



ST MARY'S CHAPTER NO. 26
P.O. BOX 496,
PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND 20670



Chapter #26, Chartered April 25, 1974



Monthly Newsletter of the
DAV St. Mary's Chapter #26.

May 2023



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FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

Greetings to all.

Let me start by saying Congratulations to all the New Chapter Officers and their hard work in maintaining a sane and structure organization. A big thank you to the Past Chapter Officers that stepped down to give others the opportunity to partake of the DAV Mission in assisting our own Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents. For the New Officers, we encourage you to read your Chapter Officer Guide to properly understand your position in this Non-Profit Organization and ask questions. We are here to help. Remember, you are not alone. Thank you and we bid you all success!

It is so hard to grasp that the month of May is already upon us and May has so many days to celebrate. For instance, Mother's Day. It is a day to honor all mothers in general. Happy Mother's Day! In addition, we celebrate National Mental Health Awareness, National Military Appreciation Month, Armed Forces Day, which honors those who serve in all branches of the United States military, Memorial Day, which is observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military, National BBQ month, and so many more monthly observances. Thank you to all who served for your sacrifice, your bravery and the example you set for us all!

The month of May is when Chapter Service Officers get recertified to do VA Claims in Ocean City and we attend a week of meetings and Comradship with other Chapters. This will take place on 21-26 May 2023 and we will not be available to do VA Claims on Wednesday, 24 May 2023.

There will be future Chapter activities that will require a Chairperson to head and they are as follows: Chapter Picnic, Forget-Me-Not fundraiser, VA Claims Information Seminar, etc.

Lastly, never forget our DAV Mission Statement: "We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity."

Respectfully,
Maira Callis
Chapter 26 Commander



Note: Please send your sickness and distress notifications to the Chaplain, Bob Jones, at gwebo@verizon.net. **Vaughn McCall** has been transferred to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. He is in room 308 B section. Visitors are welcome and if you wish to send a card his address is: Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Mr. Vaughn McCall Room 308 Section B, 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD. 20622.

Thoughts and prayers for Ed Johnson and Wife as well as for Kelly Major. May they all get better soon.



Bits and Pieces

Amazing Grace

A song almost everyone knows but...where did it come from? Who wrote it and why was it written.

A song of Redemption for all Times

“**Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me**” referred to God saving former British slave ship Captain John Newton from a terrible storm that almost killed him. “**Thro many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come**” referred to John’s belief that God brought John and his cargo of African slaves bound for the Americas through perils, grueling conditions and traps that could have destroyed him and his cargo. After this voyage, Mr. Newton left the sea service, became a priest in the Church of England and was an avid abolitionist (a person who sought to abolish slavery during the 19th century).

The U.S. Navy’s White Hat



"The 'dixie-cup' style hat has appeared and reappeared in the Navy as part of the uniform since it was first written into the uniform regulations of 1886." The “Dixie Cup” hat is an iconic piece of the US Navy’s uniform, and is one of the most recognizable facets of the Cracker Jack uniform. Dubbed the “Dixie Cup” because of its resemblance to the paper drinking cup, this white service hat has also been called a “Squid lid”, “Cracker Jack hat”, or just plain “Cover”. Originally intended to replace the straw hats worn by Navy sailors during the warm weather months, this hat had several advantages over its straw forebear – it was more comfortable, inexpensive to produce, and easy to clean and store.

The U.S. Marines part of the U.S. Navy

Until 1834, the Marines were an independent service. President Andrew Jackson wanted to make the Corps part of the Army. However, the Marine Corps commandant at the time, Archibald Henderson, had proven that Marines were important in landing party operations, not just ship-to-ship battles, so Congress decided to put the Navy and Marine Corps into one department, forever linking these two "sister services."

Sonar (Sound Navigation and Ranging)

Daniel Colloden used a bell to measure the speed of sound underwater in 1822. After the Titanic sunk, the idea of using sound underwater to locate objects, primarily icebergs, was taken up by inventors. Lewis Richardson, a meteorologist, was the first to file a patent for an echo locator one month after the Titanic had sunk. In 1914, Reginald Fessenden made an experimental unit, which was able to detect icebergs within a two-mile range, but it could not determine the direction.

During World War I, with the invention of submarines, came the need to locate them. Research of underwater sound location was a primary focus for the British. Both the U.S. and Britain were researching what would be Sonar, and it was kept secret throughout the war. By 1922, units were being produced and by 1923, they were being equipped to naval vessels.

Throughout the war, Britain referred to this underwater locator as ASDIC, which was the Anti-Submarine Detection Investigation Committee. This committee, however, never existed. The name was just a cover-up to keep the actual detector secret. The term SONAR came from the Americans, who used it as the equivalent of RADAR. The term ASDIC was terminated in 1948 when NATO was formed and signals were being standardized.

COINS ON HEADSTONES

Have you ever been in a cemetery and saw coins laying on a headstone? A coin left on a headstone let the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect.



A penny means you visited.



A nickel means you and the deceased veteran trained at boot camp together.



A dime means you and the deceased veteran served together in some capacity.



A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that veteran died.

The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire. Soldiers would insert a coin into the mouth of a fallen soldier to ensure they could cross the "River Styx" into the afterlife. In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war, leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war.

What happens to the coins? They are collected from the gravesites monthly and the money is used for cemetery maintenance, the cost of burial for soldiers, or the care for indigent soldiers.



Chapter #26 Officer's



CHAPTER #26 🇺🇸			
2022-2023			
*Commander	Maira Callis	240-577-4330	Macalex0077@gmail.com
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* Treasurer	Linda Hill	808-341-8333	dustin.richmond6@gmail.com
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+Chaplain	Robert "Bob" Jones	301-481-1339	gwebo@verizon.net
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+Chapter Service Officer	Kelly Major	240-818-1410	lorimaj1983@yahoo.com
+Chapter Service Officer	Michelle Dowleyne	910-644-2348	Micelle.dowleyne@gmail.com
+Chapter Service Officer	Maira Callis	240-925-3490	Macalex0077@gmail.com

*Elected +Appointed

Editors Notes

(Lou Dunn, dunnlc20653@gmail.com)

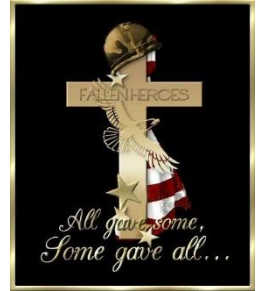
Veterans Crisis Hotline: 800-273-8255, then press 1

LVAP Coordinator: Our LVAP Coordinator is Maira Callis. Please email your hours to her. They may also be given to Maira at any meeting.

Chapter Calendar

May

04	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Wildwood Community Association
04	1900	General Meeting	Wildwood Community Association
14	-----	Mother's Day	A time to remember Mom
15	0900-1100	Operation Open House VSO/CSO Info Table	Charlotte Hall Veterans Home
21-26	-----	Annual Convention	Ocean City
30	-----	Memorial Day	Remember those that have gone before us



June

---	-----	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) awareness month	
01	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Wildwood Community Association
01	1900	General Meeting	Wildwood Community Association
14	-----	Happy Birthday U.S. Army	1775
14	-----	Flag Day	

July

04	-----	Independence Day	
06	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Wildwood Community Association
06	1900	General Meeting	Wildwood Community Association

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

June 01, 1900, Wildwood Community Association, located at: 23050, Wildwood Dr., California, MD. 20619. Arts and Crafts Room.

**THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS' ORGANIZATION IS CHARTERED TO
FULFILL OUR PROMISES TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED.**



Disabled American Veterans
Assisting Those Who Served



Chapter 26





OUR FLAG DOES NOT FLY BECAUSE THE WIND MOVES IT....IT FLIES WITH THE LAST BREATH OF EACH SOLDIER, MARINE AND SAILOR WHO DIED PROTECTING IT.

