

KEANE-RANKIN-DETROIT NO. I

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

C O N S T I T U T I O N

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Chapter shall be KEANE-RANKIN-DETROIT, Chapter No. I, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to support the program of the Disabled American Veterans as defined in the National Constitution and ByLaws.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Chapter shall conform with requirements as set forth in the National Constitution and ByLaws.

ARTICLE IV - ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this Chapter shall be vested in the Executive Committee in emergencies only and all other action of the Executive Committee must be ratified by a simple majority vote of the Chapter.

Section 2. The executive Committee shall be composed of the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, and four Chapter executive committeemen. At the 1979 officers annual election four Chapter executive committeemen shall be elected; two for a two year term and two for a one year term; thereafter at every annual Chapter officers election two Chapter executive committeemen shall be elected for two years.

Section 3. At time specified, the Chapter shall elect a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, and four Chapter executive committeemen. At the 1979 officers annual election four Chapter executive committeemen shall be elected; two for a two year term and two for a one year term; thereafter at every annual Chapter officers election two chapter executive committeemen shall be elected for two years.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE

The executive power of this Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Commander.

ARTICLE VI - AUXILIARY

This chapter recognizes a women's Auxiliary, subject only to such supervision as conforms with the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws of both organizations.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any Chapter meeting by a three-fourths majority vote of those present and voting, subject to approval of the Department and National Judge Advocate and effective only after date of this approval provided that amendment is read at three meetings and that all members were notified of the proposed change prior to each of the three meetings.

BYLAWS

KEANE-RANKIN-DETROIT NO. I

ARTICLE I

Name and Location

Section 1. By virtue of the chapter granted by DISABLED AMERICAN VERERANS, National Headquarters, this organization shall be known as: KEANE-RANKIN-DETROIT NO. I.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of this organization shall be set forth in ARTICLE II of the DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility for membership in this Chapter shall be as prescribed by the Constitution of the DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, National Headquarters.

Section 2. Applicants for membership shall submit sufficient evidence of their eligibility. Approval or rejection of the application shall be upon eligibility alone.

Section 3. The only valid ground for rejecting an application for membership or transfer shall be that the applicant has failed to furnish proof of eligibility, satisfactory to this chapter. (See "Eligibility to DAV Membership" in Appendix to National Bylaws).

Section 4. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active, paid-up, annual or an active life membership.

ARTICLE IV

Executive Committee

Section 1. The executive committee shall be composed of the Commander, who shall be the presiding officer; Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, and Four Chapter executive committeeman. At the 1979 officers annual election four chapter executive committeemen shall be elected; two for a two year term and two for a one year term; thereafter at every annual chapter officers election two chapter executive committeemen shall be elected for two years.

Section 2. Meetings of the executive committee will be called by the Commander, or at the request of a majority of its members, made in writing to the Commander.

Section 3. Appointed officers, Committee Chairman and Lay Members may attend the Executive Committee meetings, but without the right to vote, and without voice except by unanimous consent of the executive committee.

Section 4. A majority of members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. The executive committee may act for the Chapter only in emergencies and at all other times shall recommend courses of action to the Chapter in session

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section 1. Para. 1. The Chapter shall elect a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, State executive Committeeman and Alternate, and Four chapter executive Committeemen. At the 1979 officers annual election four Chapter executive committeemen shall be elected; two for a two year term and two for a one year term; thereafter at every annual Chapter officers election two chapter executive committeemen shall be elected for two years.

Paragraph 2. The Commander shall appoint the Chaplain and Judge Advocate and Committee Chairman and members, and such other officers as are necessary to carry out the business of the Chapter.

* Section 2. Para. 1. The Commander shall be the presiding officer and in his absence, the duty will fall to the next highest officer in line of succession who is present.

Paragraph 2. The Senior Vice Commander shall be the Membership Chairman and as such is responsible for campaigns to increase membership.

Paragraph 3. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all monies received and disbursed and shall deposit any monies received as soon as possible in the name of the chapter. He shall make a report on finances at each meeting and records shall be open to any member when a request is made in writing through the executive committee.

A financial report, as of June 30, shall be sent to the Department and National Adjutant, not later than August 1, annually.

ARTICLE VI.

Qualifications

Section 1. Any person who is a member in good standing shall be eligible to any elective or appointive office in this chapter.

ARTICLE VII

Tenure of Office

Section 1. Officers shall be elected annually in May in accordance with the Department By-laws and serve until their successors have been elected and installed

* Section 2. Para. 1. Unexcused absence of any officer from three consecutive meetings shall be cause for removal, and in that event, the provisions of ARTICLE XI

Section 7. shall apply.

* Paragraph 2. In event the office of Commander shall be vacated for any reason, the Senior Vice Commander shall be elevated to Commander, Junior Vice Commander to Senior Vice Commander and the vacancy filled as outlined in Para. 1.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Section 1. The stated meetings of this Chapter shall be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. except when they fall on any recognized holiday, in which case there shall be no meeting held, unless specially called. A Social meeting will be held each month on the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 P.M. except when they fall on any recognized Holiday.

Section 3. If it becomes necessary or desirable to change the time or place of the Chapter meetings, such change may be effected by an majority of members present and voting, at a special meeting only, called for that purpose.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the Commander when in his judgment he deems it necessary, or by any four (4) members of the Executive Committee, or by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any stated meeting. A special meeting may not be called to order and legally held unless each member in good standing has been mailed a written notice, stating time, place and object of the special meeting. Such notice shall be postmarked not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the designated opening hour of the meeting called. No other business may be transacted at a special meeting, except that for which it is called, as stated in the notice.

Section 5. Ten percent (10%) of the membership or ten (10) members in good standing, with at least 3 elected officers present, whichever is smaller, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Chapter business.

ARTICLE IX

Finance

Section 1. The revenues of this Chapter shall be derived from dues and such other sources as may be approved by the Chapter, subject to the provisions of Section 4 of this Article.

Section 2. All monies collected or received by any member for the Chapter shall be turned over to the Treasurer and shall be, and shall remain, the property of the Chapter.

Section 3. Any member undertaking any rehabilitation, hospital or welfare project in the name of this Chapter, or otherwise on his own responsibility, without the consent or approval of the Executive Committee and the Chapter, shall not be reimbursed from funds of the Chapter.

Section 4. Before this Chapter shall enter into any fundraising endeavor, such endeavor shall be in conformance with the provisions of the National and the Michigan Department Bylaws.

Section 5. Any proposal of whatever nature called for the expenditure of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more, or any proposal which would obligate or commit the Chapter to a single expenditure or such sum or a series of payments totaling such sum, must first be presented in writing, over the signature of three (3) members in good standing, to the Executive Committee for its consideration and recommendation to the Chapter, before being voted on at any stated or special meeting, at which meeting it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of qualified members present and voting, to authorize such an expenditure.

Section 6. There shall be a yearly audit made of the Adjutant's and Treasurer's accounts by a special Auditing Committee of three (3) members, appointed by the Commander. Such audit shall be made and the books of the Chapter closed for the fiscal year as of a date not less than five (5) nor more than twenty (20) days prior to the date of the installation of the new Officers for the ensuing year. A copy thereof shall be sent to the National and Department Adjutants.

ARTICLE X

Trials

Section 1. All matters of discipling, charges and trials shall be governed by the National By-laws.

ARTICLE XI

Elections

Section 1. The annual election of Chapter Officers and delegates and alternates to the annual Department of Michigan Convention, shall be held at the first stated meeting in May.

Section 2. Nominations for elective Chapter Officers will open at one meeting, special or stated, immediately preceding the election meeting, as well as at the election meeting.

Section 3. Installation of elected and appointed Officers will take place at the social or stated meeting next following the election.

Section 4. A majority of those members of the Chapter, present and voting, will be required to elect any Officer of this Chapter. If and when one of three (3) or more candidates for the same office, fails to receive a majority of the votes cast by those present and voting, the candidate receiving the lowest number shall be dropped from the ballot and another ballot shall be prepared and cast, until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

Section 5. No person, other than a member of this Chapter in good standing, may be nominated and elected or appointed to, or hold, any office; vote or otherwise exercise any powers of a member. Any officer whose membership shall lapse during his term of office, shall automatically forfeit such office, which shall be filled as provided by Sec. 7 of this Article.

Section 6. The commander may not be elected to a successive second term of office except by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of qualified members present and voting, but in no event for more than two successive terms.

Section 7. In the event of the demise, unexcused absence, resignation, or inability of any elected officer or Chapter Executive Committeeman to perform the duties of his office, such office shall be declared vacant by the chair, on motion from the floor. Such vacancy shall be filled by special election, which may not be held until all members have been notified by a timely notification in the Department Newspaper of the vacancy and the date of the scheduled special election; and provided further that special elections shall be held in the same manner as regular elections, except that both nominations and elections, shall take place at the Chapter meeting following the declaration of vacancy,

Section 8. All elections, whether regular or special, must be held by secret ballot, under the supervision of an election committee appointed by the Commander and approved by the Chapter provided, however, that if there be only one (1) qualified candidate for any one office, such candidate may upon motion from the floor be declared elected unanimously by acclamation.

Section 9. The required number of delegates and alternates to represent this Chapter at the Michigan Department Convention and at the National Convention shall be nominated and elected in the same manner as prescribed in Section 1, 2, 5 and 8 above, however if there are not more candidates than vacancies, the entire slate shall be elected.

ARTICLE XII

Chapter Memorial Home

Section 1. There shall be a D.A.V. Memorial home Board of Directors composed of the elected chapter Executive Committeemen together with the Chapter Commander who shall have the authority to conduct the operations and maintenance of the building subject to the direction of the Chapter Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XIII

Amendments.

Section 1. The By-Laws of this Chapter may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of qualified members present and voting at a stated meeting, provided such amendments have been proposed in writing and signed by five (5) members in good standing, and shall have been read at two (2) previous stated meetings before being adopted and provided further, that the membership has been notified in writing or by publication in the D.A.V. Department news paper of the proposed amendment (s) at least two (2) weeks prior to the date on which it is to be voted on.

Section 2. Debate on the proposed changes or amendments shall be in order only at the meeting at which they are to be voted on.

Section 3. No amendment shall be effective until approved by the Department Judge Advocate and the National Judge Advocate.

ARTICLE XIV

Auxiliary

Section 1. This Chapter will recognize a local unit of the DAV Auxiliary, Department of Michigan.

ARTICLE XV

Dues

Section 1. The annual membership dues of this Chapter shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) including renewals beginning with the 1978 - 79 membership years.

Section 2. Dues shall be paid in advance, in conformity with the National By-laws and shall be due and payable each year on the first day of July, which is the beginning of the D.A.V. membership year; all annual memberships shall terminate at midnight June 30, without notice.

Section 3. Any member in arrears in payment of dues shall automatically cease to be a member in good standing. If a person tenders his renewal annual dues between July 1 and September 30, immediately following delinquency, he shall be automatically re-instated to membership, in good standing.

Section 4. The Chapter shall pay out of the dues, immediately as they are received, the respective State and National per capita taxes for each membership, before otherwise appropriating such dues.

Section 5. The Chapter, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, may vote to remit the current year's due of a member who finds himself, through no fault of his own, in such dire financial straits as to make payment of his dues impossible without injury to himself or his dependants; provided however, that the Chapter shall pay the State and the National per capita tax and the Service fee for each such member.

ARTICLE XVI

Duties of Officers

Section 1. All officers shall perform such duties as are herein set forth and as are usual and customary and in accordance with the rituals and regulations of the National Department.

Section 2. The Commander shall be the presiding officer. His lawful orders shall be obeyed. He shall instruct the Officers in their duties. He shall

appoint such Committees as are directed by the Chapter and discharge Committees or members thereof when necessary. He shall preserve order at meetings and when necessary declare an immediate adjournment if decorum is not observed. He shall declare all points of order which may arise; Robert's Rules of Order, as amended shall govern the parliamentary procedure in Chapter meetings. Where conflict or procedure rule is evident, these By-Laws shall take precedence.

Section 3. The Senior Vice Commander shall assist the Commander in the performance of the duties of his office. In the absence of the Commander, or when for any reason the Commander cannot act, the Senior Vice Commander shall assume the duties of the Commander with full power to discharge the duties of the office. The Senior Vice Commander shall be the Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Section 4. The Junior Vice Commander shall assist the Commander and the Senior Vice Commander in the performance of their duties and carry out their instructions and shall be the next senior officer in the absence of the Commander and Senior Vice Commander.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall receive and be the custodian of the Chapter's funds immediately upon receipt thereof, in the name of the Chapter, in an account or accounts. He shall when elected and installed, make a detailed report of all property and funds turned over to him by the retiring Treasurer, and report to the Chapter, any discrepancies, irregularities, or errors which may be found in the books or accounts. The record to be kept for future reference. He shall be required to furnish bond in a reliable Surety Company in an amount recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the Chapter. The Treasurer shall, when authorized by the Chapter, prepare checks in the amount and manner ordered by the Chapter, sign them and submit them to the Commander for his

signature and then properly dispatch them to the payee designated. All withdrawals and transfers of funds shall require the signature of the Treasurer and either the Commander or the adjutant, including the redemption of certificates of deposit or similar instruments of deposit. The same signatures are to be required to gain entry into the Chapter's safety deposit box. The Treasurer shall keep proper books of account and at stated intervals and upon request, shall prepare and submit to the Chapter, a financial report, of all receipts and disbursements and of monies on hand and on deposit in the special and general accounts. Such reports shall upon request be available for inspection to any member in good standing. The Treasurer shall be responsible for prompt payment of State and National per capita taxes when due. Authority to do so without specific approval of the Chapter, being implied in this section.

Section 6. The adjutant will keep a true and complete record, in the form of minutes, of all the proceedings at each chapter meeting; he will receive all communications, applications for membership and all other records addressed to the Chapter and will be responsible for the dispatch of regular and special notices to members whenever called for by the Constitution and/or By-Laws, or when so directed by the Commander, the Executive Committee or the Chapter. The Adjutant shall act as the Recording Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Section 7. The Chaplain shall be the Chairman of the Visiting Committee. He shall visit the sick and shut-in members of the Chapter and report on same; he shall lead the Chapter in prayer and shall officiate at funerals and perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Chapter and the official ritual.

Section 8. The Judge Advocate shall be the legal adviser to the Commander and the Chapter, especially in the interpretation of the Constitution and the By-Laws and the Rules of Order.

ARTICLE XVII

Standing and Special Committees

Section 1. At the first stated meeting of the Chapter, following the Installation of Officers, the Commander shall appoint the following Committees: Ways and Means Committee, MEMBERSHIP, HOSPITAL, WELFARE, ENTERTAINMENT.

Section 2. The Special Committees will be appointed as necessity arises.

Section 3. All committees shall perform such duties as the By-Laws or the Chapter may direct.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to stimulate the activities of all members toward securing new and renewal members.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Hospital Committee to visit sick comrades confined to hospitals, to ascertain their special needs and to provide communication between them, their families and the Chapter.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the Welfare officer to investigate cases of hardship and distress which are brought to its attention; make verbal or written reports to the Executive Committee and the Chapter, briefly stating the facts of the case but not necessarily divulging the name of the individual or family involved; this committee shall further make recommendations as to action deemed necessary or desirable.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the Entertainment Committee, by and with the advice and consent of the Chapter, to arrange

for such entertainment and social activities as may be proposed by this committee or the Chapter.

Sec. 8. The duties of Special Committees shall be such as directed at the time of their appointment by the Commander or the Chapter.

Sec. 9. Any Committee requiring funds to carry out its duties shall first make application for such funds to the Executive Committee, which in turn will submit the request for funds to the Chapter, together with recommendation for adoption or rejection. Any Committee receiving funds shall make a true and correct accounting of all funds expended, and any balance left over shall be returned to the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XVIII

Rules of Order.

Sec. 1. Matters referred to a committee shall not be debated until the committee has rendered a report on same.

Sec. 2. The Commander, in his discretion, shall have the right to limit debate on any proposition and no member may have the right to speak more than twice on the same subject.

Sec. 3. Special privileges of the floor may be granted at any time, and when granted to any member first recognized, shall be final, and others must yield.

Sec. 4. A recess may be declared whenever deemed necessary and when visitors or non-members address the Chapter.

Sec. 5. When a point of order is raised, the member having the floor shall take his seat until a ruling is made.

Sec. 6. Any member may appeal to the Chapter from a decision of the Commander. The question shall be stated thus: "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?" A simple majority vote shall sustain the Chair.

Sec. 7. No member shall leave the room during a meeting except by permission of the Commander. Permission shall be construed as granted when a member approaches the Altar and salutes the Commander, or the Senior Vice Commander, if the Commander fails to recognize the member.

Sec. 8. Except when otherwise provided, a majority vote shall decide all questions. If a voice-vote seems indecisive, any member may demand a show of hands.

Sec. 9. Unless the Chapter, by a majority vote, upon the request of three (3) qualified members present, deems immediate action necessary, the Commander may refer to the Executive Committee for its consideration and recommendations, any matter arising at a Chapter meeting under the heading of "New Business" or "Good of the Order". Such matter then shall become the first item under "Unfinished Business" at the Chapter meeting next following a regular or special meeting of the Executive Committee.

XIX
~~ARTICLE XXIX~~

Rules of Conduct

Sec. 1. All members shall comply with the rules, laws and regulations of the organization; show proper respect to the Officers of the Chapter, never speak falsely or maliciously of

a comrade; uphold and defend the principals of the organization; never use the name of the Chapter or organization in connection with any matter, except on authorization of the Chapter; never indulge in personalities when debating any motion or proposition.

ARTICLE XX

Miscellaneous

Section 1. Governing body of this Chapter, shall be the Chapter in session, except as provided in the National or Department Constitution and their by-laws executive committee shall be kept and open for inspection to any member in good standing.

Section 2. These By-Laws shall be deemed to have been amended without any formal or other act and the officers of this unit are authorized to cause the same to be amended to conform to any amendment of the National Constitution and By-Laws or of the By-Laws of the Department of Michigan when in conflict therewith.

The foregoing By-Laws were adopted by KEANE-RANKIN-DETROIT Chapter Number I, Disabled American Veterans, at its regular stated meeting on the 15th of October 1978.

Attest:

Signed Wm. M. Stone
Adjutant

Signed Harry E. Heard
Commander

Approved: Date: 10-20-78

Signed John T. Lee
Department Judge Advocate

CERTIFY that the within constitution and/or by-laws does not conflict with those of the National Organization, and to that extent, is approved.

Date:

Longfellow
DAV National Judge Advocate

10/20/78