

THE NEW EMPIRE AMVET

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
"For those who served and are serving and their dependents"
 Contact us at WWW.NYAMVETS.ORG



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Working together ensures the success of our 2017 goals

Commander David Feary



Fellow New York AMVETS,

The previous edition of our quarterly newspaper, The Empire AMVET, which was mailed to you recently, included an editorial that is so wrongheaded, so shockingly ignorant and ultimately so offensive, that I was aghast to learn it had been written at all, let alone published in an AMVETS newspaper.

In this completely inappropriate article, the writer espouses an agonizing string of hateful and stupid rhetorical questions about Muslims. And as if this wasn't shameful enough, the writer further dishonors himself by directly and contemptuously addressing the President of the United States with blatant disrespect for the role of Commander-in-Chief.

This same author also composed two more opinion pieces published in the same edition of the newspaper, one in favor of electing Donald J. Trump to the presidency, and the other harshly criticizing current President Barack H. Obama. Though AMVETS does respect the rights of its members to hold the political views of their choice, AMVETS as an organization has only one official political leaning. It leans toward veterans and their families. AMVETS should not have published any of these articles, but the ignorance and offensiveness of the article about Muslims in particular sets it apart as shockingly beyond the pale. Therefore, it is with deep regret that I write you now to disavow this article in the strongest possible terms and sincerely apologize to any and all who have rightly been offended by it. Additionally, I clearly owe an especially humble apology to all of our New York AMVETS who practices Islam. I'm truly very sorry.

1st Vice Commander James Gardner



Well, the holiday season is finally upon us. I hope everyone has a joyous and jerry Christmas and happy New Year. We have partnered with the Auxiliary and purchased clothes for both men and women veterans at the V.A. hospital in Syracuse. We also buy gifts for the veterans at out nursing homes and deliver them. Sometimes we dress up as Santa and elves. These older veterans love it.

Post #4 is putting on a free Christmas dinner for veterans, the elderly and those in need. We make deliveries to shut-ins and those who can't get out. It is a very busy time for everyone at the Post.

I started out with 200 MAL. cards. So far I've had 50 members renew their membership. I have been able to come up with instructions on finding locations near these MAL members.

Please continue to recruit new members in order to keep AMVETS a leading organization in our veterans communities.

Yours in AMVETS,
James Gardner 2nd
First Vice Commander

1st Vice Commander more on Pg. 4

Auxiliary President Candace Clemens



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to a new year of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary. I hope everyone is rested from the holidays and ready to go out and get some new members. Remember that you are the spark that makes our membership grow. Ask some new ladies to join and also go back again and ask some that maybe turned you down the first time.

I'd like to invite everyone to visit our new website for AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of New York. The web address is nyamvetsladiesaux.org. This is a work in progress. If you wish to submit a picture attachment as jpeg or an article as PDF, please send to me candyneclemens@gmail.com

A very special thank you to all the Son's Squadron, AMVETS Posts, Riders and Ladies Auxiliaries who generously contributed to our "BAGS FOR BABIES" Program for the women Veteran moms. The VA'S across New York State were amazed at the collection of baby items and diaper bags. The baby shower we had at the Fall SEC was a blast with good food, friends, and games. It was so wonderful to see so many of you in attendance.

Upcoming at Spring SEC will be our "Stand Up For Veterans". This will take place on Friday March 24th of Spring SEC from 9:00- 3:00. Because of this and clean-up, we will be holding our committee meetings for the Auxiliary later in the afternoon. The Ladies

—Auxiliary President, continued on Pg. 5

Executive Director Rich Rossi



The SEC will be held at the Binghamton Hilton Double Tree Hotel on March 24th and 25th. Call 607.722.7575 for reservations. The Round Table meetings start at 1500 on Friday and all are invited to attend. The Zone Directors are doing a great job having chartered or are in the process of chartering six new Posts since June. Some of you have heard about the last Empire AMVET having a couple of articles printed in it that were inappropriate. Commander Feary took a lot of heat for this.

One of the articles was anti Muslim and the National Communication Director called me and told me that besides AMVETS having a number of Muslim members, there are Muslims in the Military and what if they are in a VA Hospital and pick up a copy of the Empire AMVET. I am surprised that so many people send out racial and inappropriate Emails. Once you hit that send button they don't vanish and you have no control on when or where they will reappear. I along with everyone believe that we have a right to our opinion, but you have no control of the consequences you face.

ONE MORE THING: At a recent SEC a motion was made and unanimously passed to no longer put the minutes in the Empire AMVET. After the meeting more than a few members approached me and stated that they liked the minutes in the paper. Needless to say, the motion was overturned at the next meeting.

"On the question" means you can ask questions about the motion and you should vote the way you feel.
GOD BLESS EVERYONE

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Preamble

We, the American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and those who served, or served in the Armed Forces of the United States through fully realizing our responsibilities to our community, to our Nation and to our National associate ourselves for the following purpose: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States to safeguard the principles of liberty and justice for all to promote the cause of peace and goodwill among Nations to maintain inviolate the rights of our Country; to preserve the foundations of democracy; to perpetuate the friendship and association of those veterans and, to dedicate ourselves to the cause of mutual aid and this by the grace of