



## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC.

200 Atlantic Avenue • Lynbrook, New York 11563 • (516) 887-7100 • Fax (516) 887-7175



**December 2007**

### **SERVICE TO OTHERS**

*Theodore Barbuto, Department Commander*

*"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their country."*

*~ George Washington~*

I was honored to be asked to be the guest speaker at the Monticello Veteran's Day ceremony at the Monticello Government Center. It was held in the beautiful Catskill region of Sullivan County. Debbie and I were impressed by the outpouring of community support for veterans in the Monticello community. I met Al Etkin who was the Master of Ceremonies and Paul Hnatiw, Commander of DAV Chapter #198 who helps service veterans in his area. I was presented with an "Amputee Veteran Pin" by Craig and Stephanie Johnson who coordinate "Operation Support Our Troops" in Monticello. They have raised over \$50,000 to purchase a van for an amputee veteran as well as putting together hundreds of boxes to mail overseas to our active troops. What great service to veterans is coming from this area!

I was presented with a Veterans Honor Wreath from the children of K.W.S.

Bear Road Elementary School in North Syracuse, New York. This presentation from the children took place in their school gym with over 700 in attendance. I presented the wreath to the Syracuse VAMC to display to our local veterans in Central New York.

Volunteer drivers are needed at all VAMC's to help service our veterans getting to and from their appointments. I, along with Syracuse HSC Frank Caputo, gained media attention in Syracuse for this need. We were interviewed by Local Channel 3 news and asked for volunteers to apply to the hospital. We had over 25 responses to our televised request and are currently screening the new applicants. This was a great response. Talk to your local television stations and you may be surprised at the number of people who are willing to fill the need for drivers but had not thought about it or realized that this service is needed in your local areas.

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual "Salute to Freedom" fund raiser dinner was held on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. DAV Department of New York was in attendance and we were well represented. This fund raiser is to bring about the return of "The Intrepid" to Pier 86, in New York City. National Commander Rob Reynolds and Dave Gorman were National DAV representatives to this prestigious event.

December is a month in which many people and organizations are



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generous in their giving and service to others. We celebrate holidays which remind us to be thankful for what we have been given as well as giving of ourselves to help each other. Remember to visit hospitalized veterans and take a few moments to sit and listen to their stories. A gift is nice, but the gift of our attention is even greater.

My family and I wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season. Have a prosperous and healthy New Year and remember to keep our mission in mind to

This came home most vividly when a young woman Shirley and I knew from Cleveland who recently ended her life by doing a “brody” off a 10<sup>th</sup> floor hotel balcony in Los Angeles. A youthful, wealthy, and charming person who suffered all her life with a serious mental disorder. Simply put, it was a great waste.

Multiply this tragedy by any yardstick when reviewing the current military suicide statistics; and you have a burgeoning tragedy of tsunamic proportions.

The old saw that states “figures don’t lie but liars figure” is still remarkably true. There has been a recent study released tracking the suicide rate of veterans in VA care. The trust of the reports as related in various newspaper accounts which gave an overall impression that suicide rates evaluated in the study did not cover all veterans; since most former servicemen and women with mental problems do not

service and assist our Disabled American Veterans and their families.

### THE “ANATHEMA” OF SUICIDE

*Sidney Siller, Sr., PDC*

*Department Adjutant*

One of the most unsettling things in life is to learn that one of your relatives or friends committed suicide. It is everyone’s loss when someone feels impelled to end their life.

seek treatment in the Veterans Affairs system.

The study, a joint effort by the University of Michigan and the Veterans Affairs Department included detailed records of over 800,000 veterans; was the largest and most comprehensive research ever undertaken. It included returning patients from Iraq and Afghanistan.

The study found 1,683 suicides in all, a rate of 1% - far lower than earlier studies found. It also found that in contrast with studies of non-veterans, that the risk of suicide generally goes up with age, the rate was highest among those ages 18 to 44 and dropped about 20% for those ages 45 to 64, and then rose after age 64.

Veterans treated for PTSD as well as depression were at significantly lower risk of suicide. Veterans suffering from two conditions were found to be 20% less likely to commit suicide than those who were treated for depression alone.

One conclusion is that veterans being treated for PTSD have more access to



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services, such as psychotherapy and if they receive disability payments, that may help account for the difference.

The group studied those 807,694 veterans treated in the VA system from April 1999 to September 2004; all were veterans of Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The evolution of the world, and its multi-dimensional societies has never solved the prevention for a slice of society to the point of self-elimination.

However, two things immediately scream at us. The first, that most veterans with mental issues do not seek VA care/treatment. This is tragic. I do not believe that all civilian psychiatrists, psychologists, or therapists have the

Following a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendation on October 17, 2007 Tricare now covers Zostavax, the vaccine designed to prevent shingles for beneficiaries 60 and older. Shingles is a painful viral disease that affects more than one million Americans every year. More than half of those cases happen in people age 60 or older. Shingles is caused by the varicella-zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox in children. It remains in the body for decades, sleeping in nerve cells along the spinal column.

A shingles rash usually appears on one side of the face or body and lasts between two and four weeks. It is painful and can be accompanied by fever, headache, chills and upset stomach.

resources and expertise in caring for our potentially impaired comrades. And of course, if this conclusion is true, how do we recruit these war scarred veterans to seek the treatment and care that they need and deserve.

Suicide is a fact and reality in our veteran world and to lower the rate of this social failure, we must face it and accept it as one of our priorities.

Life is important and in every sense of the word and should be imperative for all of us. It should not be taboo.

### **TRICARE SHINGLES VACCINE**

*Tricare News Release No.07-89 13 Nov 07*

The CDC recommends a single dose of shingles vaccine for everyone age 60 and older. In a shingles prevention study done by the Veterans Administration Cooperative Trial, run by Dr. Michael Oxman out of the University of California, San Diego, Zostavax was more than 50% effective in reducing the incidence of shingles and more than 60% effective in reducing some of its associated symptoms. Even in people who suffer from the disease, most of those who were vaccinated experienced less pain.

Tricare covers all immunizations recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and formally endorsed and adopted by the CDC. For more information on shingles and the vaccine refer to the CDC Web site,



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[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-shingles.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-shingles.pdf)

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### **The Brooklyn Historical Society Opens its New Oral History Gallery On December 14 with an Inaugural Exhibition Honoring Local Veterans**

#### ***In Our Own Words: Portraits of Brooklyn's Vietnam Veterans***

**WHAT:** A high-tech exhibition, honoring Brooklyn's own Vietnam War veterans, will open the Brooklyn Historical Society's Oral History Gallery on December 14. *In Our Own Words: Portraits of Brooklyn's Vietnam Veterans* combines life-sized photographic portraits of selected veterans with audio clips recounting their experiences – in their own words and voices. When a visitor stands in front of each portrait, their motion will activate the voice, sounding as if the speaker is standing beside them. Memorabilia belonging to the 9 pictured veterans will also be on display. In addition, a computer kiosk will offer more stories from the selected veterans and others.

*In Our Own Words* was created as a result of co-curator Philip Napoli's years  
**Joan Furey** - A Brooklyn native, Joan joined the Army Nurse Corps as a Second Lieutenant in 1968. After serving four months stateside she volunteered for Vietnam and was assigned to the 71<sup>st</sup> evacuation hospital in Pleiku, Vietnam

of work, collecting over 100 oral histories from Brooklyn veterans. The Brooklyn College Professor joined with Kate Fermoile of the Brooklyn Historical Society and producer, Alison Cornyn of Picture Projects, to present this long-overdue homage.

Among the Brooklyn Veterans featured in the exhibit are:

**John and Denis Hamill** - the brothers of journalist Pete Hamill grew up in the "Irish Getto" of Park Slope. John enlisted as a medic in the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade in 1967. Despite being against the war, John wanted to witness what he believed would be his country's "defining moment." Although brother John was too young to enlist, he experienced the potent effects of the war on his country and his city. After both brothers graduated from Staten Island Community College, John began his career in journalism at the Village Voice. He is presently the Director of Communications at Brooklyn Collage. Denis went on to become a journalist, writing for numerous publications including the New York Daily News, where he is currently a columnist and an author of over ten novels.

where she served from January 1969 through January 1970, earning a bronze star. Since 1975, she has worked for the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Ms. Furey currently lives in Sayville, LI.



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**Anthony Wallace** - Anthony grew up in the Marcy projects between Williamsburg and Bedford Stuyvesant. After attending Kingsburg Community College, he accepted a position as a typist for ConEd.

Anthony entered the military in 1969 after which he was elected to enter noncommissioned officers school. In 1970, he went to Vietnam where he was hurt in an attack that left twenty-five US soldiers wounded and seven dead. Upon his return home, Anthony earned his BA from Brooklyn College. He continues to work for ConEd.

**WHEN:** Exhibition Opens - Friday, December 14, 2007.

**WHERE:** Brooklyn Historical Society  
128 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, NY

For hours of operation and a complete list of featured Veterans, call 718-222-4111 or visit [www.brooklynhistory.org](http://www.brooklynhistory.org).

### **VA/DOD COMMENCE SINGLE DISABILITY EXAMINATION PILOT FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS**

*VA Press Release*

***Evaluation to Provide Smoother  
Transition to Disability Benefits and  
Compensation***

WASHINGTON (November 29, 2007) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) this week began a pilot program to test a new single disability evaluation system for wounded warriors at the three major

military medical facilities in the Washington D.C. area.

This initiative is designed to eliminate the duplicative and often confusing elements of the current disability processes of the two departments. Key features of the disability evaluation system (DES) pilot include one medical examination and a single-sourced disability rating.

The single disability examination pilot is another improvement as a result of the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors (Dole/Shalala) and is aimed to simplify health care and rehabilitation for injured service members and veterans.

This pilot program will seek to ease the transition of wounded service members through the disability evaluation system to reentry into the civilian community with more efficient delivery of disability compensation at the time they leave military service.

VA is providing the medical professionals performing the examinations. The pilot is being conducted for service members at the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and the Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., and will run for one year. Throughout the pilot, VA and DoD officials will monitor progress to determine potential expansion into other locations.



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The pilot includes all non-clinical care and administrative activities, such as case management and counseling requirements associated with disability case processing from the service

### **NATIONAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS**

*Arthur H. Wilson, National Adjutant -  
Memorandum November 28, 2007*

With the approval of National Commander Robert T. Reynolds, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Robert E. Lougee as Assistant National Service Director at National Service and Legislative Headquarters in Washington, DC, and the assignment of Brian E. Austin as Supervisor of our National Service Office in Denver, CO, and National Area Supervisor.

We extend to them our sincere congratulations in their new positions, knowing that they will continue to perform their new responsibilities with the same dedication and professionalism that have marked their careers at DAV.

As Mr. Lougee and Mr. Austin assume their new duties and responsibilities, we know that they will continue to meet with success in their chosen careers as advocates for disabled veterans and their families.

### **DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS (SPENDING)**

*NAUS: November 16, 2007*

On Tuesday, President Bush signed the Defense Appropriations bill. It is the

member's initial referral to a Military Department Medical Evaluation Board to VA's compensation and benefits program.

first of the 12 fiscal 2008 funding bills to become law. Unfortunately, it may be the only one for a long while. The bill carries a continuing resolution that provides funding to the rest of the government through Dec. 14.

The Defense appropriations bill provides \$459.3 billion in discretionary funding, which is \$39.7 billion, or 9.5 percent, more than last year's spending but \$3.5 billion less than the President's request. The bill does not contain war funding, except for \$11.6 billion for mine-resistant vehicles to protect U.S. forces in Iraq. The costs of supporting our troops in the field is appropriated in the supplemental spending bill, HR 4156.

### **HATE-CRIMES LEGISLATION JEOPARDIZES DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION CONFERENCE**

*NAUS: November 16, 2007*

The conference on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) remains undone. Conferees thought the final agreement would be completed this past Wednesday, but things went upside down when action stalled over a provision that was added in the Senate dealing with an unrelated matter and an unnecessary distraction. It's hard to understand, but House and Senate conferees are at



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loggerheads on (of all things) whether to include an expansion of “hate-crimes” legislation, a measure totally unrelated to defense, in the final conference report. The “hate-crimes” provision found its way into the conference by way of a Sen. Kennedy (D-MA) amendment that was added by voice vote to the Senate version

On Wednesday, the House passed HR 4156, the so-called Orderly and Responsible Iraq Redeployment Appropriation Act for 2008. The supplemental defense-spending bill would provide \$50 billion to fund the troops in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan until Feb.

1. The funding bill is called a “bridge fund” because it carries funds for only a portion of the President’s request until a final decision is made on the remainder. The bill also contains a number of provisions calling for a timetable for the withdrawal of American troops and, therefore, it sets up another Senate showdown over Iraq withdrawal provisions today.

As approved, 218 to 203, the House bill includes a demand that U.S. troop withdrawals from Iraq begin within 30 days of enactment, with a “goal” of withdrawing most troops by Dec. 15, 2008. Use of funds in the bill would be restricted to missions of force protection, counterterrorism, and training of the Iraqi security forces.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration where, according to reports, Senate Majority leader Harry Reid (D-NV) admitted that he has no reason to believe

of the bill. We urge conferees to get back on track, remove the language, conclude the conference and report it back for final congressional approval.

### **HOUSE TIES STRINGS TO FUNDING FOR TROOPS IN HARM’S WAY**

*NAUS: November 16, 2007*

that more Senators will support the strings-attached war-funding bill than supported the numerous previous failed measures that likewise sought to force President Bush to start withdrawing troops from Iraq.

If passed with the “strings,” NAUS expects the President will veto the bill and another unnecessary showdown with Congress on funding for our deployed troops will begin.

As we go to press, we have learned the Senate will vote today on two supplementary war-funding bills. The above-mentioned HR 4156 and S. 2340 which is a \$70 billion bill offered by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY). The McConnell bill has no “strings” attached and has no timetables for withdrawal of troops. It is expected that neither bill will get the needed 60 votes to move them along.

Because the supplemental is required to fund war operations, spending for the troops in combat will have to be borrowed from regular DoD operations, which is provided in the base Defense appropriation. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said in a Thursday press conference this could be done for a short



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period, but that without bridge funding, he would have to start planning by mid-December for domestic base closures and layoffs. He called the thought that troops in the field could be covered by shuffling accounts “a serious misconception.”

Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) disagreed with Sec. Gates and said, “There is enough money ... at least through February ... the days are over when the money is sent, no questions asked.”

NAUS calls all to understand that as this political tug-a-war is underway, our troops face real-life combat in a life and death situation. Our courageous military men and women need our support, and we must not break faith with them.

### **STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO VETERANS**

“We recognize the growing need for jobs and a better quality of life for our veterans and their families,” states Lawrence L. Barker, Jr., NYSID President and Chief Executive Officer. “The Preferred Source Program offers veterans many diverse employment opportunities, and is adaptable to meet their unique needs.”

Jobs under the NYSID Preferred Source Program range from assembly, packaging and light manufacturing to data imaging, electronics recycling, janitorial and temporary office services. New

New York State Industries for the Disabled, Inc. would like to introduce you to their new “Veterans’ Preferred Source Employment Program.” They are currently working with NYS Department of Labor veterans program employment specialists, Veteran Outreach Centers, Veteran Hospital Domiciliaries, Veterans Homeless Shelters and VA Hospitals to spread word of this program.

NYSID, a not-for-profit corporation currently holds 1,200 state-approved contracts which employ 6,600 New Yorkers through a statewide network of 150 member agencies and corporate partners who are interested in employing our veterans. Many of which are major employers in their communities, and can offer both NYSID contract and many other types of job opportunities to both disabled and non-disabled veterans.

services under consideration include security, trucking, warehousing, vehicle maintenance and warehousing/distribution, all of which may offer opportunities for trained veterans.

For further information, please contact either Jim Haggerty, NYSID Veterans’ Program consultant at (518) 784-3208, or Joe Messina, NYSID Sales Manager at (800) 221-5994, ext. 300. A Veterans’ Program brochure is also available on the NYSID web site: [www.nysid.org](http://www.nysid.org).



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### CHRISTMAS GREETING TO WOUNDED SERVICE MEMBERS

*NAUS: November 8, 2007*

In response to numerous requests from many well meaning people who want to do something for our "wounded warriors" at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Bethesda Naval Medical Center and all the other military medical facilities where these brave men and women are receiving care, there are several appeals going around the internet. Please read the below statement taken directly from the Walter Reed website. As you can see there are many other ways to show your support. Please consider one of them.

*"Walter Reed Army Medical Center officials want to remind those individuals who want to show their appreciation through mail to include packages and letters, addressed to "Any Wounded Soldier" that Walter Reed will not be accepting these packages in support of the decision by then Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for <http://www.usocares.org/http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/tooursoldiers/http://www.redcross.org> For individuals without computer access, your local military installation, the local National Guard or military reserve unit in your area may offer the best alternative to show your support to our returning troops and their families. Walter Reed Army Medical Center will continue to receive process and deliver all mail that is addressed to a specific*

*Transportation Policy in 2001. This decision was made to ensure the safety and well being of patients and staff at medical centers throughout the Department of Defense.*

*In addition, the U.S. Postal Service is no longer accepting "Any Service Member" or "Any Wounded Service Member" letters or packages. Mail to "Any Service Member" that is deposited into a collection box will not be delivered.*

*Instead of sending an "Any Wounded Soldier" letter or package to Walter Reed, please consider making a donation to one of the more than 300 nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping our troops and their families listed on the "America Supports You" website, [www.americasupportsyou.mil](http://www.americasupportsyou.mil).*

*Other organizations that offer means of showing your support for our troops or assist wounded servicemembers and their families include:*

*individual. As Walter Reed continues to enhance the medical care and processes for our returning service members, it must also must keep our patients and staff members safe while following Department of Defense policy. The outpouring of encouragement from the general public, corporate America and civic groups throughout the past year has been incredible. Our Warriors in Transition are amazed at the thanks and*



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*support they receive from their countrymen.”*

### **VA TO EXPAND DIABETES PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

*NAUS: November 16, 2007*

Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Gordon H. Mansfield said this week that the VA plans to expand its efforts to prevent and control diabetes as part of an ongoing campaign to help veterans eat healthy, watch their weight and stay physically active. The VA has provided diabetic care to 70,000 veterans in more than 200,000 hospital and clinic visits since 2005.

Acting Secretary Mansfield said VA plans to keep expanding its diabetes awareness effort as part of the Department's broader Healthier US Veterans campaign. Last year, television stations around the nation aired more than 3,000 VA-produced broadcasts about eating healthy and staying active. The Department held a symposium for health care professionals in Washington, D.C., and several public events around the country to inform veterans of the dangers of diabetes.

VA's tele-health program allows patients with diabetes to monitor and transmit their blood pressure and blood glucose levels from home to VA facilities, thus improving their access to care and

allowing them to take control of their own health through improved communication from home with their health care providers.

Some veterans with diabetes qualify for VA disability compensation. Those veterans must have a diagnosis of diabetes and evidence that it began or was aggravated during active duty or within one year of release from duty. Since 2001, veterans who served in Vietnam and later developed adult-onset (Type 2) diabetes have been eligible for disability compensation. This policy affecting Vietnam veterans is an outgrowth of research into the effects of Agent Orange.

### **VETS, MILITARY RECEIVE FASTER EDUCATION BENEFITS**

*VA Press Release*

#### ***VA Pledges Continuing Improvements***

WASHINGTON (December 3, 2007) — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today it has dramatically improved its ability to process applications for GI Bill education benefits from veterans and servicemembers.

“Our processing time is good, and it's going to continue to get better,” said Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Gordon H. Mansfield. “These improvements come despite a 40 percent



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increase in applications for GI Bill benefits since 2001.”

For first-time recipients of educational benefits, the average processing time decreased from 40 days in 2006 to 32 days in 2007. Claims from veterans reenrolling for subsequent school terms or

As an example, VA created a temporary call center in late 2006 to respond to customer service calls, freeing additional employees to process education claims. The center's success led VA to develop plans for a permanent call center, scheduled to open in early 2008 at VA's Regional Processing Office in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

VA has also developed programs that promote self-service among GI Bill users. Services that once demanded the attention of VA employees - from enrolling in direct deposit to updating contact information - can now be performed online. In October 2007 VA has also expanded its self-servicing approach to school officials, many of whom now submit veterans' enrollment information electronically. VA uses this electronically submitted data to process automatically more than 100,000 of the more than 1.5 million education claims received in fiscal year 2007.

While these accomplishments are significant, VA remains committed to continued improvement in the delivery of education benefits. The Department's performance goals are aggressive, calling

additional training programs were processed in an average of 13 days, down from 20 days in 2006.

VA developed short-term strategies for immediately processing more claims.

for 20 percent reductions in processing time during the next year.

“VA is on the right track, as demonstrated by processing times last month of 26 days for initial applications and 10 days for reenrollments,” said Keith Wilson, Director of VA's Education Service. “There are a lot of folks who share in our success, none more central than the hardworking employees at our Regional Processing Offices.”

In 2007, 524,000 veterans and beneficiaries received approximately \$21 billion dollars of education assistance. Since 1944, more than 21.4 million veterans and their beneficiaries have received GI Bill benefits.

VA education benefits include Montgomery GI Bill for active duty personnel, Montgomery GI Bill for Selected Reserves, the Reservist Education Assistance Program and educational assistance for survivors and dependents.

For more information on VA education benefits, go to VA's education Web site at: [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).

**E-MAIL FROM HAL HICKS -  
LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR**



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### *Contacting Your Legislative Officials*

Frequently I, and others working in a legislative capacity, ask for your support in contacting our elected officials (the President and Congress) on matters of importance to our veterans. This week I am reminded of just how easy this action can be on the computer. So please let me offer two remarkably easy ways this may be done.

One of my favorite sites is MOAA.org. Here you will be furnished an editable draft email message that has been composed on a number of different topics of concern from which you may select and a place to add your name as the originator.

Instruction - go to:

MOAA.org

Legislative Director

### **TAPS**

Department has been notified that the following comrades have been called into final formation above:

**Howard E. Abbott**, Chapter #153,  
11/07

**Nicholas Lattano**, Chapter #30 Past  
Commander, 11/07

Department and the membership extend deepest sympathies to the family members, friends and comrades of these fallen heroes. May each one rest in honor.

Please feel free to call, write or e-mail [\*\*davny@optonline.net\*\*](mailto:davny@optonline.net) Headquarters if

Click Legislative Action

Click Contact Congress

Under the elected officials tab type in your zip code, then hit 'go'

The next screen shows the President, your two senators and your representative.

Click 'email' and that will offer you the automated input.

Another and perhaps easier method is provided by AUSA. Simply click on the URL below and take action basically as outlined above. <http://capwiz.com/ausa/>.  
Hal Hicks

you have a loss in your Chapter that you would like to include in this column.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **2008 Mid Winter Conference**

March 2, 2008 to March 5, 2008  
Crystal Gateway Marriott  
Arlington, VA 22202

#### **State Executive Committee and Seminars**

March 28, 2008 to March 30, 2008  
Hudson Valley Resort  
Kerhonkson, New York

#### **Department of New York's 87th Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday May 18, 2008



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El Caribe Country Club  
Brooklyn, New York

### **Department of New York Convention**

June 22, 2008 to June 25, 2008  
Hudson Valley Resort  
Kerhonkson, New York

### **2008 National DAV Convention**

August 9, 2008 to August 12, 2008  
Bally's Hotel Las Vegas  
South Las Vegas, NV