



Cpl. William F. Reardon
MA. Chapter 57
“The Can Do Chapter”
Chapter 57 Newsletter
P.O. BOX 57
Taunton, MA 02780

Website:
<http://davtaunton.tripod.com>
E-Mail - Davch57@yahoo.com

CHAPTER OFFICERS 508 -828-1808

Commander	Mort Morin
Sr. Vice Commander	Leroy Crossman
Jr. Vice Commander	Francis Ardita
Adjutant	Paul Waldron
Treasurer	Martin Fox
Chaplain	Armando Medeiros
Officer of The Day	James Zahar
Sergeant At Arms	Stephen Horton
Service Officer	John Fielding
Quartermaster	Norman Willoughby
Armorer	Frank Ardita

March / April 2009

Volume 6 Number 4

Page 1

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

As the year closes would like to give special thanks to three members, whom many consider my “Inner Circle”; Pete Fox our Treasurer, Paul Waldron our Adjutant and Norm Willoughby our Quartermaster. Pete is the only elected one of the group; so, you helped put him in my grasp. I grabbed Paul and Norm on my own.

Those three individual are the primary reason why we now have our own building, our quarters a Chapter Home. They egg me and you on to work on achieving this task. They didn’t do it alone many of you helped in one way or another. Leroy Crossman, Steve Horton, Bill Laliberte and Jim Zahar for example were always doing one thing or another to help out. And others, too numerous to count were part of the package that delivered the Chapter quarters to us.

Pete, Leroy, and Norm were the primary movers for the Forget-Me-Not Campaign. But, they couldn’t have accomplished anything without Bill and John Fielding and a host of others; like, Norm Record, Walt Campbell, Fran Creney, Francis Ryan Ardita (don’t you love those names), Armando Medeiros, Lorie Mathias, Ron Bettencourt and others already named and many unnamed. As a result of your efforts we have been able to donate thousands of dollars worth of clothing, comfort items and prizes to our less fortunate comrades and their dependents, particularly those still hospitalized veterans.

It’s still nice to have someone exclaim admiration at the number of members Chapter 57 has at functions ranging from District council meetings to visits to Brockton VAMC wards. Earlier this month, a former HSC was ecstatic to see almost a dozen of our Chapter members waiting in the lobby before going upstairs to a Horse Racing session and pizza party for ward on the first and second floor of Building 2. You made the difference between our Chapter and others.

Our Chapter is represented not only locally but on the District level and at the Department level. It is also, indirectly, represented in the local National Order of Trench Rats (NOTR) dugout and at the state sector level.

I hope to see you all very shortly in our new home 5-7 Taunton Green. Maybe you’ll be able to help us get it ready. Maybe, you can even help support it through our Chapter’s Administrative Fund. This is going to be a dedicated fund to help redecorate, remodel and remedy existing problems. Why not think of it as the 3R Administrative Fund and make a donation?

Thank you all for the support you have given me. We’ll meet soon, I hope.

CHAPTER REAL ESTATE UPDATE

The former Chapter 36 building, has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Armand Gloria. The closing paperwork was completed at the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds office in Brockton, Ma. on March 3, 2009. Signing the paperwork was Commander Morton E. Morin, in his capacity as President of the William F. Reardon, Chapter 57 Disabled American Veterans, Inc.

The Chapter was represented in the transaction by Taunton Attorney Robert G. Funke. Present at the closing were Mr. and Mrs. Gloria and their Attorney Jack I. Smolokoff, Chapter 57 Corporation Officers, Treasurer Martin “Pete” Fox, Trustee Norman Willoughby and Clerk Paul Waldron. Realtor George Chace of Middleboro, who listed the property for sale was also present. The meeting lasted about one hour and included the filing of the new deed reflecting the new owners.

With the transfer of this property the total merger of Middleboro’s DAV Chapter 36 with Greater Taunton’s Chapter 57 is complete. It is a happy day for all that have worked to bring this about. It is always good to see the end of a project. However it is also “Bitter / Sweet”.

Why is it Bitter / Sweet? It is for one reason only. We have witnessed and been part of the end of what was once an active and viable DAV Chapter. It is a terrible thing to witness the end of a Chapter that was once a big part of the lives of injured or wounded veterans. Chapter 36 had helped many with their VA claims, and gave them a place to have comrades that understood them. They helped untold numbers of DAV members, their widows and orphans

The sweet part of this is the fact that after seventy five years Chapter 57 has a home of its own. It is of note that this occurs on this Anniversary year. We have purchased the building in the center of Taunton, MA. With the address of 5-7 Taunton Green. We didn’t realize the address is our Chapter number 57, until we had made an offer and it was accepted. The other thing we did not realize is that if you reverse the Chapter number and the address they both are 75. Now we understand the significance of the relation between 57 and 75!

75 years of existence and this is the first time we have a home of our own. Ok, now that we have a home what are we going to do with it?

It will of course be used for meetings. It will be a central, accessible location to keep our Chapter records and belongings. We have plans to have a Service Officer Available to assist individuals in filing claims. It will give the community more and ready access to our Chapter. We would also like to begin holding classes for Disabled Veterans. It will be utilized!

**PRIZE DRAWING
UPDATE**

We have two different monetary prizes at each meeting. The first is a door prize with a chance being given to every member in attendance. It is \$25.00 for some lucky attendee at the meeting. Secondly, we have a Membership drawing which requires the member to be in attendance or forfeit the prize. The names of each individual member are maintained in a jar. One name is drawn at each meeting. This drawing is progressive, in that, the amount is increased each month until won by a member who is in attendance.

PRIZE DRAWINGS

\$25.00 Attendance Door Prize:

January – Lou Demers

February – Ed Hall

Membership Prize

(If not present the prize is forfeited).

January – Joseph Martyniak

February – Not Present

CH. 57 MEETINGS

Third Tuesdays of each month

Except July & August

Meeting time - 6:30PM

Elk's Lodge 119 High St.

Taunton, MA.

MEETING DATES :

May 19, 2009 - Officer Installation

June 16, 2009 – Regular Meeting

RECENTLY DEPARTED

COMRADES

William R. Holmes	March	WWII
Frederick Patrick Sr.	March	WWII
Robert F. Lavigne	March	Viet. Era
John Wade	Feb.	WW II
Walter Allen	Jan.	UKN
Edmond Swan	Dec.	UKN
Harold Bass	Dec.	UKN

57'S CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Lately I've been thinking about Birds! You have probably heard the "On Eagle's Wings". Why isn't it "On Crow's Wings", or some other type of bird! After thinking about sparrows, canaries, robins and a bunch of other birds, the answer became clear. The Eagle is a majestic bird, that exudes courage, determination, perseverance, and many other traits that man also possesses.



Eagles face many challenges every day as do we humans. In the face of storms we don't see eagles fold up their wings and sit in their nest feeling sorry for themselves. Let's try to imitate the eagle and when life's troubles gather around us, spread your wings and soar above them. The eagle knows that the higher he flies the better and brighter the sky is. We need to soar to our better and brighter skies.

How do we soar above the tempests of life, since we don't have wings, you might ask. Well, have you ever heard the expression, "There are no atheists in foxholes"? A lot of prayers have been offered in that situation of life's trouble. There is nothing in life that we are asked to bear that we can't soar above, on the wings of a prayer. The World War II song, "Coming In On A Wing And A Prayer", says the same thing. How many made it back on the prayer!

We all face our own personal and family crises and storms. They may be small squalls or large tempests. In either case we, there is nothing in life that we are asked to bear, that we can't soar above on the wings of a prayer. After the storm you will find that you have gained new strength and courage.

By soaring like an eagle in the face of these storms you will find yourself flying above the life's trials and tribulations. Be like the eagle in courage, determination, perseverance and soar like him on the "Wing And A Prayer.

God Bless till next time

Please notify me of any illness or passing of members at **508-822-4837** Armando Medeiros

WALK WITH US

We are in real need of Color Guard and Honor Guard members. We hope to be able to perform rifle volleys with the M-1 Rifles at ceremonies. If interested contact Commander Morin as listed below. The Honor Guard and Color Guard will perform as a Unit

Our VA Medical Center parties are well underway. It would be great to see new volunteers at these events. The hospitalized Veterans look forward to this diversion from their routine. Please volunteer, its only 1-1/2 hours a month out of your time, that's not asking a lot of you to put a smile on a vet's face. **All parties begin at 6:30 pm in Bldg. 2. Meet at the front entrance of the building. The next dates are on page 3 of this newsletter.**

If you would like to assist Chapter 57 at **Homes For Our Troops**, Call Sgt. at Arms, Steve Horton, for more info at 508-339-6587.

The Chapter Color Guard is in need of younger members, that are able to walk. We need both members and alternates.

For more information on other opportunities to help out call Mort Morin at 508-828-1808 and help us in our commitment to Disabled Veterans.

Commander Morin is constantly in awe of all our members contribute He notes the praise that our Chapter receives from within and without the DAV community as a result of your our accomplishments actions. Keep up the good work!

Don't sit in front of the TV. Do something for others as you have given of yourselves in the past. You can still serve you fellow countrymen just in a different way than before. Let others they are not forgotten.



**WOODYS ALL AMERICAN
BARBER SHOP**
(508)669-4114

1160 SOMERSET AVENUE N. DIGHTON, MA. 02764
SENIORS & DAV MEMBERS HAIRCUTS \$10.00



**GENE HARDY
FLOORING**

" For All Your Flooring Needs
414 Bay Street
Taunton, MA. 02780 508-822-5881 Fax -508-822-2181
Sales Installations Free Estimates

James N. Perry, Proprietor

PERRY JEWELERS
FINE JEWELRY

IN STORE REPAIRS

Hours:

400 Broadway	Wed. - 9:30 - 5:30
Taunton, MA. 02780	Thur. - 9:30 - 5:30
Tel. (508) 822-8876	Fri. - 9:30 - 5:30
	Sat. - 9:30 - 3:00

CHAPTER 57 TELEVISION SHOW
HIGHLIGHTS CHAPTER
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We at Chapter 57 felt that it was time that the good things we do for Disabled Veterans was discussed on the Chapter's Cable Access TV Show "The Fifty Seven Show". We were prompted by an old E-Mail that is make the rounds of forwarded E-Mails and finding its way into the "Inboxes" of people across the nation and around the world! The crux of this E-Mail is that it is critical of the way veterans groups spend the monies collected through donations. It claims that much of the money isn't spent on veterans. It not only criticizes the DAV but other National Veteran's Organizations.

We in Chapter 57 feel the Disabled American Veterans is doing a very good job in providing for Disabled Veterans on a National level. We know that on the Chapter Level we are doing a good job. Some of our initiatives that were discussed were;

Direct aid to Disabled American Veterans.

1. Chapter runs a monthly Pizza party and Dog Racing (TV Game) in Building #2 at the Brockton VA Hospital.
2. Chapter direct assistance to local Disabled Veterans.
3. Donations of clothing to Veterans Homes and shelters.
4. Cash contributions to Organizations giving direct aid to Disabled Veterans (Homes for Our Troops and The Fisher House Foundation).
5. Coordinating clothing give away programs by local companies like Ocean State Job Lot.

Assistance to Widows of Disabled Veterans.

1. Assisting these individuals with the filing of claims for benefits.
2. Providing limited Home Heating Fuel assistance to those that qualify as most needy.

Providing information to our members.

1. Publishing a newsletter with information of importance to our members and other veterans.
2. Sponsoring a monthly TV show to showcase our members and provide information to them and the public on a variety of topics.

Community activities.

1. Participation in community Parades, functions and ceremonies including the Chapter Color Guard.

All donations received during our Forget-Me-Not fund raising drive are spent in direct service to Disabled Veterans. No Member or officer is paid. We are all volunteers.

CHAPTER 57 VAMC PARTY PROGRAM

The schedule for the program, which is held in Building #2 at the Brockton VA Hospital on Belmont Street in Brockton, MA (Just off Route 24), is as follows; **26 May 23 June**
We meet at 6:00 – 6:15pm at the entrance to Building #2, the night of the program. Please save this article as a reminder of the dates of this important service program.

YOUR NEW QUARTERS



The new Chapter Quarters is located at 5-7 Main Street in Taunton, Between Runes Café and DeVito's Pizzeria. It is across the street from Taunton Green. In the picture above, the old K of C sign is still in place. It will be replaced as soon as we can with our Disabled American Veterans sign.

There will be a Service Office on the first floor. It will be called the Robert E. Doherty Service Office, in memory of Bob. The Meeting Room on the first floor will be called the Morton E. Morin Meeting Room in honor of our present Commander. This is in recognition of his tireless efforts to make the dream of a Chapter Home a reality. We will have our June meeting here. Please come!

ADVANCED HANDYMAN

We Do It All! Energy Efficient Windows/Doors
All Types Of Siding, Roofing & Decks
All Your Home & Business Repairs

Satisfaction Guaranteed Insured


Telephone 508- 962-9198

Rick Correia Senior Citizens Discounts



DESRO Gift Shops

Mill Stores Plaza
638 Quequechan Street
Fall River, MA 02721
(508) 646-9096



Legislation for a "Veterans Corps"

The House of Representatives passed legislation to create a Veterans' Corps. It was included as part of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education (GIVE) Act.

"I am extremely proud that a Veterans' Corps is one step closer to becoming reality," Congressman Phil Hare said. "Creating a Vet Corps will answer President Obama's call to service while honoring our commitment to America's veterans."

The Veterans Engaged for Tomorrow (VET) Corps Act was coauthored by Hare and Congressman John Sarbanes (D-MD), his former colleague on the Education and Labor Committee. It will establish a service corps, similar to AmeriCorps or Senior Corps, for veterans by veterans.

The primary mission of the Veterans' Corps will be to recruit and mobilize veterans to serve the needs of their fellow servicemen and women. It will collaborate with Veterans Service Organizations, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other groups to provide education, job training, and mentoring to our nation's veterans.

"Our nation's veterans have already demonstrated a profound commitment to service," Hare said. "Vet Corps aims to harness that spirit and in the process give back to those who have sacrificed so much by providing them with critical support and services."

The Veterans' Corps will be overseen by the Corporation of National and Community Service. It would be the first of its kind. President Obama has announced his strong support for the GIVE Act.

Pentagon OKs Media Photos of War Dead

WASHINGTON - News organizations will be allowed to photograph the homecomings of America's war dead under a new Pentagon policy, defense and congressional officials said Thursday.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates has decided to allow photos of flag-draped caskets at Dover Air Force Base, Del., if the families of the fallen troops agree, the officials told The Associated Press.

Gates planned to announce his decision later Thursday, they said. The current ban was put in place in 1991 by President George H.W. Bush.

At least two Democratic senators have called on President Barack Obama to let news photographers attend ceremonies at the air base and other military facilities when military remains are returned to the United States. The Dover base is where casualties are brought before they are transferred on to the hometowns of their families.

Gates told reporters earlier this month that he was reviewing the policy and that if the needs of the families could be met, and the privacy concerns could be addressed, he favored honoring fallen troops as much as possible.

Gates said he initially asked for the ban to be reviewed a year ago, and was advised then that family members might feel uncomfortable with opening the ceremonies to media for privacy reasons or that the relatives might feel pressure to attend the services despite financial stresses.

Shortly after Obama took office, Democratic Senators. John Kerry of MA and Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey also asked the White House to roll back the 1991 ban.

Push to Fix VA Health Care Funding

Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act requires that veterans' health care be funded one-year in advance of the regular appropriations process.

Historically, the VA's health care system has been plagued by under-funding. Even with sufficient funding, the money for VA has been provided late in 19 of the past 22 fiscal years. Sometimes, the appropriations have come as late as February, when VA needs the funds in October. The Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act requires that veterans' health care be funded one-year in advance of the regular appropriations process. By knowing what funding they will receive one year in advance, VA would be able to plan more efficiently, and better use taxpayer dollars to care for veterans.

**CHAPTER 57 TREASURER
MARTIN "PETE" FOX
IS RUNNING FOR
3RD JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
DAV DEPARTMENT OF MA.**



QUALIFICATIONS

Viet Nam Era Vet 67-69, Life Member DAV since 2000. Member of Chapter 57 Taunton Ma. (The Can Do Chapter). Treasurer Chap. 57, Coordinator of the Chapter Forget-Me-Not Drive. Member of the Board of Directors of Chapter's 57's Corp.

Organize and coordinate Ch. sponsored VA parties. Member of the Chapter Events Committee. Member of Chapter Color Guard Assist with the Production of the Chapter's Television Show. Treasurer for District 7 Member DAV Department of Massachusetts Membership Committee.

The Chapter wholeheartedly supports Pete in this undertaking. Fair winds and following seas!!

O'KEEFE - WADE
Funeral Home Inc.
Kevin Wade Funeral Director
70 Washington Street Taunton, MA 02780
508-823-3371
Serving All Faiths Pre-Need Planning Cremation Services Available

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
JAMES H. FAGAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHAIRMAN - COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
3rd Bristol District - Taunton
**"THANK YOU VETERANS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO AND
HAVE DONE"**
STATE HOUSE ROOM 163 BOSTON, MA 02133 -1054
TEL. (617) 722-2240 FAX (617) 722-2347
E-Mail: Rep.jamesFagan@hou.state.ma.us

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009 – 2010

The Nominating Committee formed at the February 17, 2009 Meeting. Presented a preliminary at the March 17, Meeting . The final Committee Report will be presented at the April 17 Meeting just prior to the election of next years officers. The Committee reported that all present officers are interested in maintaining their present seats and will accept nomination and serve if re-elected. The present officers are listed on page one of this newsletter.

CALL BY CHAPTER FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

To: ALL Chapter 57 Members
 From: Cdr. Mort Morin and Chapter 57 E-Board
 Re: PLEASE Consider a donation

We have received permission from the Department and National to conduct an administrative fund raising campaign. We are soliciting our members. The monies raised will be to renovate and update our new quarters. (As you know, we cannot utilize Forget-Me-Not money for this purpose; FMN money is solely for services to disabled veterans and theft families.) The money we realized from the sale of the Chapter 36 Middleboro building was used to purchase the K of C building; In Taunton There is barely enough left over to make the repairs and purchase necessary equipment. We must raise administrative money.

Will you PLEASE make a contribution? We are not planning to sell the naming of chairs or dishes if you make a donation. We won't even designate a parking spot in your name for a really B I G donation. The fact is that we won't even tell anyone if you did or did not make a donation. That is a very personal thing and we know that some of you are not financially able to donate.

What we would like is for everyone, whether you live in greater Taunton or not, to make a gesture of your faith in Chapter 57. As commander, I'm sure that the new quarters will serving Disabled American Veterans long after I've left Taunton to final quarters. Buying and renovating the building is an opportunity that will, probably, never come again.

Please, send your contribution to:

**DAV Chapter 57, Administrative Fund
 P.O. Box 57
 Taunton, MA 02780**

Thanks: Mort Morin, Cmdr., Leroy Crossman, Sr. Vice Cmdr.
 Frank Ardita, Jr. Vice Cmdr., Pete Fox, Treas., Armando Medeiros, Chaplain.

**Donors names will only be published if so requested.
 Please indicate either PUBLISH or ANONYMOUS**

THOUGHTS FROM JVC

I attended the Middleboro Veteran's Council meeting and while there, numerous issues were brought up by the Council. What struck me most was the issue of veterans who fraudulently misrepresent themselves by assuming battle identities which are truly not their own. This calls to mind a preponderance of those veterans and non-veteran's who have used someone else's identity, or have added untrue awards to their own portfolio.

The Internet is loaded with identity frauds and this is just another of the areas which has become of national interest. Locally, we have had people from our own areas, who claimed to have received awards from our government and other governments who have never served in those areas. I cannot think of a greater fraud or disgrace that one could carry if charged and convicted of such a crime. A few years ago, as most may recall, a high ranking Admiral took his own life rather than be exposed for wearing a combat decoration that he did not deserve.

Another area that was discussed and is of grave importance to all of us, is the area of honoring our beloved dead. A young man named Sgt. Dana McQuade came to the Veteran's Council meeting, and gave us a talk on the possibility of having some members of the Council join along with the Massachusetts National Guard's Honor Guard at the National Cemetery at Bourne Massachusetts. Some members of the Honor Guard would come to the chapter meeting and assist in training those volunteers in the proper procedure. I did not vote to have this activity done. The reason I say this is because each veteran's organization have their own color Guards, and it is difficult at best to get enough members to perform our own ceremonies. However, Sgt. McQuade, did advise that those veterans of the United States Army, could participate at any time at the Bourne National Cemetery and receive a \$50.00 compensation if they wish to come and assist, but must wear dress blues to participate. Most members opted not to participate at this time, but this motion was to be looked at another time.

I do find it really interesting that many people see things so differently in respect to issues which one would think veteran's would agree with.

Remember my comrades, to be compassionate and helping to one another, as we are coming of age into the winters of our lives and that extra kindness could be helpful.

Until Next Time.... Frank Ardita

HOORAH! OOHRAH!

So, where did the term originate? The simple answer is that nobody knows, although there are dozens of theories. Heck, nobody can even agree on the correct spelling of this widely used military "word." No matter how one might spell the word -- with or without a hyphen, a U instead of two Os, and so on -- the word is still an expression of high morale, strength and confidence. And, when powered by an overwhelmingly proud, and usually loud, tone of voice, by a group the message comes through clearly.



JOE THE TAILOR
 161 WEST WATER STREET
 TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS
 (508) 823-3421
 10% DISCOUNT FOR DAV MEMBERS WITH ID

If you're looking for an active DAV Chapter then consider joining the innovative Chapter 57 Team! We keep inventing, evolving, growing, donating, helping, caring and being!



Robin MacGibbon
Robin's
 Corner Flower Shop
 (508) 824-2821 (800) 643-5029
 394 Bay Street Taunton, MA 02780
 Fresh cut & silk flower arrangements
 Balloon bouquets, Fruit Baskets
 Credit Cards by phone Worldwide Delivery
 WWW.robinsflowers.com



DAV STAND UP FOR VETERANS

ISSUE BRIEF: TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

There is a great need to improve screening, diagnosis and treatment for mild-to moderate traumatic brain injury, a prevalent injury among Iraq/Afghanistan veterans.

The Situation

- Traumatic brain injury (TBI), a very common injury to veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, can cause devastating and often permanent damage to brain tissue. Even mild-to moderate TBI, much harder to diagnose, can lead to lasting physical and psychological problems.
- Many OEF/OIF veterans have suffered “mild,” but pathologically significant, brain injuries that have gone undiagnosed and largely untreated. Behavioral problems, memory loss, disruptive acts, depression and substance-use disorder are symptoms associated with TBI.
- According to a 2008 RAND study, 19 percent of returning OEF/OIF service-members report possible TBI. RAND estimated that over 300,000 service-members had experienced TBI, but only 44% of them have been evaluated by a physician.

The Challenge

- The Department of Defense still lacks a system-wide approach for identification, management, and surveillance of individuals who sustain mild-to-moderate TBI in combat.
- VA programs addressing the needs of service-members with mild-to-moderate TBI have not been fully developed or implemented.
- Veterans with TBI often have difficulty communicating their health status or seeking proper assistance. Complicating this situation, many rural veterans are unable or unwilling to overcome the barrier of distance to reach the nearest VA medical center.

The Solution

- Proper screening and personalized recovery plans are essential to detect and treat TBI, particularly for those cases that are mild to moderate in severity.
- An increase in DOD and VA specialists with TBI expertise is needed to assist in identifying and managing the complex conditions prevalent in this population.
- More research is necessary to understand the long term consequences of TBI, as well as the development of best practices in treating these injuries. These studies should also focus on older veterans who may have suffered these injuries in earlier wars, to detect mild-to-moderate cases of TBI and study their consequences.

STOP TRICARE FEE INCREASES IN 09

The Military Retirees Health Care Protection Act would provide the following to protection from TRICARE fee increases until September 30, 2009'.

The Military Retirees Health Care Protection Act (H.R. 816), if passed, would provide the following to protection from fee TRICARE fee increases until September 30, 2009'.

- 1) Prohibit increases in amount of cost sharing requirement under pharmacy benefits program.
- 2) Prohibit increases in charges for inpatient care.
- 3) Prohibit increases in premiums under TRICARE coverage for certain members in the Selected Reserve.
- 4) Beginning in January, 2009, the monthly amount of the premium for TRICARE standard coverage under this section may not be increased above the amount in effect for the month of September 2008.'

The following provisions of H.R. 816 are based upon the following findings of congress:

- The primary offset for enduring the extraordinary sacrifices inherent in a military career is a system of extraordinary retirement benefits, including health care coverage.
- A significant share of the Nation's health care providers refuse to accept new TRICARE patients because TRICARE pays them significantly less than commercial insurance programs.
- The majority of the savings that the DoD associates with the proposed fee increases is expected to come from deterring a large portion of TRICARE beneficiaries from using their earned military health benefits.
- The Department of Defense has other options to constrain the growth of health care spending in ways that do not disadvantage beneficiaries and should pursue any and all such options rather than seeking large fee increases for beneficiaries.

BEWARE OF NEW SCAM

Scam artists have a new way to get you to release your personal information to them. They use internet available software that allows them to use any phone number they want to show up on your caller ID machine or cell phone. They may even use your bank’s telephone number,



The software even lets them change their voice. They will say something like this is your bank and may even use the real bank’s name. Why not their already using the number. The caller will ask you to verify your account info and ask for your PIN Number. **DO NOT GIVE OUT ANY INFORMATION OVER THE TELEPHONE, PERIOD !!!!**

Paiva's Catering

Great Portuguese / American Food

<p>John Paiva 203 Washington St. Taunton, MA. 02780</p>	<p>Contact Us Tel. 508- 880- 8847 Fax. 508- 977- 0615</p>
--	--

**TAUNTON COMMUNITY ACCESS
& MEDIA INC.
CHANNEL 15**

**Kimberly A. Matthews
Executive Director**

<p>45 Main Street Taunton, MA. 02780</p>	<p>Tel. 508-824-2207 Fax. 508-824-5638</p>
---	---

TCAM 15 - YOUR COMMUNITY CHANNEL

Send us your funny stories. We'll use non offensive, family style jokes. Please include your name.

MILITARY LANGUAGE

The reason the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marines bicker amongst themselves is that they don't speak the same language. For instance, Take the simple phrase "secure the building". The Army will post guards around the place. The Navy will turn out the lights and lock the doors. The Marines will kill everybody inside and set up an HQ.. The Air Force will take out a 5 year lease with an option to buy.

DAD'S HOMECOMING

The long-awaited day came at last when Mother took us to the station to welcome Father home from the war. My brother Harry, who had been very small when Father went overseas and couldn't remember what he looked like, was watching everything intently.

As the soldiers left the train, they marched past the roped-off crowds. Father was the first to come by. Mother called to him and he broke ranks to greet us.

We were overjoyed to have Father home again, and everything went smoothly until later in the day when Harry misbehaved and Dad scolded him.

Harry glared at him, then turned to Mother and demanded indignantly, "Did you **have** to pick the first one you saw?"

TAX PAYMENT

Dear IRS

Enclosed is my tax return & payment for this year's taxes. Please take note of the attached article from the newspaper. In the article, you will see that the Pentagon is paying \$171.50 for hammers and NASA has paid \$600.00 for a toilet seat. Please find enclosed four toilet seats (value \$2400) and six hammers (value \$1029). This brings my total payment to \$3429.00.

Please note the overpayment of \$22.00 and apply it to the "Presidential Election Fund," as noted on my return. Might I suggest you the send the above mentioned fund a 1.5 inch screw." (See attached article...HUD paid \$22.00 for a 1.5 inch phillips head screw.)

It has been a pleasure to pay my tax bill this year, and I look forward to paying it again next year.

Sincerely,
A satisfied taxpayer

THE MUGGER

Late one night in Washington, a mugger wearing a ski mask jumped into the path of a well-dressed man and stuck a gun in his ribs. "Give me your money!" he demanded.

Indignant, the affluent man replied, "You can't do this. I'm a United States Congressman!"

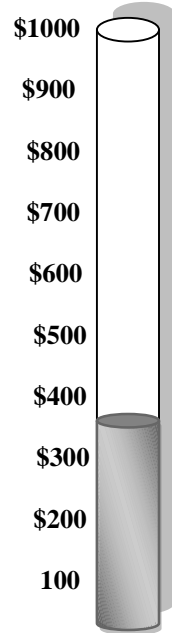
"In that case," replied the robber, "give me my money!"

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDING FUND

CONTRIBUTER

This fund was mentioned in the Commander's letter. This fund is to be used to cover administrative and building needs. It is totally separate from the Forget-Me-Not funds. We will put this column in each newsletter to recognize those that have contributed to this important fund. This drive is just beginning and our members have started to respond. We are grateful for this.

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>
\$1- \$24	
\$25 - \$49	
\$50 - \$99	
\$100 - \$199	Morton Morin
\$200 - \$299	
\$300 - \$399	Paul Waldron
\$400 - \$500	



AUTO WARRANTY FIRMS RUN SCAMS

It uses postcards, letters, and phone calls to sell outrageously priced extended warranties. The mailings look like an important notice from your car dealer or automaker. There is always an eye-catching warning on the front of the card, such as: 'Final Notice: Expiring Auto Warranty.'

The postcards are annoying enough. Now there are constant phone calls trying to sell extended warranties.

If you are the recipient of one of these sales calls, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. The government has the power to sue these companies, fine them, and make them stop any misleading sales practices.

OAKLAND VARIETY STORE
BEER, WINE, AND SPIRITS
246 TREMONT ST.
TAUNTON, MA. TEL. 508-822-1951

REESE'S AUTO SALES 
 Fine Guaranteed Used Cars
 Automotive Service Center Propane Filling Station
Edward Reese 556 Somerset Avenue
(508) 824-0953 Rt. 138 Dighton, MA.

Taunton Federal Credit Union
"The home of one stop shopping"
14 Church Green Tel. (508) 824-6466
Taunton, MA 02780 Fax (508) 824-0050

THE STIMULUS PACKAGE AND DISABLED VETERANS

Social Security, announced today that the federal government will send out \$250 economic recovery payments to people who receive Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits beginning in early May 2009 and continuing throughout the month. No action is required to get the payment, which will be sent separately from the person's regular monthly payment.

"The Social Security Administration has been working closely with other federal agencies to get these payments out the door in record time and into the hands of folks who need it most. These are checks that will make a big difference in the lives of older Americans and people with disabilities - many of whom have been hit especially hard by the economic crisis that has swept across the country."

"We have been working diligently to issue the \$250 one-time recovery payments as soon as possible. The legislation requires extensive coordination with other federal agencies and I'm pleased we are on track to issue these recovery payments earlier than the statute requires. Soon more than \$13 billion will be in the hands of more than 50 million Americans."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides for a one-time payment of \$250 to adult Social Security beneficiaries, and to SSI recipients, except those receiving

Continued to right.

THE STIMULUS PACKAGE AND DISABLED VETERANS (Continued)

Medicaid in care facilities. To receive the payment the individual must be eligible for Social Security or SSI during the months of November 2008, December 2008 or January 2009.

The legislation also provides for a one-time payment to Veterans Affairs (VA) and Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) beneficiaries. The VA and RRB will be responsible for paying individuals under their respective programs. However, if someone receives Social Security and SSI, VA or RRB benefits, he or she will receive only one \$250 payment. People getting Social Security or SSI should not contact the agency unless a payment is not received by June 4, 2009.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION INFO

The Federal Trade Commission is the nation's consumer protection agency. The FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection works For The Consumer to prevent fraud, deception, and unfair business practices in the marketplace.

COMPLAINTS MAY BE FILED

By phone: toll free 877-FTC-HELP (382-4357); 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday;

By mail: Consumer Response Center, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580;

Come and join us. ----- We can use your skills if you would like to help. ----- Will you walk with us???

**Cpl. William F. Reardon Chapter 57
Disabled American Veterans
P. O. Box 57
Taunton, MA 02780**

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #57
TAUNTON, MA**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED