #101
108		658	0	66	622	688	633	98.26%	-11	JAMES D RADER #108
109		509	0	27	484	511	488	99.18%	-4	TITUSVILLE #109
110		507	0	31	487	518	490	99.39%	-3	SUN CITY CENTER #110
112		790	6	37	754	797	760	99.21%	-6	BAY AREA #112
113		710	1	41	660	702	673	98.07%	-13	PORT ST LUCIE #113
119		368	0	15	353	368	357	98.88%	-4	ANTHONY P DADDI #119
122		540	0	69	467	536	493	94.73%	-26	MARATHON #122
123	G	637	0	19	596	615	596	100.00%	0	SPACE COAST #123
125		548	2	25	531	558	536	99.07%	-5	CPL P D LYON JR #125
126		179	0	8	169	177	173	97.69%	-4	SUWANNEE MEM #126
129		358	0	16	337	353	343	98.25%	-6	SO BREVARD BCHS #129
133		951	0	82	890	972	909	97.91%	-19	THE GOLD COAST #133
144		99	0	8	91	99	91	100.00%	0	LA BELLE #144
148		834	4	77	773	854	795	97.23%	-22	AGNES M TAYLOR #148
150		945	0	37	974	1,011	961	101.35%	13	ORANGE BLOSSOM GDNS #150
152		708	0	41	664	705	674	98.52%	-10	SOUTH PALM BEACH #152
155		367	0	14	347	361	350	99.14%	-3	SEBASTIAN RIVER AREA #155
158		201	0	31	194	225	202	96.04%	-8	CRYSTAL RIVER #158
159		20	0	21	1	22	11	9.09%	-10	MIAMI SPRINGS #159
Dept		62,405	1,834	4,454	56,047	62,335	57,077	98.20%	-1,030	



**Legislation  
FOR  
Jan 31, 2017**

## Report describes VHA clinical demonstration project for lung cancer screening

Implementing a comprehensive lung cancer screening program was challenging and complex according to a new article published online by *JAMA Internal Medicine* that describes a lung cancer demonstration project conducted at eight academic Veterans Health Administration hospitals.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends annual lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography for current and heavy smokers who are ages 55 to 80. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) provides care for older veterans, many of whom are current or former smokers. The VHA implemented a three-year lung cancer demonstration project in eight geographically diverse hospitals to understand the feasibility and implications for patients and clinical staff of a lung cancer screening program.

Linda S. Kinsinger, M.D., M.P.H., who is now retired from the VHA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Durham, N.C., and coauthors describe that initial experience.

More than 93,000 primary care patients were assessed on screening criteria and 4,246 met the criteria. Ultimately, 2,106 patients had lung cancer screening between July 2013 and June 2015. Of those, 1,257 patients (59.7 percent) had nodules; 1,184 (56.2 percent) required tracking; 42 (2.0 percent) required more evaluation but the findings were not cancer; and 31 (1.5 percent) had lung cancer, according to the report.

"The VHA LCSDP [lung cancer screening demonstration project] found implementing a comprehensive LCS [lung cancer screening] program that followed recommendations to be challenging and complex, requiring new tools and patient care processes for staff as well as dedicated patient coordination," the authors note.

For example, the VHA has a highly regarded electronic medical record but creating electronic tools to capture the necessary clinical data in real time to meet the needs of lung cancer screening coordinators was difficult, according to the report. Accurately identifying patients and discussing the benefits and harms of lung cancer screening will take significant effort by primary care teams. In addition, performing screening low-dose computed tomography may stress the capacity of radiology services, the article explains.

The authors note limitations of their findings, including that they may not be generalized to non-VHA health care systems.

"The VHA LCSDP found that a comprehensive LCS program is a complex endeavor for both patients and staff. These results will help the VHA plan for broader implementation of such a program across its health care system and may help other groups considering such screening programs to better understand the multiple components involved and the initial clinical effect on patients," the article concludes.

## Chairman Roe Statement on VA Secretary Nomination

Today, Chairman Phil Roe, M.D. (R-Tenn.) released the following statement after President-elect Trump nominated Dr. David J. Shulkin to serve as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: "I am pleased President-elect Trump has chosen a physician to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs, especially one familiar with the integrating of private practitioners into the VA's network of health care providers. I've long said I would be happy to work with anyone committed to ensuring our heroes have access to the services they have earned, especially quality health care, and I look forward to working with Dr. Shulkin to bring wholesale reform to the Department."

Dr. Shulkin currently serves as the Under Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He has served in that post since 2015.



# Chairman Roe Announces Committee Members

Jan 11, 2017

Press Release

For more information, contact: Tiffany Haverly, (202) 226-6340

Today, House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Phil Roe, M.D. (R-Tenn.) released the following statement after eight new Republican members were chosen to serve on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

"I'm excited to welcome this group of lawmakers to the committee. From military service to health care expertise, these members will bring their own valuable experiences to the committee, and will keep us moving in the right direction to build a better VA. I'm especially proud that more than half of the committee's Republican members are veterans themselves. I look forward to working with them as we continue our efforts to increase veterans' access to quality health care, honor our nation's heroes and ensure veterans and their families can utilize the services they have earned."

## **Republican Members for the 115th Congress**

Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL)

Mike Coffman (R-CO)

Brad Wenstrup (R-OH)

Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-American Samoa)

Mike Bost (R-IL)

Jodey Arrington (R-TX)

Jim Banks (R-IN)

Jack Bergman (R-MI)

Neal Dunn (R-FL)

Clay Higgins (R-LA)

John Rutherford (R-FL)

Bruce Poliquin (R-ME)

Jennifer Gonzalez (R-Puerto Rico)

*This list is not in order of seniority*

## Senate Pending Legislation

**S. 3032 (Isakson/Blumenthal), Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2016**, a bill to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2016, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.**S. 3035 (Heller/Tester), Maximizing Efficiency and Improving Access to Providers at the Department of Veterans Affairs Act of 2016**, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to increase the use of medical scribes to maximize the efficiency of physicians at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**S. 3055 (Burr/Tester), Department of Veterans Affairs Dental Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2016**, a bill to provide a dental insurance plan to veterans and survivors and dependents of veterans.

**S. 3076 (Cotton), Charles Duncan Buried with Honor Act of 2016**, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish caskets and urns for burial in cemeteries of States and tribal organizations of veterans without next of kin or sufficient resources to provide for caskets or urns, and for other purposes.

**S. 3081 (Cassidy), Working to Integrate Networks Guaranteeing Member Access Now Act**, a bill to provide certain employees of members of Congress with access to case-tracking information of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**S. \_\_\_\_ (Blumenthal)**, a bill to clarify the scope of procedural rights of members of the uniformed services with respect to their employment and reemployment rights, to improve the enforcement of such employment and reemployment rights, and for other purposes.

**S. \_\_\_\_ (Tester)**, a bill to expand eligibility for readjustment counseling to certain members of the Selected Reserve of the Armed Forces.

**S. 244 (Tester)**, a bill to require an independent comprehensive review of the process by which the Department of Veterans Affairs assesses cognitive impairments that result from traumatic brain injury for purposes of awarding disability compensation, and for other purposes.

**S. 603 (Tester/Murray), Rural Veterans Travel Enhancement Act of 2015**, a bill to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to transport individuals to and from facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs in connection with rehabilitation, counseling, examination, treatment, and care, and for other purposes.

**S. 2210 (Blumenthal), Veteran PEER Act**, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to establish peer specialists in patient aligned care teams at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

## 2017 Mid-Winter Conference

*February 26 – March 1, 2017*

Crystal Gateway Marriott  
1700 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, VA 22202

*Telephone: 1.703.920.3230*

*Toll free: 1.800.228.9290*

Mention group name: "DAV Midwinter Conference"

\$195 Single/Double

