

Chapter #23 Status as of 5/2/2024

Total Members: 2571

Paid up Life Members: 2495 (76 to go)

Members over age of 100: 163

Membership States: 46 and District of Columbia

1 Armed Forces Europe, 3 Territories' and 1 Foreign Country

AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY, AE (Armed Forces Europe+), PR (Puerto Rico), VI (Virgin Islands), AS (America Samoa), XX (Philippines).

What 4 States are we missing?

Answer: 2 opposite ends, and the middle ends!

Check the Website for DAV Chapter #23







Next Monthly meeting is:

Wednesday June 26, 2024

2024-25 E-board Please Wear "BLUE" Shirts

(We wore RED 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 Chapter 23 today.

About Your Gift; By making a gift to DAV Chapter 23, you are empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hello Everyone,

We are so honored to be able to partner with the Pageant of the Masters and offer free tickets to their "A La Mode: The Art of Fashion" event on Wednesday, 24 July 8:30pm.

• Will call be at **6pm-7:30pm** this year at the red tables to the right of the patio.

- Please remember that order must be in the name of either a Veteran or Active-Duty Military & provide a Military ID or retired Military card at will call the evening of the event.
 - Ticket limit is 4*.

*If you need more tickets, please email us and we will see what we can do. If there are orders over the limit, they will be deleted without notice. Please help us honor our Military & allow us to be able to provide tickets for all who wish to attend. This allows us to be equally fair with everyone who would like to attend.

- Please let us know if a guide dog or wheelchair seating is required IN ADVANCE.
 - No firearms are permitted on the premises.

Be safe & well. Kindest regards, RC Military Ministry

Special FREE Event



Download: Festival of Arts Laguna Beach App

The Festival of the Arts is honored to invite you to attend the "A La Mode: The Art of Fashion"

2024 Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach

Wednesday, 24 July - 8:30pm Performance Time

Willcall from 6pm-7:30pm at the Military Willcall Red Tables

*Arriving after 7:30pm, go to the Ticket Office Willcall with Military ID

The 2024 Pageant of the Masters production of À La Mode: The Art of Fashion will revisit some of history's grandest spectacles and fashion trends through the magic of living pictures, unforgettable live music, and engaging storytelling. Whether making an entrance or casting a spell, what people have worn through the ages has always been telling. From the splendors of royal courts to today's catwalks, prepare to be dazzled! Through their lives, artworks and voices, a compelling portrait of our artists will come to life with all the theatrical magic that makes the Pageant a one-of-a-kind, must-see summer tradition. All stages will come to "life" BEFORE your eyes!

Attendance Details:

Sign-up via Eventbrite link – https://MilitaryEventTheArtofFashion24May2024.eventbrite.com ~ Password – Militaryalamode2024

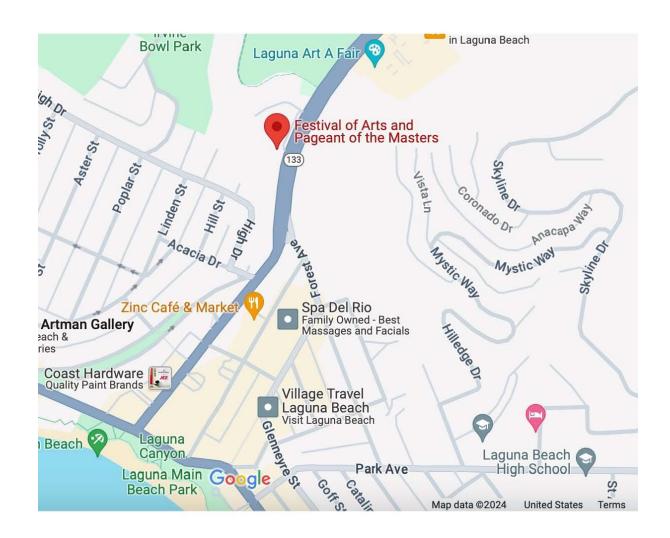
- 2. This is event is for Active Duty Military , Wounded Warriors & Veterans + guests
 - ~ Register under the Military or Veteran Attendee Name Military ID required at willcall
- 3. Willcall from 6pm-7:30pm at the Military Willcall Red Table on the Patio right side
 - ~ If you arrive after 7:30pm, the Military tickets will be at the box office willcall
- 4. Directions
 - ~650 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach, CA 92651
 - ~ From the North: Take I-5, I-405 or CA-73 (toll road) to CA-133 west/Laguna Canyon Road. The Festival of Arts will be on your right approximately three miles after passing El Toro Road.
 - ~ From the South: Take I-5 north and exit El Toro Road. Turn left onto Laguna Canyon Road. Three miles down the road, the Festival of Arts will be on your right.
 - ~ Or you can take PCH Pacific Coast Highway
 - ~ Because there are three art festivals going on simultaneously in Laguna Beach, we recommend that you arrive early and allow extra time for parking. Parking is throughout Laguna Beach for this event.
 - ~ Website there is a "Laguna Beach Parking app" link to help find parking, scroll down to parking
 - ~ https://www.foapom.com/plan-your-visit/getting-here/
- 5. Live music, art vendors, gift shop, two restaurants & dessert/coffee kiosks are located inside.
- 6. May bring food/beverages to have a picnic on the grounds
 - ~ All containers/backpacks should be no larger than 14" x 14" in size.
 - ~ Consider bringing a lightweight tablecloth (sitting on the park-like grounds inside is very nice)

rcmilitaryministry@saddleback.com



FB: Military Ministry Saddleback Church Rancho Capistrano

Instagram: rcmilitaryministry





RESOURCES



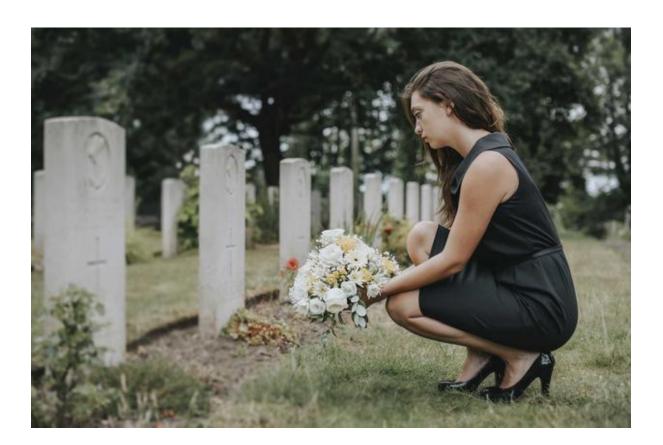
VA Federal Benefits Booklet



The <u>VA Federal Benefits for Veterans</u>, <u>Dependents Survivors</u>, and <u>Caregivers booklet</u> 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

VA National Cemetery Burial Eligibility



Any veteran without a dishonorable discharge is eligible for free burial in one of 155 national cemeteries in 42 states and Puerto Rico. Their spouses and some dependent children may also be eligible.

Most states also have dedicated veterans cemeteries, and many offer burial of spouses for free or a reduced fee.

Who Is Eligible for Free Burial in a National Cemetery? Active-Duty Members

- 1. Any member of the U.S. Armed Forces who dies on active duty.
- 2. Any veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and served at least 24 months of service.
- 3. Any U.S. citizen who served with U.S. allied forces during any war in which the United States takes place.

Reserve Components and Reserve Officers' Training Corps

- Reservists and National Guard members who, at time of death, were entitled to retired pay under Chapter 1223, Title 10, United States Code, or would have been entitled when they reached retirement age.
- Reserve or National Guard members who die while hospitalized or undergoing treatment for injuries or illnesses incurred during honorable service.
- 3. Members of the ROTC who die while attending authorized training or while performing authorized travel to or from that training.

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

 A commissioned officer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Public Health Service

 A commissioned officer of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service who served on full-time duty on or after July 29, 1945.

World War II Merchant Mariners

 United States Merchant Mariners with oceangoing service during the period of armed conflict, Dec. 7, 1941, to Dec. 31, 1946.

Philippine Armed Forces

 Any Philippine veteran with service between Oct. 6, 1945, and June 30, 1947, who died on or after Dec. 16, 2003, and was a citizen of the United States or a legal alien living in the U.S. when they died.

Spouses and Dependents

- The spouse or surviving spouse of an eligible veteran is eligible for interment in a national cemetery even if that veteran is not buried or memorialized in a national cemetery. In addition, the spouse or surviving spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States whose remains are unavailable for burial is also eligible for burial.
- 2. The surviving spouse of an eligible veteran who remarried a non-veteran is eligible for burial in a national cemetery, based on their marriage to an eligible veteran.
- 3. The minor children of an eligible veteran.
- 4. The unmarried adult child of a veteran if they are incapable of self-support.

Parents

 Biological or adoptive parents, who died after Oct. 13, 2010, and whose biological or adoptive child was a service member whose death occurred on or after Oct. 7, 2001, and

- whose death was the result of a hostile casualty or a training-related injury, and
- who is interred in a national cemetery, in a gravesite with available space for subsequent interment, and
- at the time of the parent's death, had no spouse, surviving spouse, or child who is buried, or who, upon death, may be eligible for burial in a national cemetery.

Persons NOT Eligible for Burial in a VA National Cemetery

The following is a list of persons who are not eligible for VA burial benefits:

- Former spouses. A former spouse of an eligible individual whose marriage to that individual has been terminated by annulment or divorce, if not otherwise eligible.
- 2. Other family members. Family members of an eligible person except those defined as eligible above.
- Received an urn or plaque. When a family member accepts a VA-issued commemorative urn or plaque, that veteran's remains may not be interred in a VA national cemetery.
- 4. Disqualifying characters of discharge. A person whose only separation from the Armed Forces was under dishonorable conditions or whose character of service results in a bar to veterans benefits.
- 5. Discharge from draft. A person who was ordered to report to an induction station but was not actually inducted into military service.
- 6. Person found guilty of a capital crime. A person convicted of a federal or state capital crime and sentenced to death or life imprisonment.
- 7. Persons convicted of certain sex offenses. Those convicted of a Tier III sex offense and sentenced to a minimum of life imprisonment. This prohibition also applies to Presidential Memorial Certificate, burial flag, and headstone and marker benefits.
- 8. Subversive activities. Any person convicted of subversive activities after Sep. 1, 1959, shall have no right to burial in a national cemetery.

9. Active or inactive duty for training. A person whose only service is active duty for training or inactive duty training in the National Guard or a reserve component, unless the individual meets the eligibility criteria listed above.



https://publicaffairs-sme.com/Community/exchange-relevancy/#itmatters

All honorably discharged Veterans are eligible for the online military exchange shopping benefit, and Veterans with disabilities have in-store military exchange, commissary and MWR resale facility shopping privileges. Learn more about your exchange shopping benefits



https://www.vetdogs.org/Apply

Some other Service Dog Resources:

Service Dog Veterinary Health Benefit i.e. Fact Sheet on Service Dogs

Veterinary Benefits & Non VA Related Resources

https://www.prosthetics.va.gov/ServiceAndGuideDogs.asp

MS/Resources/Guide & Service Dogs - VA

https://www.va.gov/MS/RESOURCES/Guide and Service Dogs.asp

America's Vet Dogs

https://www.vetdogs.org/AV/getaservicedog/AV/DogPrograms/getaservicedog.aspx?hke y=d285bc4c-8089-4569-a7c6-46f60f48cb4d

Canine Companions for Independence

https://canine.org/

UCLA Health - Therapy Dogs vs. Service Dogs

https://www.uclahealth.org/programs/pac/about-us/therapy-dogs-vs-service-dogs



California Transition Assistance Program June Webinar Series

Dear Veterans, Service Members, and Community Members,

As we reflect on Memorial Day and the sacrifices made by so many, we also look ahead with hope and determination. This June, we invite veterans, service members, and their families to join the California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP), where we offer support and resources to help navigate the transition from military to civilian life.

We are excited to announce a series of workshops hosted by CalTAP dedicated to helping you get started with VA services. Whether you're a veteran transitioning to civilian life or a service member preparing for your next chapter, these workshops are designed to provide valuable information and resources to support you on your journey.

Join us as we delve into essential topics such as:

- VA Healthcare
- State-Specific Benefits
- Claims and Appeals
- Home Ownership
- Veteran Entrepreneurship

To participate in CalTAP's virtual workshops, please register below. Space is limited, so we encourage you to sign up early and secure your spot.

In addition to our virtual workshops, CalTAP also offers in-person workshops throughout California to inform and connect veterans of all eras to their earned federal and state benefits. These workshops are absolutely free for you to join and enjoy!

Please visit the CalTAP webpage for <u>upcoming workshops</u> and <u>archives</u>, and the <u>CalVet YouTube</u> channel for more information.

Upcoming Virtual Workshops:



Jun 20, 2024

Veteran Entrepreneurship: Building Your Business

The California Department of Veterans Affairs --- California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) offers a full array of transition assistance and services to connect veterans, service members, and their families with California specific resources geared to ensure a successful transition into civilian life.

CalTAP, in partnership with the Northern and Southern California (San Diego), and Los Angeles Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC), invites you to our upcoming webinar which will feature entrepreneurship resources and services available to veterans and their family members. (Free)

Register



Jun 25, 2024

Compensation and Pension Benefits

Join the California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP) for an informational event on California specific benefits, disability compensation, and filing claims for veterans.

Guest speakers from CalVet and a local County Veterans Services Office (CVSO) will provide information on available benefits and discuss the process for filing a disability claim, receiving compensation, and pension eligibility (Free)





Jun 27, 2024

CalVet Home Loans

Are you a veteran considering home ownership?

Join the California Transition Assistance Program (CalTAP), in collaboration with CalVet Home Loans Division, as we explore CalVet Home Loans. Representatives will share valuable home ownership resources, discuss home purchasing programs, and provide VA and CalVet home loan information. Do not miss this opportunity to learn about home purchasing options and the bucket of benefits available to you! (Free)

Register

877-741-8532 (Toll Free)







California Department of Veterans Affairs | 1227 O Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 US



https://heroeswithhearingloss.org/



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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





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





ANNOUNCEMENTS

Completed:

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





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







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

From Glen Shingu

Link to CalVet Veteran Resource Book 8th Ed 2020, revised 2021 is still current

Republic of Korea - Ambassador for Peace Medal

Korean War Veterans Association website about Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal

https://kwva.us/?page=info_peace_medal

Application as PDF

https://kwva.us/uploads/files/ambassador for peace medal.pdf

OC Register Article about San Juan Capistrano American Legion's ceremony for 16 Veterans in Oct 2019 (I was there)

https://www.ocregister.com/2019/10/23/sixteen-veterans-presented-the-ambassador-for-peace-medal-by-korean-government/

Rafu Shimpo Article about ceremony at OC Plaza Irvine in Dec 2023 (I couldn't make it, was at Legion District meeting)

https://rafu.com/2023/01/a-tribute-to-those-who-served-afar-korean-war-veterans-receive-honors-from-the-republic-of-korea/



All honorably discharged Veterans are eligible for the online military exchange shopping benefit, and Veterans with disabilities have in-store military exchange, commissary and MWR resale facility shopping privileges. Learn more about your exchange shopping benefits.

LEARN MORE



Find Your Sport with VA's Adaptive Sports and Arts Programs

Did you know VA offers sports and creative arts programs at VA facilities nationwide? Check out this

episode of the New Horizons in Health podcast and learn more about the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, one of many opportunities for Veterans interested in sports and art programs.

WATCH

LEARN MORE



Speaking Civilian: Taking Military Jargon Off Your Resume

Removing military jargon from your resume is an important part of transitioning to a civilian career. Try these tips.

READ MORE



ways of healing.

Finding New Passions Through Treatment

Be inspired by Veterans who improved their mental health through treatment and self-help and are living fuller lives today. During Mental Health Month, learn how Shannon, Dennis, Courtney and Michael discovered their own unique

HEAR THEIR STORIES

Namesake of DAV Chapter 23



Pancakes on the Lane

Join your Fisher Park friends and neighbors for pancakes, sausage, and refreshments in the beautiful Sharon/River Loop, on River Lane, on **Saturday, June 8 from 9:30AM–11:30AM! RSVPs are required**— please click the button below!

Cost: \$5 per person, both kids and adults, payable at the event

Location: 1151 W River Lane, driveway



RSVP NOW >

2024 Neighborhood Association Contributions

Please consider making a donation to our neighborhood association so that we may continue to host events like this one, beautify our neighborhood, and otherwise keep Fisher Park a wonderful place to live. \$20 per year per household is suggested. Please make checks out to "Fisher Park NA" and send to 1211 W. River Ln. Santa Ana CA 92706. Note: We no longer accept PayPal as a means of payment.

Follow us for neighborhood updates:





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

Update from Glen Shingu.

Gypsum Cemetery on Irvine City Council Agenda May 28th

About the OC Veterans Cemetery

Follow-up to the Irvine Great Park Committee meeting on Tuesday afternoon; it was almost entirely about the Gypsum Canyon Technical Review and Feasibility Assessment (PDF) of the Veterans Cemetery site that was requested by Vice Chairman Larry Agran. A point that Director Tammy Kim brought up was that the Review/Assessment was not preapproved by the Board.

Many citizens spoke at the meeting with very compelling stories, especially about the ARDA vs Gypsum Canyon sites and their funding statuses, nothing about the Strawberry Fields site. The long-term budget/approval and funding sources were high topics. Bobby McDonald and Nick Berardino from VALOR spoke. Two long term American Legion members spoke, they were on diametrically opposed sides. Some spoke not about the cemetery, but what is already planned/approved to occupy on the ARDA site.

Speakers covered four main points:

- 1) The cemetery should be at the ARDA site on the former MCAS El Toro grounds, as it has funding but will expire if not used.
- 2) The cemetery should continue its progress at the Gypsum Canyon site, not the ARDA site, as it has funding/backing from OC and all of its cities.
- 3) The ARDA site was already approved to build and house several new venues other than the Cemetery.
- 4) Question about what was the cost of the Review/Assessment, and for budget documentation approving it (it wasn't)?

If you wish to follow the Great Park Board Meetings, by Live TV or Zoom and more, a link to the webpage is below. The next meeting is June 28th. https://www.cityofirvine.org/great-park/great-park-board-meetings

Original Email

I was asked to attend Irvine's City Council meeting again. It is about the Veterans Cemetery positioned in Anaheim. Larry Again put it on Irvine's formal agenda.

If Irvine's Strawberry Fields site was accepted over Larry Angry's contaminated ARDA Irvine site, the Veterans Cemetery project would've broken ground in Irvine long ago. But instead, Irvine lost its bid due to delays caused by internal political no-compromise that inevitably created increasing costs. Although progress and funding for developing Anaheim's Gypsum Canyon site continue, a very small party still seeks to delay or block it.





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

Website: https://www.davcal.org/newsroom.html

Hours: Weekdays: 8-4

DAV California Headquarters

13733 E Rosecrans Ave.

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Phone: (562) 404-1266 Fax: (562) 404-8044

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

Pension

Housing Assistance

Education and Training

Life Insurance

Burials and Memorials

Records

VA is here for you.

Careers and Employment

1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411) is always the right number



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



JOHN "Mack" MACKUS MENBERSHIP / WEBNASTER / 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

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



- **f** 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



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When you need recognition, we make your ideas come to life.

Appreciation in Words

Our mailing address is:

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