



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

Texas Chapter

November
December
2017

Speedy Gazette

Volume 37

Issue 9



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Paralyzed Veterans of America

Texas Chapter

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The SPEEDY GAZETTE is published approximately once a month by the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Texas Chapter, in the interest of Chapter members. Subscriptions are free to members of TPVA. Send address changes to the TPVA Chapter address.



Presidents Report

Greetings Texas Chapter Friends and Family,

It is hard to believe that the holidays are here already, especially when it is 80° outside. We are gearing up for Thanksgiving luncheons, Christmas parties, gift giving to inpatients and nursing staff and many other events this holiday season, there will be something for everyone.

We had a terrific Veterans Day celebration in Houston and San Antonio. Barbecue was on the menu for the SCI center in Houston, while the SCI in San Antonio enjoyed tenderloin medallions and chicken and all the sides. The parade in Houston was canceled this year, but the folks in San Antonio braved the drizzly rain and lower temperatures and had a great time. Also, members paid their respects at the two National Cemeteries.

Unfortunately, we still have many members suffering from the effects of Hurricane Harvey, trying to get their houses and lives back into order. We will be sending extra prayers and blessings their way as they continue the recovery process. If anyone affected by the hurricane needs any assistance, please contact the chapter office as soon as you can.

If you find yourself with a little extra time these next two months, our members that will be hospitalized over the holidays would enjoy a little extra company. Take some time and go visit the inpatients, you never know who you might get to smile.

We will be holding a board meeting on December 7, starting at 10 AM at the Hyatt Place, in San Antonio. If you're interested in attending, please let me know.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. We will be at home enjoying it with our granddaughter for the first time, looking forward to all the fun. Thank you to everyone here who has contributed to the Texas Chapter this year, as it has been greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Anne Robinson
President

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512-523-6484

Dallas

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Mesquite, TX 75150
214-736-1710

www.mobilityworks.com

Ft. Worth

2110 N Beach St.
Fort Worth, TX 76111
682-316-1947

San Antonio

6473 DeZavala Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78249
210-697-8884

Selma

16262 IH 35 N
Selma, TX 78154
210-718-0055

Waco

2700 Franklin Ave.
Waco, TX 76710
254-300-9700





Executive Directors Report by Amanda Saunders

Hello friends,

I hope everyone had a nice Veterans Day. It was a little bit disappointing that the Houston Veterans Day Parade was cancelled but we still had a nice time at the VA. Unfortunately we had to cancel our Freedom Shoot scheduled for December 2nd. Clay Mound was hit extremely hard by the flooding Trinity River and they lost everything.

Our Christmas Luncheon at the Houston VA is scheduled for Thursday, December 14th. We will have another Christmas party on Tuesday, December 19th at the Pappadeaux's across from NRG Stadium – 2525 South Loop West. Lunch will be served at 11:30. Please RSVP to the chapter office if you'd like to join us.

Recently our thrift store revenues have decreased so please consider putting together a donation. When scheduling the pickup, specify the donation is for the Texas Paralyzed Veterans. To schedule a pickup in the Houston and Corpus areas call 713-696-5500, San Antonio area call 210-431-3726 and Austin area call 512-443-3336. They can take clothing, shoes, belts, purses, accessories, towels, bedding, decorations, household and kitchen items. All donations are tax deductible.

I'm trying to come up with some fun new group activities for members and fundraisers so please let me know if you have any ideas on either.

I am thankful for you and your service to our country. Please remember those who are unable to be with their family and friends this holiday season.

I hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



CCM Gift Gallery

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Universal City TX 78148

(210)265-5650

campbelln584@gmail.com

ccmgiftgallery.com (web page)

*Unique Gifts
for any occasion*



Vice President's Report

November 8, 2017

Vice Presidents Report
Tammy Jones

Hello Texas Chapter,



V

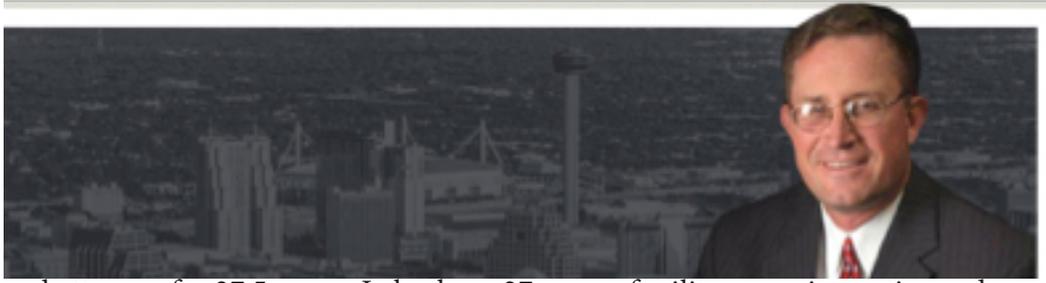
The holiday season is just around the corner...lol.... already. We have Thanksgiving meals set for both SCI Centers on November 16. The Saturday before is Veterans Day and we'll be celebrating our veterans a couple of ways this year. Starting in Houston we will be having Dickies BBQ catering a meal for the MED SCI Center, as there will not be a parade for Veterans Day. To our members who would've been in the parade troupe come out to the MED SCIC and help with the meal and earn some points for participating in the Veterans Day event. In San Antonio, we will be participating in the U S Military Veterans Parade through a section of downtown San Antonio and we'll be serving the inpatients a delicious meal catered by Dave of Stone Cold Catering, at ALM SCI Center. If you participate in Veterans Day events in your community please get a photo or two, write a couple of lines describing the event and send it to us at info@texaspva.org to earn volunteer points and the possibility of making our "Speedy Gazette".

It was quite an honor to represent Texas Chapter as a National Director at the National Fall Board of Directors Meeting, in San Antonio, this past month. Texas Chapter hosted the event October 22-25 at the Rivercenter Marriott. During opening ceremonies our Chaplain Charlie Gant gave the invocation and as Texas Chapter Director, I was honored to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you to the Texas Chapter for the opportunity to share this experience with Derrick Perkins and Amanda Saunders. It was quite the education.

Contact the Chapter office to volunteer for any of the events on the Calendar of Events.



Jon R. Disrud
Board Certified Family Attorney



I have been a licensed attorney for 27.5 years. I also have 27 years of military service, active and reserve as a Judge Advocate. I have a general law practice covering many areas but I am a Family Law specialist having experience and compassion for military members going through a divorce. I also represent military members before the Formal Physical Evaluation Board regarding military medical separations.

At the Law Offices of Jon R. Disrud, our practice comprises a wide range of legal services, including:

- Divorce and Texas family law
- Criminal law and military courts-martial defense
- Military medical discharge problems
- Estate preservation documents, estate planning and probate administration

www.disrudgarcialaw.com

Law Office of Jon R. Disrud
13750 San Pedro, Suite 410
San Antonio, Texas 78232

Telephone: (210) 494-6633
Telecopier: (210) 494-6640
jon@jdisrudlaw.com



National Veterans Health Benefits Specialists (formerly NSO's)

WASHINGTON — Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), together with the American Bar Association, The Veterans Consortium and National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium, signed a Memorandum of Agreement aimed at improving Veterans' access to free legal services.

Veterans often face stressful legal problems — such as eviction, foreclosure, child support, or drivers' license revocations — that can affect their ability to gain or maintain employment and housing or focus on medical treatment. In VA's annual Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups survey, legal assistance repeatedly tops the list of homeless Veterans' unmet needs.

“We are encouraging VA Medical Centers and other VA facilities to engage with their local communities to establish legal clinics and Medical Legal Partnerships to address Veterans' legal needs that threaten their health and well-being,” said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. “By signing this agreement, we are documenting a shared commitment to better facilitate Veterans' access to legal services.”

Currently, VA hosts at least 165 free legal clinics in its VA Medical Centers, Community Based Outpatient Clinics and Vet Centers across the country by partnering with external, legal-service providers, such as local bar associations, legal-aid organizations and law school clinics.

More information on VA's coordination of legal services for Veterans at VA facilities may be found at <https://www.va.gov/OGC/LegalServices.asp>.



New Barton Chair Retail \$7,000, For Sale \$300

Cash Only Barton Chair is a unique device that easily converts from a stretcher to an upright mobile chair in seconds. Its Tilt-in-Space capability allows for increased blood circulation helping to prevent skin breakdown. With it's 113 kg/250 lbs. capacity, the chair provides a no-lift solution for moving, repositioning and transferring patients in the safest manner possible. It offers the ability to move between a bed and a chair with ease and enables a single caregiver to easily transfer a patient. 281-608-4863/281-540-9982

Dear CiCi

Dear Cici,

Recently, my neighbor's husband died suddenly. Maggie was at a total loss.

Her husband Richard was a disabled veteran, as is my spouse, and he took care of everything from paying the bills to getting car and home insurance. Neither of them thought Maggie would have to deal with all the things that occur when a spouse dies. She could not even find his DD214 because she didn't know where he kept important papers. Now she's overwhelmed and emotionally stressed to the point of exhaustion. My husband Stan has helped her a lot, but there's just so much he can do.

I'm learning my own lessons from this. I am guilty of not paying too much attention to what goes on in the department of bill paying, etc. I know my husband feels comfortable with taking care of our business, so I don't worry about it. But he has said that Richard's death is a wakeup call and that we should at least talk about what should happen in the event he dies. Cici, I don't know if we're in denial or what. I don't want to think about death, but I definitely don't want to wind up in the same boat as Maggie. (I didn't even know what a DD214 was before Richard's death. We were married shortly after his medical discharge.) My husband has said a few times that we need to talk about these things, but he always seems to think about this at bedtime. Is he in denial too? What do you recommend?

Chrissie the Clueless Dear Chrissie,

Thanks to you and Stan, Maggie does not feel nearly as alone as she might have been had you not been neighbors. Stan probably directed her to the nearest VA, which is where she could get help in locating her husband's DD214, the record of his military service and retirement. There's an old adage "When we know better, we do better." It seems you're ready to do better, but you and Stan are reluctant to take the next step. Since he mentions these really important matters at bedtime, you should consider bringing up the topic at a time that is more conducive to serious discussion. Together, you can set a date just as you would any other important aspect of your life and stick to it. It's not necessary to tackle the topic in its entirety. You can make a general outline and checklist of the things that are important. Information and sample checklists are available online from various creditable organizations (AARP, Consumer Reports, Legalvoice.com are just a few.) The VA can also help as well as the Retiree Affairs or legal offices at the nearest military installation. Once you get started, keep at it until you're both satisfied and all the items on your checklist have been checked. If Stan doesn't have all of the important papers in one place, the two of you can gather them into a notebook or file with contacts and numbers you will need (preferably in the order of importance), with passwords, account numbers, special codes etc. The next time he pays bills, sit with him and ask for explanations of when and how the bills are paid. There are quite a few topics to tackle ranging from how and where we want our lives to end being prepared to handle things alone. Maggie can serve as a good resource for you when she is able. You could ask her to share with the two of you the things she wish she had known beforehand.

Satellite Directors

Houston

Please join us for our Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 14th
Spinal Cord Injury Day Room at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 19th, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. Pappadeaux Restaurant 2525 West Loop South -
Across from NRG Stadium

San Antonio

Christmas Celebration

Friday, December 8th
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Magnolia Haus
10333 Huebner Road
San Antonio, TX 78240

We invite all San Antonio area members, their spouses and caregivers to enjoy a Christmas
Celebration of us at Magnolia Haus (Magnolia pancake Haus).

Please RSVP to the Chapter office by December 4th so that we can have an accurate count.

Corpus Christi

Attention Corpus Christi TPVA Members
Thursday, November 30
Thanksgiving and Christmas Celebration
Salt Grass Steakhouse
6729 S. Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, 78412
4 PM-6 PM

We would like to invite the Corpus Christi area membership to join us in a Thanksgiving
and Christmas celebration dinner. Please bring your spouses and caregivers.

Please RSVP to the chapter office by Wednesday, November 29.

713-520-8782

Submitted by Steve Holbert

It was a cold, dark moonless night as I sat in my wheelchair watching. No, I was not in a deer stand I was at Texas A&M University's Silver Taps Ceremony. I was going to write about my adventures of bagging a couple of buck's deer hunting in Kountze, TX but changed my mind after getting invited to experience Silver Taps by my daughter as she is a host to families during Silver Taps. Texas A&M is rich in traditions and Silver Taps is one of their oldest and most sacred. It first began in 1898 to pay final tribute to an Aggie who, at the time of their death, was enrolled in graduate or undergraduate courses at A&M.

At precisely 10pm all the lights on campus are turned off and it's eerily dark and quiet. The only sounds you hear are the rhythmic click of boots on the sidewalk as ranks of Cadets march in silently and take up position around the Academic Plaza. Hundreds of students also silently make their way in and line the sidewalks, not one single glow from a cell phone screen could be seen. Chimes from large bells ring in the distance when I heard a very unusual sound that slowly grew louder and louder. It was the sound of boots at an extremely slow cadence as the Ross Volunteer Company marched in a silent drill team manner and took up position in the middle of the plaza then fired a 21-gun salute. That was followed by a very haunting rendition of Silver Taps by buglers, played three times. Once to the North, West, and South, but not to the East because it is said the sun will never rise on that fallen Aggie again.

It was a very powerful and emotional event for me to witness. I am very proud of my daughter for hosting one of the families. With the tragic incidents the country has experienced recently it was comforting to see so many young adults is playing such acts of discipline, compassion, respect and honor at one of the Nations's finest Universities and the only one in the country to honor it's students in such a tribute.



FEE-BASIS SPINAL CORD INJURY/DISORDERS BOWEL & BLADDER CARE

In this article, we want to pass along information on stipend that may be available, via the Fee Basis service, at your local VA hospital to certain veterans with Spinal Cord Injury SCI/D. The general goal of the bowel and bladder program is to provide assistance to address the individual needs with respect to continence of the bowel and bladder management. Bowel and bladder care is considered supportive medical services due to the possibility of medical complications which would result in the need for hospitalization. The clinic of jurisdiction, or medical facility, authorizes such care under the fee-basis program to enrolled Veterans with SCI/D who are dependent upon others for bowel and bladder care while residing in the community.

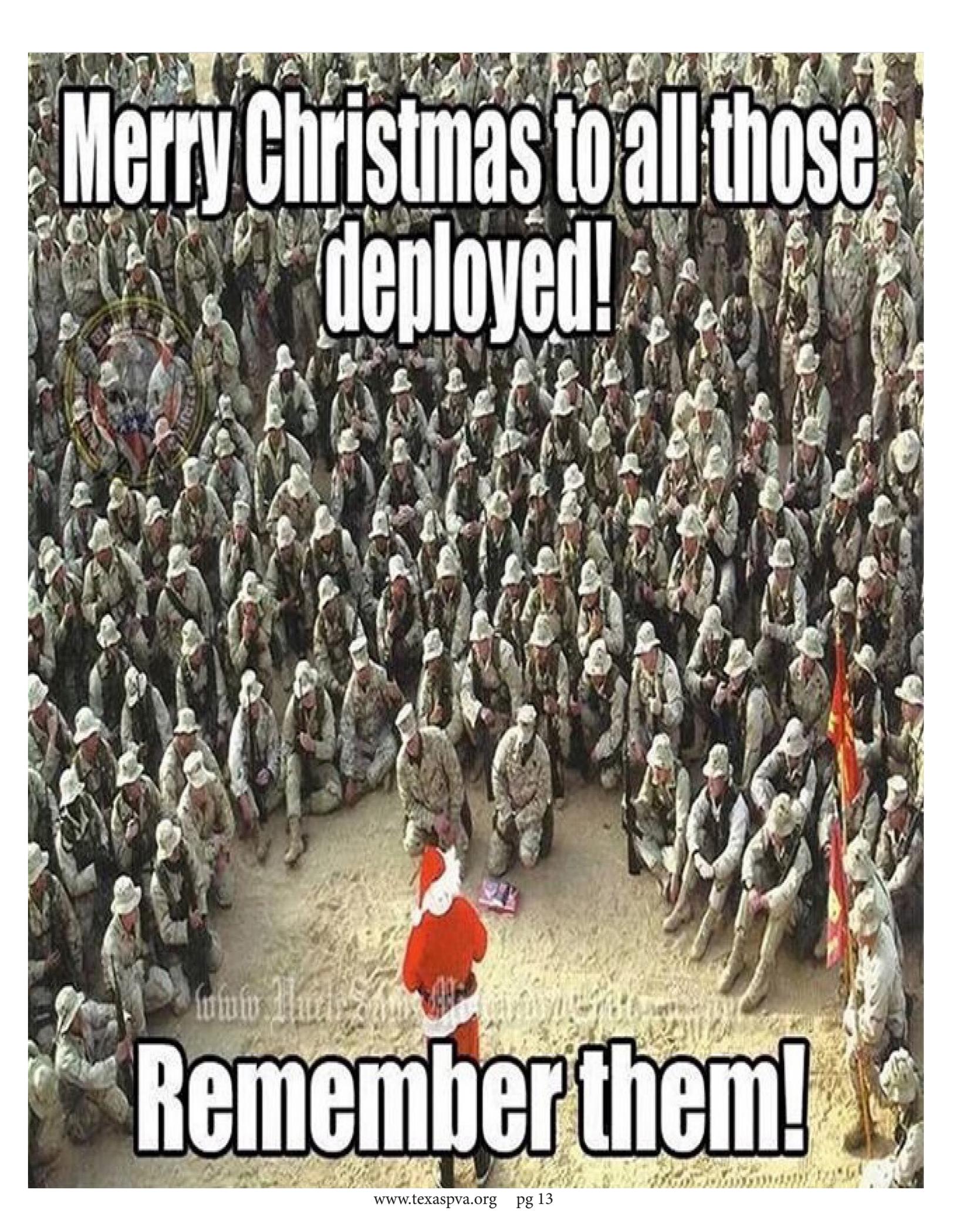
Fee-basis may pay the benefit to an eligible veteran for a limited amount of bowel and bladder care for spinal cord injured (SCI) veterans in the home setting. Payment for bowel and bladder care is not dependent on service connection or receipt of a VA pension. Any veteran receiving medical care from a VA physician is eligible if he meets the medical requirements, as it is determined by the physician that the veteran is unable to take care of his own bowel and bladder care, and depends on assistance from others.

The Fee-basis payments are generally made directly to the provider. Reimbursement does not exceed the 5th step of the General Schedule hourly rate paid to nursing assistants providing this care at a VA medical center. For the purpose of Fee-basis, the basic care procedures of catheter irrigation, colostomy bag changes, and external catheter changes, are defined as medical services. Due to the nature of the physical limitations and special needs of many spinal cord injured patients, bathing may also be provided as a fee-basis home health service when provided in conjunction with bowel and bladder care.

A veteran should contact the local SCI Coordinator to discuss potential for the benefit, if the veteran thinks he/she may meet the criteria for eligibility and learn more about how to apply for the benefit. The local VA SCI Coordinator, can assist by submitting a consult, and coordinating the request for the benefit with the primary care physician and Fee-basis. When authorized, an appointment for certification will be set up. In cases where care will not be provided by a family member, a referral for VA assistance in arranging for health care providers will be made. In the event or in cases where bowel and bladder care is not desired or cannot be procured through a skilled licensed provider, an individual may serve as a home health attendant and receive reimbursement for provision of this care, only when trained by VHA personnel or the Veteran is trained in attendant care management, and care is overseen by VHA personnel. A relative (by blood or marriage) of a Veteran in the fee-basis program is not to be excluded from treating the Veteran for a fee, as long as professional and training requirements are met.

In no instance will a veteran, who can perform these functions unassisted, be provided Fee-basis care. Receipt of a VA compensation or pension award for Aid and Attendance (A&A), or a higher level of A&A does not disqualify a veteran from receiving bowel and bladder care through the Fee-basis program. For veterans in receipt of pension benefits, it is important to note that payments for Fee-basis bowel and bladder care from the VA should not be counted as family income for pension purposes. The veteran should monitor his/her pension awards closely to ensure it is not counted as income for the spouse. Finally, Fee-basis authorization will not be considered a permanent status for any veteran, regardless of the permanent status of the disability. There will be active continuing participation by VA administrative and clinic managers and by other staff working in the fee-basis program to ensure compliance with all policies. Every Fee-basis authorization will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Submitted by Tim Hicks



**Merry Christmas to all those
deployed!**

Remember them!



Sports & Recreation Directors Report by Kedgerick Smith

Houston area members:
Norris Honeycutt, Steve Holbert, Ron Lofton, Ray Foster and Derrick Perkins



35 points

Attend biennial TPVA Advocacy and Legislative Seminar and participate in Austin legislative visits

25 Points

One time annual per year award for members working full-time (40+hrs per week) or attending higher education in full-time (12+hrs semester or equivalent) student status

20 Points

Participate in TPVA sponsored Veterans Day Events, TPVA sponsored Memorial Day Activities

15 Points

Participate in PVA/TPVA Paralyzed Awareness week (PAW) or PVA Awareness month (PAM) Events

Participate full term as an approved member on any TPVA Committee

Participate in the Christmas Inpatient/Staff purchasing & distributing to inpatients/staff

One time annual per year award for members working part-time (less than 40 hours per week) or attending higher education part time (less than 12 hrs a semester or equivalent) student status

10 Points

Promote TPVA/PVA Awareness during the year at a community forum other than PAW or PAM, (prior approval of TPVA BOD)

Attend a Chapter BOD Meeting—BOD members excluded

Recruit a voting TPVA member (must inform the Membership Director or President)

Participate in an organized TPVA fund raising event

Write an article for the Chapter News Letter or Website, must be published—BOD

Members excluded

Sign up a local school for PVA Poster/Essay Contest. Points awarded each year the school participates.

5 Points

Attend a TPVA function - membership meetings, sporting events or community event

Volunteer at a TPVA function, the VA Hospital, the Chapter office or Satellite office

Represent TPVA at a local community event (requires BOD approval)

- Contribute to the TPVA Newsletter, website, blog or other forms of external communication
- Communicate with an elected official—send copy along with the volunteer sheet

1 hour of practice equals 1 point in a registered sport (i.e. USA Sports, Blaze Sports, Texas Regional Paralympic Sports, STRAPS, state, regional or national sport governing body) with Coaches signature or Point of Contact with phone number/email on Volunteer Points Form.

When submitting TPVA Volunteer points sheet submit the points, as well as, the hours you volunteered at the event. The chapter will use the points and the hours will be used to send to PVA.”

Additionally, The TPVA Event Funding Request forms to be submitted 30 days prior to event for timely BOD consideration.



NOVEMBER

Alexander R. Lukats
Thomas L. Bates
Jon-Michael Adcox
Jessie L. James
Charles D. Cooper
Walter R. Ely
Derrick L. Bess
Fernando Fernandez
William M. Watson
Steven R. Grant
Juan R. Vargas
Donald C. Durkee , Jr.
Samuel L. Hudson
Aaron T. Hunt
Eric N. Lindsay
Jimmy L. Hennesy
Cecil M. Heard
Paul A. Striegel
Philip A. Clausen
Jeffrey S. Bowerman
Amanda J. Horton
John A. Beers, III
Donald E. Saathoff

Rose M. Weidner
Robert L. Brantley, Jr.
Philipp V. Schweizer
Michael D. Bucannon
Gerry J. Cheeks
Marco A. De La Rosa
Marcus C. Sims
Thomas R. Sleeper
Philip R. Stovall, Jr.
John J. Henderson
Richard M. Jean
Timmy D. Morgan
Gayle B. Twiname
Glen H. Baker
Todd E. Russell
David S. DeKerlegand
Anne M. Robinson
Jose L. Mendiola
Dalbert Rozzlle
Roger L. Martin
Michael J. Mcauliffe
Ricardo Perez

Bobby L. O'Mealey
Ernest Salas
Jimmy Solis
Timothy B. Jones
Adriana P. Perez-Moore
Dorian A. Leon
Raymond Doherty
Carl J. Gustafson
Arturo E. Vasquez
Elvin B. Jones
Paul D. Kellum
Christopher L. Montera
Patrick J. Pennington
John P. Townley, Jr.
Joseph D. Massey
Garland D. Alderman
John F. Wilborn
Raymond F. Jackson

Welcome new members:

RYAN A. SNOWDEN
LANCE BRUNE



DECEMBER

Edward A. Evans
Stephen C. Dawson
Jeremecia A. Perry
Lynne B. Gregory
Billy E. Wilson
Wesley L. Scott
Robert G. Wheaton
Richard L. Thompson
Robert Preston
James R. Shelton
Frank C. Williams
Garland E. Jennings
Freda T. Sherrill
Steven G. Richardson
Leroy J. Clement
Robert P. Guill
William G. Adams
Leonard J. Crowder
Isville Jackson
Susan Soto
Ronald A. Emory
Lance Brune
Jose Liquez
Pamela G. Upchurch-Thompson
Michael L. Read
Albert D. Tomchesson
Gary Van Fleet
Earnest L. McGrue

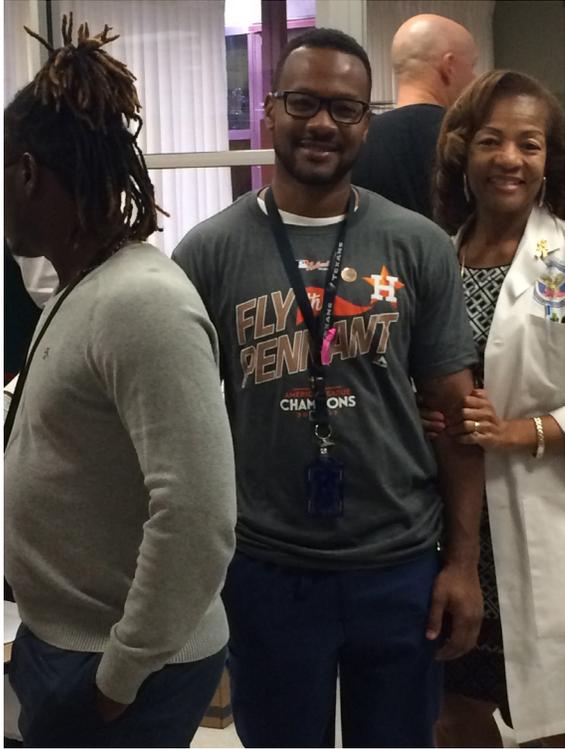
Regina A. Augustine
Charles R. Armstead
Steve A. Smith
Edward Alderete
Theodore J. Weaver, Jr.
Nicolas. Contero
Jesse D Johnson
Michael Barrychuck
Frederick A. Melvin, III
Robert R. Barrera
Christopher Stanford, Sr.
Mitch W. Damm
Willie C. Davis, J.
Randy C. Zapata
Rodger W. Woods
Will J. Matay
Tonya L. Andrews
Mylerrie A. Thomas
Frederica L. Miller
Elizabeth A. Duncan
Jeremie L. Thiers
Charlie M. Parra
Mark L. Hamman
Ryan A. Snowden



Beautiful fully w/c accessible home for sale by veteran in Braunfels.

quaint Gruene Historical District of New
\$379,000. Will discount for fellow PVA member
2257 Gruene Lake Drive
Sharon McCaskill or Pam Beierlein
Coldwell Banker D'Ann Harper,
RealtorsR
532 Seguin Street
New Braunfels, Texas 78130
830-237-6136
Cell 830-837-3669

MS Directors Report by Elizabeth Duncan



Veterans Day is an official United States public holiday, observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I; major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. The United States previously observed Armistice Day. The U.S. holiday was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May; Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who *died* while in military service.^[1] It is also not to be confused with Armed Forces Day, a minor U.S. remembrance that also occurs in May, which specifically honors those *currently serving* in the U.S. military.

History

On November 11, 1919, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson issued a message to his countrymen on the first Armistice Day in which he expressed what he felt the day meant to Americans:

ADDRESS TO FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN
The White House, November 11, 1919.

A year ago today our enemies laid down their arms in accordance with an armistice which rendered them impotent to renew hostilities, and gave to the world an assured opportunity to reconstruct its shattered order and to work out in peace a new and juster set of inter national relations. The soldiers and people of the European Allies had fought and endured for more than four years to uphold the barrier of civilization against the aggressions of armed force. We ourselves had been in the conflict something more than a year and a half. - With splendid forgetfulness of mere personal concerns, we re modeled our industries, concentrated our financial resources, increased our agricultural output, and assembled a great army, so that at the last our power was a decisive factor in the victory. We were able to bring the vast resources, material and moral, of a great and free people to the assistance of our associates in Europe who had suffered and sacrificed without limit in the cause for which we fought. Out of this victory there arose new possibilities of political freedom and economic concert. The war showed us the strength of great nations acting together for high purposes, and the victory of arms foretells the enduring conquests which can be made in peace when nations act justly and in furtherance of the common interests of men. To us in America the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with - solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service, and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of nations.

WOODROW WILSON

The United States Congress adopted a resolution on June 4, 1926, requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue annual proclamations calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies. A Congressional Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U.S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday: "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'.

In 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks from Birmingham, Alabama, had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans, not just those who died in World War I. Weeks led a delegation to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, who supported the idea of National Veterans Day. Weeks led the first national celebration in 1947 in Alabama and annually until his death in 1985. President Reagan honored Weeks at the White House with the Presidential Citizenship Medal in 1982 as the driving force for the national holiday. Elizabeth Dole, who prepared the briefing for President Reagan, determined Weeks as the "Father of Veterans Day."

U.S. Representative Ed Rees from Emporia, Kansas, presented a bill establishing the holiday through Congress. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, also from Kansas, signed the bill into law on May 26, 1954. It had been eight and a half years since Weeks held his first Armistice Day celebration for all veterans.

Congress amended the bill on June 1, 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as Veterans Day since.

In Memoriam

Always in our hearts

James Porter
Evangeline Johnson





38TH
NATIONAL VETERANS
WHEELCHAIR GAMES



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**



NATIONAL DISABLED
VETERANS
WINTER SPORTS CLINIC

July 29 - August 4, 2018
Orlando, FL

Texas Chapter

April 1- 8, 2018

DECEMBER

8 - SAS Christmas Party Magnolia Pancake Haus
10333 Huebner Rd San Antonio, TX 78240 RSVP
Chapter office

7 - TPVA Board Meeting San Antonio

14 - ALM SCIC Women w/SCI Support Group

19 - Inpatient/Staff Christmas gift buying ALM
SCIC

22 - Inpatient/Staff Christmas Distribution ALM
SCIC

14- Christmas Houston MED VA MC

19 - December Houston Christmas Party. Pappadeaux's 2525 West Loop South RSVP
to chapter office

Metal and Muscle 2017 Expo Houston
December 8 - 10, 2017. Please call the chapter
office if you can volunteer to work the booth

Paralyzed Veterans of America
Texas Chapter
P.O. Box 989
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