



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.

January 2024

DAV Chapter #26 Contact Telephone Number - 240-925-5439 (available 24/7)

Web Site: <https://www.davch26stmarysmd.com/>



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

Hello to All & Happy New Year!!!

As we say good bye to 2023 to bring in the new year we need to remember our comrades, spouses, and family members that passed away. Although, they left the physical world they are still with us in spirit and in our hearts. Let us reflect on all the good they did. John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life."

Thank you to our December guest speaker from the Dept of MD, State Chaplain Benjamin Nelson – He discussed Miracle Messengers for Homeless Veterans and what we can do to help or contact. "No one should go through homelessness alone." If you want to connect with a loved one or make a new friend contact 1-800-MISS-YOU.

The winner for the **Samsung - 75" Class CU7000 Crystal UHD 4K UHD Smart Tizen TV** was Reggie Harris and the Chapter member that sold the lucky number was James Williams. Congratulations Mr. Harris and thank you to all who participated in this event!!! Our next raffle will be a \$250 Scratch off frame with a \$100.00 dollar bill in the center. Yes, a \$350.00 raffle for \$5.00 dollars a ticket.

We had two \$25.00 gift card winners that attended the Chapters Monthly Meeting. Lou Dunn won with ticket #4189939 and Greg Olson with ticket #4189937. In addition, the Chapters 50/50 raffle was won by George Cheverton. Congratulations to all!!!

Our time to celebrate our Chapters 50th Anniversary is fast approaching and volunteers are always welcome and needed. We are celebrating this milestone with a 50th Anniversary Gala to honor our Chapter members and the Charter. Our Special guest and honoree that will also be celebrating 50 years as a DAV Chapter Member is Judge Advocate Ralph Gough. Other Chapter members will be celebrated as well. Our celebration will take place at the Olde Breton Inn in Leonardtown on 27 April 2024. The event is being chaired by Adrina Allen. If you are interested in being part of the committee, please let Adrina know via email at allensjireh@gmail.com.

To further commemorate this event, we would love to feature you in our Digital Souvenir Journal. The Digital Souvenir Journal information sheet detailing prices, deadlines, and submission instructions are enclosed in the newsletter. We thank you in advance for your support and look forward to having you as one of our supporters. If you'd like to show your support by purchasing an ad Souvenir, please reach out to our Souvenir Chairperson Michelle Dowleyne at: 910-644-2348 or @ davchapter26events@gmail.com. If possible, we ask that you provide your ad by **Friday, March 15, 2024**. More information ahead.

There are no words to express how thankful the Chapter is with our six certified Chapter Service Officers (CSOs), our Intake Coordinator Bob Jones, and one of our volunteers Cheryl Colson, which has made processing VA Claims easier and faster while talking to our Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents. Thanks to all who dedicate their volunteer time to our folks!!! As of the end of December 2023 our Chapters cumulative CSO VA Claims is 671 in twelve months. Thank you to all involved in helping our Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents with their claims!!!

This year's Chapter 26 Christmas party was held at the Union Hall on Saturday, 16 December 2023 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. I want to thank Lou Dunn, Kelly Major, Terry Dunn, Bob Jones, Gwen Jones, Mike Bosak, and a BIG shout out to MD Weis Store Manager Mrs. Becky Elledge and an anonymous donor. This party was a true success thanks to the leadership of our Chairperson Lou Dunn & Co-Chair Kelly Major!!!

A big thank you to the following Chapter Members, Spouses, Organizations, and St. Mary's businesses that donated to the Chapter December 2023:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| • Lou & Terry Dunn – Dec | \$100.00 | Earmarked for the Gala |
| • Mark Donovan – Dec | \$100.00 | Earmarked for the Gala |
| • Kathleen Werner – Dec | \$100.00 | In memory of William Rogers |
| • Winters Sheet Metal Inc | \$150.00 | In memory of William Rogers |
| • American Legion Arick Lore Post 274 | \$1,500.00 | Two Veterans Rated at 100% |
| • Earl & Sandra Dean – Nov | \$50.00 | In memory of Anne Wood |
| • Eugene & Joan Morgan – Dec | \$50.00 | In memory of William Rogers |

We are very thankful for your donations and money will be used as per your request. Without your donations and fundraisers our Chapter would not be able to function to its full potential.

The Patuxent River Naval Air Station Commanding Officer CAPT Derrick Kingsley cordially invited our Chapter to attend his retirement.

I wish you all a Safe, Prosperous, & Healthy New Year with your loved ones!!!

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
Commander Chapter 26



Comrade Michelle Dowleyne's mother, Mrs. Gloria Hill, passed away. Please keep Michelle and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Note: Send your sickness and distress notifications to the Chaplain, Bob Jones, at gwebo@verizon.net



FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Greetings Comrades.

As you read this, we have seen the last of 2023. In leaving, the year has left behind memories. Some good and some not so much. We have lost Chapter 26 and Unit 26 members. It is my belief God needed them more than we did so He chose to call them home.

We have Chapter members battling serious health issues and I'm sure we all pray for a speedy recovery. On a much lighter note, we have seen our Chapter continue to grow with the addition of new members. Along with adding new members we have also added two new CSOs.

We are adding a considerable amount of funds to the Chapter's coffers to allow us to continue our primary mission of serving veterans and their families. All in all, under the leadership of our Commander we have seen our Chapter rebound quite nicely from the misfortunes of the past. We have seen the return of some members who had previously abandoned the Chapter amongst the past turmoil. My prediction is we will see even greater growth in 2024.

What a great event our Christmas party turned out to be. It seems a good time was had by all. Kudos to Corky and Kelly in taking the lead and making everything come together. The food was great and quite plentiful. To all of you that provided dishes a very heartfelt Thank You.

Maira and I are working diligently to get the Chapter's books balanced and once again have a timely Treasurer's report. Unfortunately, our Treasurer and acting Treasurer unexpectedly had to resign as Treasurer. But fear not! Maira and I are on the job and we are slowly, but surely, updating the records.

At some point in the not-too-distant future we will be taking nominations and electing a new Treasurer. If you think you would like to be considered for the position and are reasonably adept with math and navigating Excel, please throw your name in the hat. All are welcome to apply.

In closing I would like to say I hope all of you enjoyed a great holiday season. I wish you Peace and Joy for the New Year!

Working For You,
George Cheverton

BITS AND PIECES

The Automatic Transmission

Remember the old “stick shift” on the column? Then came the moving of the stick shift to the floor between the front seats. This promoted faster shifting. The teens loved it for street racing. Then came the automatic transmission - The 1948 Oldsmobile was the first model to use a true automatic transmission. The Hydra-Matic, developed by GM engineer, Earl Thompson, was advertised as: “The greatest advance since the self-starter.” The Hydra-Matic went through continual upgrading and refinements through 1955, but the basic design and theory used were consistent throughout its remarkably long-life span. General Motors replaced the Hydra-Matic in 1956 with the Jet-a-way. The “Jet” was not a roaring success and quickly gave way to the Turbo Hydra-Matic in 1969. Automatic transmissions today are the “norm” and when you talk to some teens about a stick shift, they will say “what is that?” Test them again and say “when I had my rotary dial phone....”

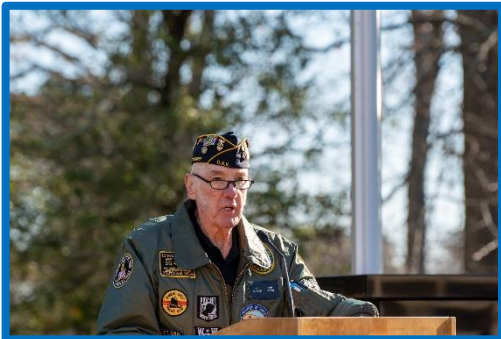
A piece of cake

Yep, it was easy as a “piece of cake.” What? This had nothing to do with a “piece of cake.” Where did that come from? Well, this expression originated in the Royal Air Force in the late 1930’s as an expression for an easy mission and the precise reference is as mysterious as that of the expression “easy as pie.”

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM)

Veterans Monument

The IAM Veterans Monument, located on the banks of the Patuxent River at the Winpisinger Center (Education and Technology Center), will forever pay tribute to U.S. and Canadian military veterans who have proudly served our countries. It will be seen by thousands of IAM members and guests every year who come to the school.



Chapter 26 Chaplain, Bob Jones (Master Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy), gave remarks at the memorial for Chapter 26.





Maryland State Chaplain, Benjamin Nelson, visited Chapter 26 at our Executive/General Meeting



Kelly Major and Lou Dunn delivering the donated Christmas Gifts to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.



The 75" TV was won by Reggie Harris - Congrats





CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023



36 people attended. Everyone had a great time.



Chapter #26 Officer's

CHAPTER #26			
2022-2023			
*Commander	Maira Callis	240-577-4330	macalex0077@gmail.com
*Senior Vice Commander	George Cheverton	410-610-0983	georgecheverton@comcast.net
*1 st Junior Vice Cdr.	James Williams	301-741-6846	james-wms42@outlook.com
*2 nd Junior Vice Cdr.	Michelle Dowleyne	910-644-2348	michelle.dowleyne@gmail.com
*3 rd Junior Vice Cdr.	Robert "Bob" Jones	301-481-1339	gwebo@verizon.net
+ Treasurer	Vacant		
+ Chief of Staff	George Cheverton	410-610-0983	georgecheverton@comcast.net
+ Adjutant	Kelly Major	240-818-1410	lorimaj1983@yahoo.com
+Chaplain	Robert "Bob" Jones	301-481-1339	gwebo@verizon.net
*Judge Advocate	Ralph Gough	301-862-1222	regoughsr.151@gmail.com
+Sgt.-At-Arms	Mike Bosak	301-481-3382	ekim@md.metrocast.net
+Officer of the Day (OOD)	Bob Priddy	410-326-2228	Priddy425@comcast.net
+Public Information Officer	Lou Dunn	301-481-7953	dunnlc20653@gmail.com
+LVAP Coordinator	Maira Callis	240-577-4330	macalex0077@gmail.com
+Lead Chapter Service Officer	George Cheverton	410-610-0983	georgecheverton@comcast.net
+Chapter Service Officer	Kelly Major	240-818-1410	lorimaj1983@yahoo.com
+Chapter Service Officer	Michelle Dowleyne	910-644-2348	michelle.dowleyne@gmail.com
+Chapter Service Officer	Maira Callis	240-577-4330	macalex0077@gmail.com
+Chapter Service Officer	Adrina Allen	757-348-5123	allensjireh@gmail.com
+Chapter Service Officer	James Williams	301-741-6846	James-wms42@outlook.com

*Elected +Appointed

Editors Notes

(Lou Dunn, dunnlc20653@gmail.com)

National Crisis Hotline: New suicide and prevention line is 988.

St. Mary's County Crisis Support: St. Mary's also has a crisis help line. Visit the web site at smchd.org/crisis for information on local crisis support and mental health services as well as a variety of tips on talking with children, self-care and more.

LVAP Coordinator: Our LVAP Coordinator is Maira Callis. At the end of each month please email your hours to her. They may also be given to Maira at any meeting.

Chapter Elections: Yep, it's time again. In the month of **February – nominations for offices, March – voting/elections, April - installation**. On the roster of officers listed at the top of this page you will see a red * by the officer billet title. Those officer billets are elected. Think about running for one of those offices. If you would like to help out with a committee or non-elected office look at the one's with a + symbol. Those offices are appointed by the commander. Either way pitch in and help your chapter.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

CHAPTER #26
St. Mary's County

DAV CHAPTER 26 SOUVENIR JOURNAL AD FORM

Digital Souvenir Journal

NAME _____

(Point of Contact for this AD)

Address _____ (To return photos
used in Advertisements)

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____

Wording for AD (*as you would like it to appear in the AD*)

Advertisement Prices:

The commemorative souvenir journal will be in Word format. Digital format.

Ads must be submitted electronically ready to davchapter26events@gmail.com

*Photographs should be high resolution prepared via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to (at least 300 dpi)

****Ads will not be printed without receipt of money** The rate for all ads is \$50

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ADS IS

Friday, 15 March 2024

Amount Enclosed \$50.00

Please email your advertisements to davchapter26events@gmail.com – indicate **DAV Digital Souvenir Journal in Subject line.**

Make Checks and or Money orders Payable to:

**DAV Chapter #26
P.O. Box 496
Patuxent River, MD 20670**

Chapter Calendar

January 2024

01	-----	New Years Day	
04	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Union Hall
04	1900	General Meeting	Union Hall
04	1900	Special Elections	
10	1000	NAS Change of Command	Hangar 109
13	1100	2 nd Qtr DEC Meeting	8068 Quarterfield Rd. Severn MD 21144
15	-----	Martin Luther King Day	—————→



February 2024

01	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Union Hall
01	1900	General Meeting	Union Hall
14	-----	Valentines Day	Do not forget those who care for us so much
19	-----	George Washington's Birthday	



March 2024

07	1745-1845	Executive Meeting	Union Hall
07	1900	General Meeting	Union Hall
15	-----	Deadline for purchasing an AD for our Digital Souvenir Journal	
31	-----	Easter	—————→



NEXT EXECUTIVE AND CHAPTER MEETING

February 1

Special Notification: 4 January 2024 Special Elections

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





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



