

Preserving Freedom ★ Supporting Veterans and Current Military ★ Providing Community Service

WELCOME TO AMVETS

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JULY 18, 2015



Meeting The Need



- **Roots in World War II**
- **Congressionally chartered – signed by President Truman in on July 23, 1947 making AMVETS the first World War II organization to be chartered by Congress.**
- **Since then, the original charter has been amended several times to admit as members those who served in different eras.**
- **Expanded membership includes honorable service in any uniformed element of the U.S Armed Forces since World War II**

Serving Communities

A few Key Events

- **1944 - American Veterans of World War II founded in Kansas City**
- **1947- President Harry S. Truman signed Public Law 216, making AMVETS the first World War II organization to be chartered by Congress.**
- **1949 - First memorial carillon dedicated at Arlington National Cemetery**
- **1954 - First Silver Helmet award presented to Gen. George C. Marshall**
- **1961- President John F. Kennedy a former AMVETS Post Commander, meets with AMVETS National Commander Harold S. Russell, winner of two Academy Awards and signed legislation enabling the USS Arizona Memorial to be completed.**
- **1962 - USS Arizona Memorial and AMVETS Memorial Wall dedicated**
- **1968 - First Gold Helmet Award present to President Lyndon B. Johnson**
- **1990 - National guardsmen and reservists accepted as members**
- **2006 - AMVETS Hosts the National Symposium for the Needs of Young Veterans**

USS Arizona Memorial

Shrine Wall With Names

- Instrumental in memorial's completion
- 1962- USS Arizona Memorial and AMVETS Memorial Wall dedicated
- 1984- Re-dedicated.
- 2014- Last Re-dedicate (AMVETS raised \$350,000.00 needed to rebuild the Shrine Marble Wall)



Mission

- **To serve veterans and the active military in procuring their earned entitlements**
- **To promote Americanism and preserve the freedoms secured by America's Armed Forces**
- **To provide community services that enhance the quality of life for all Americans**

AMVETS: All About Service

Veterans Service

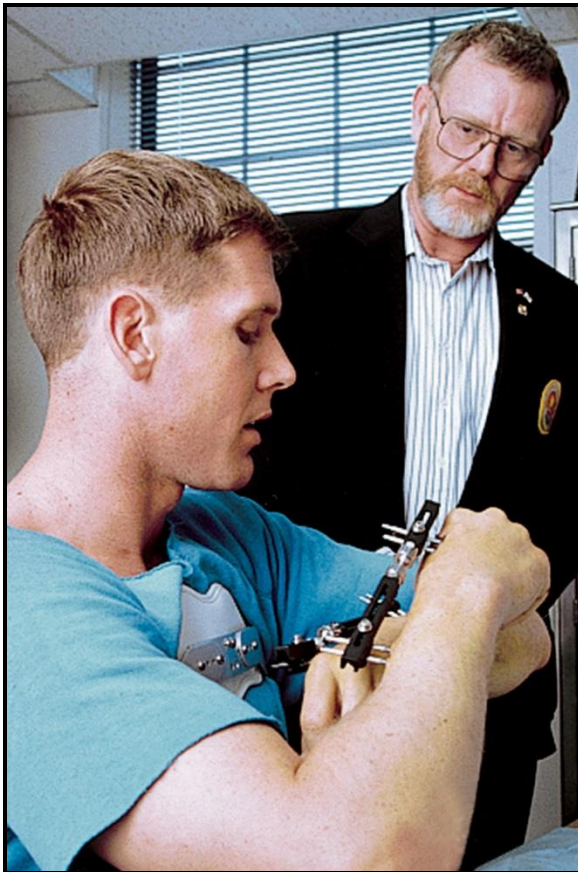


Community Service



Serving Veterans

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS)

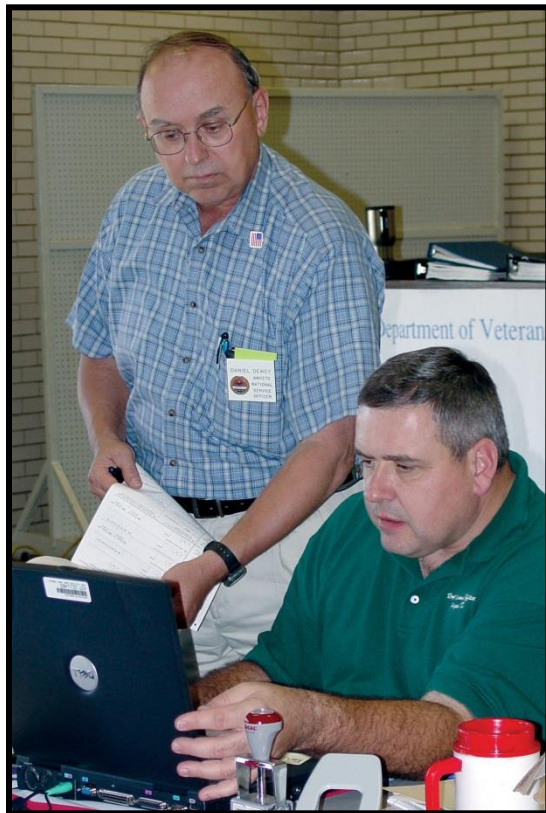


AMVETS and Ladies Auxiliary volunteers

- end-of-life care
- foster care
- hospital wards
- community programs
- nursing homes
- veteran outreach centers
- AMVETS — member of VAVS National Advisory Committee
- POC: Ron Lam, ron@amvets-hawaii.org

Serving Veterans

Veterans Service Officers (VSO)



- Provide free advice and action on veterans compensation claims

- File VA Claims

Link: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/>

- Fully Developed Claims

Link: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/fdc/>

(1) Navigate to eBenefits.va.gov and click on Login. If you don't yet have an eBenefits.va.gov account, register.

(2) Click Apply for Benefits

Important! Before you apply, go to the Request for Representative area to appoint a Veterans Service Officer as your Power of Attorney (POA). Your POA will help you collect the required documents and evidence you need to submit your claim.

Serving Veterans

Your Voice On Capitol Hill



- We urge all members to become actively involved by participating in veteran blogs, writing letters to your local and state government officials, reading American Veteran to stay on top of current issues affecting veterans.
- AMVETS National Executive Director Stewart Hickey has been selected to serve on the Commission on Care established by Congress to examine how to best deliver health care to the nation's veterans.

Alert H.R. 1994, S. 1082

- The VA Accountability Act would offer protection for whistleblowers, and empower VA Secretary McDonald to fire VA employees for misconduct or poor performance...
- Immediate Action Required: Please contact your elected officials and ask them to help resolve this deplorable situation. Learn more: <http://www.amvets.org/your-voice-in-dc/>
- AMVETS National Legislative Director: Diane M. Zumatto
Phone: 301-683-4016 or Email: dzumatto@amvets.org

Serving Communities

Volunteer Opportunities



Lanakila Pacific: Programs including those that help disabled veterans and support foster children as they make the transition to adulthood. They need volunteers to help guide these youth...the computer skills courses may be a fit and of interest to these youth? Also, Lanakila Meals on Wheels delivers meals and so much more, helping our kupuna remain in their own homes with dignity.

Link: <https://www.lanakilapacific.org/volunteer/>

Battleship USS Missouri

Volunteer Opportunities



Photo of Wounded Warrior Daryl Charles, AMVETS Hawaii Legislative Director Brooks W. Outland (2013-2014) and AMVETS Hawaii Commander Donovan A. Lazarus — at Battleship Missouri Memorial.



Photo of Brooks and 12 Wounded Warriors from Camp Pendleton and Twentynine Palms aboard his old ship, USS Missouri (BB-63). Brooks was also the USS Missouri Memorial Association's Wounded Warriors Program Coordinator.

World War I Natatorium Memorial

Floral Arrangements



- **Memorial Day Ceremony**
- **Veterans Day Ceremony**
- ❖ **Flowers arrangements placed:**
 - 1) **on Memorial Gate**
 - 2) **on the big rock**
 - 3) **around the stage and by podium**

AMVETS ROTC And JROTC Award

Hawaii ROTC Program



- ROTC is now recognized as a primary source for recruiting the nation's military officers. AMVETS ROTC and JROTC medals and certificates. The award, consisting of medal pendant and ribbon bar, is presented annually to the outstanding cadet at each participating ROTC and JROTC unit.
- Outstanding Senior and Junior Cadets: The professor of military science selects the cadet and submits his/her nominees name to donovan@amvets-hawaii.org. If the school sends the name directly to National, it will be forwarded to AMVETS Hawaii for presentation.



Scholarships

AMVETS / University of Phoenix Scholarships

- Each year AMVETS awards scholarships totaling \$40,000 to deserving high school seniors, ROTC students and veterans pursuing higher education.



University of Phoenix®

- Active Duty, Guard/Reserves & family members offered in partnership with the University of Phoenix. Application cycle May – September 2015.
- Apply Here: www.phoenix.edu/amvetscholar

FAQs

- When will the application cycle for AMVETS National Scholarships open for 2016?

Answer: **January 1 – April 30, 2016**

Employment Assistance

Veterans and Dependents

- AMVETS Career Center: <http://www.amvets.org/veteran-services/career-centers/>
- Career Assessment Test for veterans to use to help them figure out what type of job they want to get. Link: <http://www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip>
- Hire Net Hawaii: <https://www.hirenethawaii.com/vosnet/Default.aspx>

➤ Upcoming Career Fairs

➤ Workshops:

- Resume Writing
- Interview Skills
- Job Search



Membership

Inviting All Who Served



We welcome all who are currently serving or who have served honorably in the:

- U.S. Army
- U.S. Marine Corps
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Coast Guard

After Sept. 15, 1940, including:

- National Guard
- Reservists
- Active Duty

Membership

Joining AMVETS

- **Membership Center:** <http://www.amvets.org/member-center/>
- **Member's Benefits:** <http://www.amvets.org/veteran-services/member-benefits/>

➤ **Paid Annual or Renewal Membership:**

Link: <https://www.amvetmembers.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=AMVETS&WebKey=f1b27c6c-31eb-49ef-892e-1bde0a199752&Action=Add>

➤ **FREE Annual Membership for Students:**

Link: <http://www.amvetmembers.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=AMVETS&WebKey=c16108b2-8ce2-44e0-b1ff-a5be37a379cb&Action=Add>

185 Members: Annual (59), Lifetime Members (126)

Upcoming Event

71st National Convention

- **August 15 @ 8:00 am - August 23 @ 5:00 pm**

Hotel Information: Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, Room Rate: \$119.00

Note, Cut-off Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2015

- **August Membership Meeting (1300 – 1400):**

**Saturday, 21 August 2015, Barbers Point Bowling Center's Meeting Room
91-1259 Saratoga Ave., Kapolei, Hawaii 96707**

Timeline:

- **1230 – 1300: Meet-and-Greet (Pupus)**
- **1300 – 1400: Meeting in Session**
- **1400 – 1430: Breakdown/Farewell**

Issues/Concerns

Discussions

- **Board Member Vacancies**
 - 1) **Programs and Benefits Director**
 - 2) **Public Affairs Officer**
 - 3) **Veterans Service Officer**
- **Volunteer Opportunities**
 - 1) **VAVS**
 - 2) **Battleship USS Missouri**
 - 3) **Ewa Battle Field Memorial**
- **Resume Writing Assistance**
- **Essay Contest**
- **Legislative**
- **Membership**



American Veterans

National Constitution Preamble

We, the American Veterans who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States during and since World War II, fully realizing our responsibility to our community, to our state and to our nation, associate ourselves for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States; to safeguard the principles of freedom, liberty and justice for all; to promote the cause of peace and goodwill among nations; to maintain inviolate the freedom of our country; to preserve the fundamentals of democracy; to perpetuate the friendship and associations of these veterans; and to dedicate ourselves to the cause of mutual assistance, this by the grace of God.

*Building together for
a better America*

