

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

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NEW NAME, NEW LOOK

With the retirement of National Adjutant Maria Tedrow, so ends her *Happenings at Headquarters*. We wish Maria well on her future retirement plans and thank her for many years of service to the organization.

We are rolling out the first edition of the Headquarters News and hope that you find it informative and use-

ful. National Chairmen articles will be incorporated into this newsletter whenever possible rather than using separate sheets of paper for each bulletin. The monthly *Headquarters News* edition will be posted on our website and can be accessed by any officer, member or interested party via www.dav.org. For

those unit officers, chairmen and/or members who do not have internet access, be sure to make copies for distribution to them at your monthly meetings. It is our responsibility to reach out to our members and keep them informed about issues critical to our organization's purpose and growth.

MEMBERSHIP

Kay Egan, National Membership Chairman

We're almost there....the M&M jar is 99.66% full! Just a little bit more to go... Thank you for what you have done already, just a little more effort is all it will take.

Colorado, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Texas, Virginia and Puerto Rico have made their quotas; don't let them be the only states to do so. Some of you are so-o-o close it will take but four or five new members to put you over the top. Don't forget all the new babies in the family can be a member of our Auxiliary. Some of the old babies too, for that matter.

You may be noticing some new and unfamiliar names on your unit roster thanks to the DAV mailing to prospective members. The DAV is

giving them complimentary memberships through June 30, 2009. This letter also refers to the Auxiliary and gives the prospect a chance to list members of his/her families that can join the Auxiliary. We have decided to give any member so listed a complimentary membership, too. All of this was explained in the *Happenings at Headquarters* in February's mailing. They do not qualify for any membership drawing or recruiter award and must be listed on the official DAV letter that was sent.

So if you should see some new names get in touch with them and invite them to your next meeting or event. Be a welcoming committee; nothing gets individuals back for the SECOND meeting than being welcomed and accepted at the FIRST.

This might be off the wall and no one has posed the question yet, but just in case anyone was wondering...as long as you made your unit's membership quota by April 1, 2008, your unit is eligible for the Mae Holmes Award even if your State Dept. did not make their quota. It is hoped, of course, that your state will reach its quota, as many of the States are very close.

Keep the Lunar Blue and the Pulsar Pink applications coming in. I'm looking forward to the drawing which will take place on June 30, 2008. I hope that there will be lots of chances for you to win the cash prizes.

Take care of yourselves and I'll be looking forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

LEGISLATIVE

Susan Henry, Legislative Chairman

Current Legislative Topics:

(Unlike TV, this is not a re-run.)

NEW and OLD ways to address OLD concerns.

What's NEW? A Senate bill for **Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act.**

Representative Phil Hare's (IL-17) House bill **HR 2514** was introduced in May 2007. On February 14, 2008, Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) introduced **S. 2639**. Please encourage your Representatives and Senators to co-sponsor and vote for these bills. Both of these measures would move the funding of veterans' health care from discretionary to mandatory funding.

NEW: Use the DAV's Legislative website (<http://capwiz.com/dav/home/>) to send a

prepared email message to your Representative and Senators encouraging them to sign on to these important measures that would guarantee sufficient, timely and predictable funding for veterans health care.

OLD: Write or call your Representative and Senators in the traditional manner

What's **OLD?** It is **BUDGET** time AGAIN!

As we have so far been unsuccessful in getting the VA Budget to be **mandatory** rather than **discretionary** (**HR 2514, S. 2639**), Congress must again allocate funds for the VA System.

Last year was the first time ever that the actual VA Budget met or exceeded the Independent Budget! But, that seems to have been a **ONE SHOT** deal in response to



the extreme media attention concerning the deficiencies at Walter Reed and other hospitals.

According to the DAV, this year the President's FY09 proposal again falls short of the Independent Budget by \$3 billion mainly in the area of veterans' health care which could result in fewer services to deal with the surge of traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, visual and hearing impairment, and spinal cord injury/dysfunction.

OLD: write or call your Representative and Senators in the traditional manner asking them to insure that there will not be a budget shortfall again.

NEW: Use the DAV's Legislative website your Representative and Senators on this topic, as well.

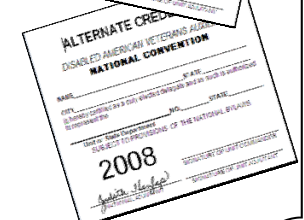
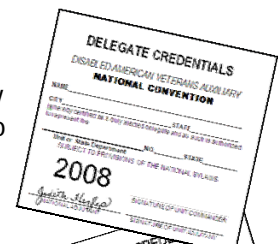
REALLY REALLY REALLY NEW: The DAV is producing a series of web videos aimed at highlighting veterans' health care needs. The first web video highlights and responds to the **budget shortfall**. See the video at: www.youtube.com/standupforveterans

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The National Convention in Las Vegas is around the corner. Be sure to elect your unit delegates and alternates and send the yellow delegate listing to national headquarters. Even though the DAV registration procedure is changing at this convention, the Auxiliary registration process will remain the same. Credentials are required, so please be sure to bring your credential with you to the national convention.

August 7—Registration begins
 August 7—Auxiliary NEC Meeting
 August 8—National District Meetings
 August 9—Joint Opening Session
 August 9—Convention Committee Meetings
 August 9—DAV National Comdr. Reception

August 10—Auxiliary Business Session
 August 10—Fun Night
 August 11—Auxiliary Business Session
 August 11—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
 August 12—Final Aux. Business Session
 August 12—Intro. of National Officers



COMMUNITY SERVICE


Donna Adams, Community Service Chairman

Since you are active in DAV Auxiliary, you can be very proud of the work we do. Our DAVA Community Service program offers a wide variety of opportunities for donating our time or financial resources. But we also know that for many of our units, our financial resources have become more limited, and our members' time is more closely guarded and less readily shared.

One way we can be of service to our members and people we meet every day is to become the **best source of information** for matters dealing with veterans' issues and dependents' needs. This template for a wallet-sized directory of services can be reproduced at your local printer on 90 lb. card stock, and your printer may even discount or donate the services. And if you send me the information you would like to make available for your unit, I would be happy to format it with your area's information so it is print-ready for you to take to your local printer. You can use it as a tool to help advertise DAVA while providing valuable information for your members. Use it as your unit business card, or include it with a membership application for your prospective members.

The information provided in this template is a sample of what can be on your cards, but there may be important contact numbers in your area that aren't listed. Just let me know your preferences by e-mailing me at dadams.dava@cox.net.

(Side 1)

<p style="text-align: center;">MY EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Cell Phone: _____</p> <p>IF NOT AVAILABLE, PLEASE CONTACT:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Cell Phone: _____</p> <p>Insurance Provider: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">DIRECTORY OF SERVICES</p> <p>Your Unit Name: Address: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Meeting time: _____</p> <p>Local DAV National Service Office: Address: _____ Phone: _____</p> <p>Local VA Medical Center: Address: _____ Phone: _____</p> <p>Local VA Regional Office: Address: _____ Phone: 1 (800) 827-1000</p>
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(Side 2)

<p style="text-align: center;">MY CONTACTS</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>TRICARE: 1 (888) 363-2273 www.tricare.mil</p> <p>CHAMPVA: 1 (800) 733-8387 www.va.gov/hac/forbeneficiaries/champva/champva.asp</p> <p>State/County Veterans' Affairs: Address: _____ Phone: _____</p> <p>Social Security Administration (Local) Address: _____ Phone: 1 (800) 772-1213 www.ssa.com</p> <p>State Medicaid/Long Term Care Address: _____ Phone: _____</p>
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Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead



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Service for veterans and families; past, present and future.

Special Announcement!

National Commander Kathryn Wiley has appointed Judy Hezlep as National Adjutant effective May 1, 2008. Congratulations, Judy!

Reminders

- Junior Membership—Be sure to send only \$3.00 for each year being paid for the junior member. The state portion should be sent to your state department.
- Juniors must become senior members in the membership year during which they turn 18. We rely on the units to advise us of over-age juniors since our system does not automatically remove them.
- When completing officer reports, be sure to write the membership number on the report to ensure proper processing.
- We are currently in the 2007-2008 membership year which ends June 30, 2008. Mark annual applications/renewals accordingly.
- Look on your Activity Report for “Comp” members. They are members who are coming in through a special net prospect mailing and are being given a complimentary annual membership through June 30, 2009. Contact them; invite them; welcome them.

Looking Ahead.....

DAVA Fall Conference

Date: October 2—4, 2008

Where: Holiday Inn—Cincinnati Eastgate

4501 Eastgate Blvd.
Cincinnati, OH 45245

Room Rate: \$79 Single/Double + tax

Toll-free reservations:
(888) 465-4329

Shuttle service provided to and from airport (CVG) \$10 each way.

Additional information will be sent as a special bulletin to the units and published in the DAV Magazine.