



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.

June 2024 (CH-1)

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

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



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER



Salutations,

June heralds the celebration of Father's Day, Juneteenth, the commencement of summer, and the commemoration of the establishment of the Army.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to all our CSOs: George Cheverton, Kelly Major, James Williams, Thomas Ridley, and myself, for successfully completing recertification with the DAV Dept of MD, alongside Bob Jones, Cheryl Colson, and Sheila Edwards. Your diligent efforts have expedited the processing of VA Claims, facilitating quicker and easier access for our Veterans, Spouses, and Dependents. As of May 31st, 2024, our Chapter's cumulative CSO VA Claims have reached 59. Thank you to everyone for their steadfast dedication to serving our community. Don't forget to submit your LVAP Hours!

Beginning May 1, 2024 and running through June 30, 2025, any DAV or DAV Auxiliary member who recruits at least one DAV member is eligible to win a trip for two, including hotel, to Las Vegas for the 2025 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention and \$2,500 spending money! For more information click on the following link. <https://www.dav.org/membership-recruiter-rally/>

In celebration of the Chapter's installation of new officers, we've arranged an **Installation Potluck** on Saturday, June 29th, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Local Lodge 4 IAMAW Union Hall, 21795 C, North Shangri-La Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653. Stay tuned for further details on the menu and if you want to join the committee in the coming days!

We are pleased to announce that a representative from the Sheriff's Department will provide a briefing on dealing with unwanted individuals in our homes, addressing concerns such as squatters, and ensuring our safety while staying within the limits of the law. This briefing will take place on July 11th (our rescheduled meeting night due to the 4th being a holiday) at the Union Hall. The deputy will arrive around 7:15 PM. As we will have a regular meeting that night, please arrive at the normal meeting opening time.

Lastly, let us always uphold our DAV mission statement: "We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity."

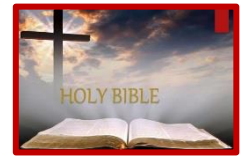
Respectfully,

Maira Callis

Commander Chapter 26



*Prayer doesn't mean anything
until it means everything to you.*



Please report all sickness to me – your chaplain. Past Commander McCall was in the hospital but has since been released and is back at Charlotte Hall. George Cheverton has been released from St. Mary's Hospital.

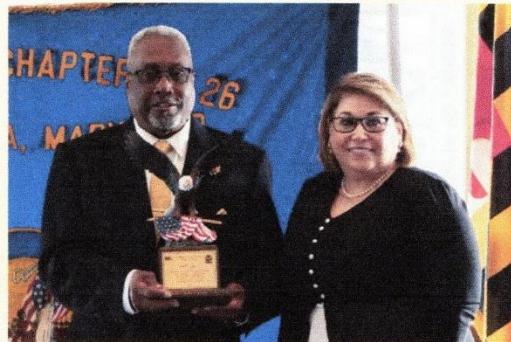
29 JUNE 2024 INSTALLATION/POTLUCK CHAPTER EVENT

Suggested Food	Volunteers Name	Quantity
Fried Chicken	Chapter	
Spiral Ham	Chapter	
Refreshments (Sodas, Water, Tea..)	Chapter	
Plates, Napkins, Utensils, misc..	Chapter	
Lumpias		
Potato Salad	Kelly Major	
Cole Slaw	Sheila Edwards	
Baked Beans	Lou Dunn (Baked by Terry)	
Spanish Rice	Maira Callis	
Deviled Eggs (4 dozen)	2dz Bob & Trudy Priddy, 2dz Sheila Edwards	4 dozen
Fresh Salad (Spinach, Arugula Cherry, Tomatoes, Cucumbers,) dressing		
Anti-Pasta (pasta, pepperoni, cheese, etc.)		
Rolls and Butter	Matt Langford	
Fruit Salad (Watermelon, pineapple, grapes, cantaloupe, honeydew melons	James Williams	
Desserts		
Suggested Desserts	Volunteer Names	Quantity
Cookies	Ralph and Wanda Gouch	1 tray
Brownies	Bob and Gwen Jones	1 tray
Cup Cakes	Cheryl Colson	1 tray

DAV Chapter 26 – 50th Anniversary Gala Event



State CDR Mattie Whitfield & 50 Year DAV Member Judge Advocate Ralph Gough



50 Year DAV Chapter 26 Judge Advocate Ralph Gough & Chapter 26 CDR Maira Callis



Chapter 26 CDR Maira Callis & Partnership Sponsor Local Lodge 4 President Jeremy Leissner



Chapter 26 CDR Maira Callis & Sponsor WEIS Callaway MGR Becky Elledge



Chapter 26 CDR Maira Callis & Sponsors Brian Skibicki & Virginia Callis



State CDR Mattie Whitfield, Chapter 26 CDR Maira Callis, & Chapter 26 – 50th Gala Chairperson Adrina Allen

DAV Chapter 26 – 50th Gala Anniversary Collage



DAV Chapter 26 – 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration with Family & Friends

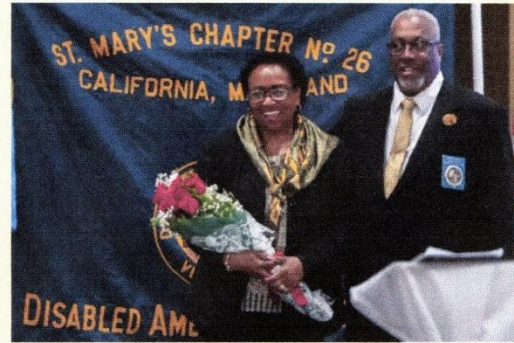


Mr. & Mrs.
Ralph Gough

Towanda Gough
(Daughter),
Ralph Gough Jr.
(Son), Family
& Friends



Sheila Edwards
(Adjutant) &
Maira Callis
(CDR)



DAV Chapter 26 – 50th Gala Anniversary Collage





Bits and Pieces



The Outhouse

Ever wonder where the symbol on an Outhouse door came from? Did you know there were two symbols that were used (male and female)? I didn't either. Have you ever used one? I have, hope I never have too again. Oh well as the story goes, in the 1800s and earlier, literacy was not widespread, so the common symbol used to differentiate between a man's privy and a women's was that the men's door carried a *sun* or *star symbol*, while the women's stalls were marked with a *moon*. If both symbols were used then both can use it.



Restroom or Bathroom?

Restroom: A room containing toilets and sinks. More likely used in reference to a space in a commercial structure or public space. Years ago, some even contained a couch (in the ladies' room) which was used for *resting*. **Bathroom:** The room containing a toilet, sink and a tub or shower. More likely to be used in a residential setting. So next time you have to go you will know whether you are using a restroom or a bathroom, or maybe just behind the bush in the back yard.

The "Head"

Why is the toilet aboard a Naval Vessel called a "Head"? Well, years ago in the days of iron men and wooden ships, the front or bow of the ship was called the Head of the ship. And since the main propulsion of the vessel was the wind, the ship was mostly pointed down wind. Therefore, the toilet was placed in the area of the bow or head of the ship for obvious reasons. Down through the years the name "Head" for the toilet never changed. Even on some pleasure boats, with toilets installed, the toilet is often called the "Head".

Glad all that is over, excuse me I have to go the.....to the.....oh hell, I don't know, I'll just go outside and look for the nearest bush.



Lou Dunn, Bob Jones, Kelly Major, and Mike Jones place the Chapter 26 wreath for the Memorial Day ceremony at the American Legion in Ridge. The Ceremony had to take place inside due to the weather conditions.

Chapter #26 Officer's

CHAPTER #26			
2022-2023			
*Commander	Maira Callis	240-577-4330	macalex0077@gmail.com
*Senior Vice Commander	James Williams	301-741-6846	james-wms42@outlook.com
*1 st Junior Vice Cdr.	Mike Jones	253-606-4408	shotgroup@hotmail.com
*2 nd Junior Vice Cdr.	Michelle Dowleyne	910-644-2348	michelle.dowleyne@gmail.com
*3 rd Junior Vice Cdr.	Kelly Major	240-818-1410	lorimaj1983@yahoo.com
* Treasurer	George Cheverton	410-610-0983	georgecheverton@comcast.net
+ Chief of Staff	George Cheverton	410-610-0983	georgecheverton@comcast.net
+Adjutant	Sheila Edwards	240-216-4013	sedinars101461@gmail.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	Reggie Harris	443-538-4138	redg.harris@earthlink.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
+Chapter Service Officer	Thomas Ridley		Tek_wear@hotmail.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 Calendar

June 2024

(PTSD Awareness Month)

06 1745-1845 Executive Meeting
 06 1900 General Meeting
 *14 ----- Unit 26 Fundraiser
 14 ----- Happy Birthday U.S. Army
 16 ----- Father's Day
 19 ----- Juneteenth
 *28 ----- Unit 26 Fundraiser
 29 1300-1700 Installation Potluck Dinner

Union Hall
 Union Hall
 Chick-fil-A
 1775 -----
 Time to remember Dad ----->
 Freedom Day
 Texas Roadhouse
 Union Hall ----->



July 2024

04 ----- Independence Day
 **11 1745-1845 Executive Meeting
 **11 1900 General Meeting
 11 1915 Squatters Briefing
 *18 ----- Unit 26 Fundraiser
 27 ----- Korean War Ended

Union Hall
 Union Hall
 St. Mary's Sheriff Dept. Deputy
 Sweet Frogs
 1953



August 2024

1 1745-1845 Executive Meeting
 1 1900 General Meeting
 4 ----- Happy Birthday U.S. Coast Guard
 7 ----- General George Washington established the Purple Heart Military Decoration - 1782

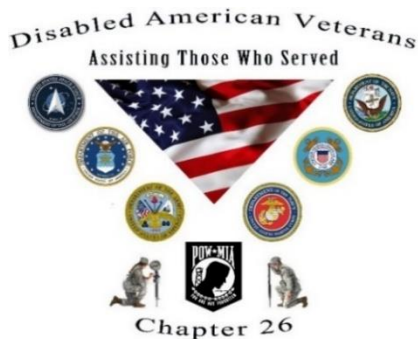
Union Hall
 Union Hall
 1900 General Meeting
 1790 ----->



* Unit 26 is having fundraisers at various restaurants. Buy a meal at those restaurants and a portion of the payment for the meal goes to help support Unit 26 in their efforts to help our veterans and their families.

** Meeting date changed to 11 July due July 4th is a holiday.

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.

