



[Check the Website for DAV Chapter #23](#)



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Next Monthly meeting is:

Wednesday May 22, 2024

2024-25 E-board Please Wear "RED" Shirts (If you Have one)

I should have the new ones to bring.

(We wore BLUE Last Month)

Setup Volunteers Please arrive at 4:00 PM
to assist with the meeting room setup.

1700 E-board meeting (back room)
1800-1900 Social Hour (Meal Time)
1900-TBA 2024-25 Members Meeting

Feeling Generous and want to make a Donation to our chapter?

Donate by Mail

Make Checks Payable to: "DAV - Chapter #23"

**DAV Chapter #23
PO Box 10335
Santa Ana, CA 92711**

Your gift gives ill and injured veterans the opportunity to live a life with respect and dignity. Help change the lives of even more veterans in need with a donation to DAV today.

About Your Gift

By making a gift to DAV you are empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

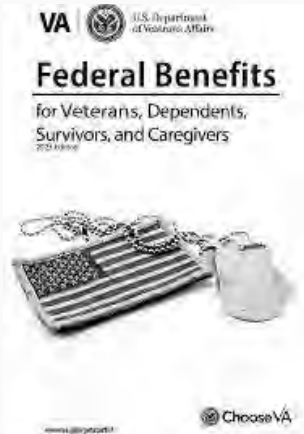


DAV Chapter 23 2024-2025 E-Board

Commander Ron Counts
Jr Past Commander Mel Forbes
Sr Vice Commander Bob Sanchez
Jr Vice Commander Craig Abbott
Adjutant/Secretary Ed Sherlock
Assistant Adjutant Secretary Mona Marche
Treasurer Richard Sundell
Judge Advocate Joe "Nightrain" Gramoglia
Chaplain #1 Doug Zimmer
Chaplain #2 Charles Frost
Executive Committee Member David King
Executive Committee Member Steve Mask
Sergeant-At-Arms Ana Maria "Raine" Bouchard
Membership Admin/Web/Newsletter John "Mack" Mackus
Officer Of The Day Manuel Alvarez



RESOURCES



VA Federal Benefits Booklet

The [VA Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents Survivors, and Caregivers booklet](#) is a thorough guide that explains the numerous VA benefits and services to Veterans, their families and caregivers, and includes several helpful phone numbers and websites.

[View the VA Benefits Booklet](#)

Gypsum Canyon Cemetery
(Orange County Veterans Cemetery)

[watch the Video](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

5-17-24 - State Convention - Feria // Double Tree Hotel - Orange

5-25-24- Cottonwood Church -Los Alamitos- Doreen Matsumoto

5-27-24- Forget Me Nots fundraiser (7 day event) - 5-27-24 thru. 5-31-24- Monday thru Friday

Note: Craig Abbott will be setting up our booth for hats and bracelets (VP, State Convention & Doreen's Event). All volunteers are welcome to help with these events.

Please, contact DAV-Commander Ron Counts if you would like to help out. - 714-673-9807

Completed - 5-11-24 - Villa Park High School Car & Motorcycle show

Hi all,

A great big shout-out to all those who could volunteer at the Villa Park & Motorcycle event Saturday.

Our next DAV- event which we received the approval (Donations for hats, bracelets on sale) on is from the DAV- State on 5/17/24 Friday at the Feria // Double Tree Hotel convention in the city of Orange. Please, contact Jr. Vice Commander Craig Abbott at-951-751-7642 if you would like to volunteer at this California DAV- State Convention and leave a message.

Thank you for today's event volunteers:

Ron Counts / Bob Sanchez / Ed Sherlock / Leland Wineberg / Manny Alvarez / David King & Son) / Craig Abbott / Nightrain Joe

Note: Thank you Bulldog for taking Manny to this event today. He really enjoyed

himself.

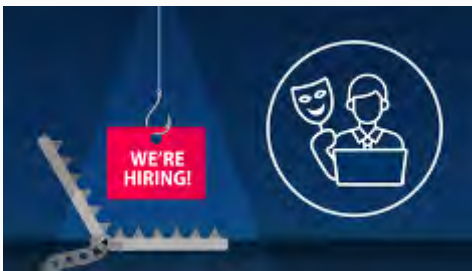
-Nightrain Joe



New Website for Veterans to Order Contact Lenses

Veterans and their VA caregivers now have a new way to get prescription contact lenses. The Veterans Canteen Service PatriotVision website allows Veterans, their families, caregivers and VA employees a new way to order prescription contacts, and orders include free standard delivery.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Guard Yourself Against Scammers Impersonating VA

Scammers often send official-looking posts or emails trying to hijack your personal information and steal your benefits as well as health care and other identifying information. Learn about precautions you

can take to guard your benefits.

[LEARN MORE](#)

City of Irvine Memorial Day Celebrations - May 26 & 27



MEMORIAL DAY

★ CEREMONIES ★

Please join us for the City of Irvine Memorial Day Ceremonies, as we honor our nation's fallen and pay special tribute to local service members.

SUNDAY
MAY 26
4 p.m.
Northwood
Community Park



MONDAY
MAY 27
10 a.m.
Colonel Bill Barber
Marine Corps
Memorial Park

cityofirvine.org · 949-724-6606



When: May 26, 2024 | 4:00 p.m.

Where: Northwood Community Park, 4531 Bryan Ave., Irvine, CA, 92620

When: May 27, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

Where: Colonel Bill Barber Marine Corps Memorial Park, 4 Civic Center Plaza,
Irvine, CA, 92606

For more information, see the [City of Irvine website](#)



Breaking news

The Supreme Court ruled to protect earned veterans' education benefits, allowing veterans who qualify for both the Montgomery GI Bill and the post-9/11 GI Bill to access both benefits.

This is a huge win not just for IAVA - but for *all* veterans.

IAVA weighed in on the case last August on behalf of our more than 425,000 members and in support of the veteran who was the subject of the case. Why? Because he and veterans like him earned these benefits in the course of their volunteer service in defense of our country.

Our country's investment in our servicemembers and veterans is also an investment in America's future, and no one should have to go to court to fight for the right to access the benefits they've earned.

Thanks to this Court's decision today, thousands of veterans and servicemembers and veterans education won. But these same education benefits are consistently under threat of potential cuts, and we'll need to continue to defend these benefits over and over again as we have since IAVA successfully fought for and won passage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Thank you,

IAVA

P.S. Veterans have paid their dues so IAVA membership is always free. However, we rely on voluntary donations from supporters like you. [If you can, please chip in to support IAVA's ability to fight on behalf of the post-9/11 generation of veterans.](#)



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Free Service to Help Preserve and Share Your Military Service Story

Together We Served is offering Veterans a free service to help preserve and share your memories and photos of key people and events from your military service. You can share this presentation with friends and family.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Your Claim Exam Questions Answered

After filing a disability claim, you may have some lingering questions about what comes next in the claims process. Many Veterans wonder what will happen at their [VA claim exam](#) (also known as a compensation and pension, or C&P exam). To help answer these questions, VA has updated two websites to [provide current information on frequently asked questions.](#)





Join DAV California for our Upcoming Convention!



The 2024 Annual Convention of the Department of California will be held May 15-18, 2024 at the The Hotel Fera in Anaheim (100 The City Dr. Orange, CA 92868)! *Committee meetings will begin May 15th and the convention festivities begin on May 16th.*

Room rates are \$129+tax. You must make your reservations for the Hotel Fera before the Friday April 19th, 2024 cutoff date in order to receive our group rate. Contact the hotel to make reservations directly by calling (833) 301-0994. Please make sure that you request the group rate for the “Disabled American Veterans Department of California 2024 California State Convention.”

Click here to register for convention and learn more details (And share this link with anyone who might be interested):

<https://www.davcal.org/convention-2024.html>

For all questions regarding convention, please contact Events@davcal.org

Hope to see you all there!

DAV Dept. of California
13733 Rosecrans Ave.
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
hq@davcal.org



MIA Update: See website

<https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaRecentlyAccountedFor>

Claim Shark companies have made statements that they aren't breaking the law because they don't charge fees for "preparing" veterans' claims. Claim Sharks state that they "assist" or "consult" for veterans' claims, and this how they rationalize why they should be allowed to charge thousands of dollars for their services.

This is still illegal. Using creative semantics to skirt the law is not innovative, and it is not honest or transparent.

There are no "good actors" or "bad actors". Every company that charges for initial claims assistance is doing it illegally.

Claim Sharks say veterans should have the "choice" to be fleeced out of thousands of dollars. No matter how much money these companies spend on Capitol Hill, We will not allow them to dismantle consumer protections and normalize harming veterans.

VETERANS, GET ON THIS TODAY:

**DON'T MISS OUT ON WHAT BENEFITS ARE
AVAILABLE TO YOU.**

**"You can only blame yourself if you are
not receiving the VA benefits you rate"**

**The VA will only give you what you ask for,
So ask for every injury you know you received in service,
remember most injuries get worse over time for most of us
aging veterans**

(Yes, We know a Few of you are Extremally healthy)

**You can do this yourself Online,
Just need to create a VA.Gov account if you have not already done so.**

DAV Veteran Service Officer (VSO)

Were here to help you submit your claim/s.

Long Beach VAMC

5901 E. 7th St.

Bldg. 8, Room 107

Long Beach, CA 90822

Hours: 8-3 M-F

(562) 826-5711

Department Service Officer:

Bryan Root

562-826-8000 x8587

bryan.root@davcal.org

Disabled American Veterans Department of CA

Address:

13733 Rosecrans Ave, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Hours:

Friday 8 AM–4 PM

Saturday Closed

Sunday Closed

Monday 8 AM–4 PM

Tuesday 8 AM–4 PM

Wednesday 8 AM–4 PM

Thursday 8 AM–4 PM

Phone: [\(562\) 404-1266](tel:(562)404-1266)

Your Local DAV National Service Officer (NSO) can help with:

- Assisting veterans in filing claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs for compensation, pension, healthcare, and other benefits.
- Caregiver benefits

- Guidance on state and local veteran benefits
- Burial benefits for qualified veterans and their spouse
- Vocational Readiness and Employment benefits

SAN DIEGO, CA YOUR OFFICE

VA Regional Office

8810 Rio San Diego Dr, Ste 1160

(619) 299-6916

Have Ideas for the New Website / Newsletter,
Please send them in.

I am always looking for new content for the website
and our Newsletters,



Link's to things you need to know

 [Disability](#)

- Careers and Employment
- Pension
- Education and Training
- Life Insurance
- Burials and Memorials
- Housing Assistance
- Records

VA is here for you.

[1-800-MyVA411](tel:1-800-MyVA411) ([800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411)) is always the right number



[DAV Helps Keep the Promises Made to Veterans](#)

DAV--Disabled American Veterans--is a nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. The organization provides more than 500,000 rides for veterans attending medical appointments annually and has assisted veterans with more than 12 million benefit claims since

the organization was chartered by Congress in 1932. In 2022, DAV helped attain more than \$26 billion in earned benefits to care for veterans, their families and survivors.

**Hello New DAV Chapter #23 Partial & Full Life Members
You are a Life Member once you pay \$325.00,**

If you are a Paid up for Life Member, Come to our
meeting
(4th Wednesday of each month)
Show the Commander (Mel Forbes) your Life
Membership card,
and receive a DAV Chapter Tee Shirt.



For any Information that needs to be put into our newsletter. Please email Newsletter editor:
[Past Commander John "Mack" Mackus](mailto:John.Mackus@msn.com)



JOHN "Mack" MACKUS
MEMBERSHIP / WEBMASTER / NEWSLETTER / PAST COMMANDER
Sponsor # 0402315006895

JACK FISHER CHAPTER #23
PO BOX 10335
SANTA ANA, CA 92711

Cell: (949) 716-6400
GySgtMackus@msn.com
www.DAV23.com

**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED**

ORANGE COUNTY DAV CHAPTER #23
MONTHLY MEETING'S: 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
LOCATION: VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3173
805 E. SYCAMORE ST., ANAHEIM, CA 92805

BECOME A MEMBER OF DAV Today Online:
<https://www.mydav.org/dav-membership>
Fill out form, make payment, Choose: California, Chapter 23
check recruited, use Sponsor # & Info on front of this card



WEBSITE: www.DAV23.com
Facebook.com/DAVchapter23



 **Share with all your Veteran Friends and Family**

 **Forward to all your Veteran Friends and Family**

[Join DAV Chapter #23 Now](#)

[Join DAVA Unit #23 Now](#)



This Newsletter is sponsored by Award Creations.
When you need recognition, we make your ideas come to life.
Appreciation in Words

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Our mailing address is:

**DAV Chapter #23
PO Box 10335
Santa Ana, CA 92711**