

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

ANNOUNCING THE 2008-2009 MEMBERSHIP YEAR!

June 30, 2008, brought the 2007-2008 membership year to a close and there was much to celebrate. National membership quota had been met and several state departments and many auxiliary units also achieved their respective quotas. New members were brought into the organization by our diligent recruiters and through the complimentary membership mailing sent out by the DAV. We also chartered ten new auxiliary units with many enthusiastic members willing to learn and carry the Auxiliary torch.

On the downside, many units turned in their charters sadly due to inactivity and lack of interest. Also, the Auxiliary membership file was matched against the Social Security Death Index files which resulted in more than 16,000

members being removed from our roles due to death. This alone, had a powerful impact on our membership infrastructure.

Included in the June 30, 2008, month-end mailing is the updated Distribution Report. Now that the 2008-2009 quotas have been set they can be found near the bottom right of this report.

To some the quota may seem insurmountable. But, try not to let frustration overshadow the purpose of the DAV Auxiliary. Remember, you are an Auxiliary member and like all Auxiliary members we're used to challenges. Challenge is what motivates us and keeps us in motion. There are thousands of veterans and families out there that need us and right now our job is far

from complete. This up-hill battle hasn't stopped the Auxiliary in the past and it is unlikely that it will stop us now. *We are the DAV Auxiliary* and we will roll up our sleeves, pick ourselves up, and do whatever it takes to recruit new members and, most importantly, educate and train them to fulfill the mission of this great organization.

If you need membership applications or brochures to keep on hand, give us a call or send for more. We'll gladly get them in the mail to you.

Congratulations to the following state departments for achieving 2007-2008 quota during the month of June:

Illinois, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Hawaii

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EXACTLY HOW IS QUOTA CALCULATED?

Believe it or not, there is a standard formula for calculating quota and it is based on the June 30 population, minus canceled, deceased, and transferred-out members; plus transferred-in members. Units with less than 50 members will have a quota increase of one (1) additional member. Units with 50 or more members will have a quota increase of one (1) additional member per each 25 members.

Example: Units with 1 to 49 members will add one (1) member.
 Units with 50 – 74 members will add two (2) members.
 Units with 75 – 99 members will add three (3) members.
 Units with 100 – 124 members will add four (4) members, etc.

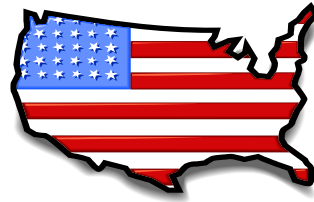
F R E E D O M S F O U N D A T I O N

Patrice Rapisand, Americanism Chairman

For many years, the DAVA as an organization has made donations to Freedoms Foundation to support the Scholarship Program for teachers to attend the programs which are available to improve the fundamentals of the American way of life.

The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is an educational institute that teaches Americans about America. The institute deals with 5th and 6th graders, high school students, teachers, and military veterans. Many activities are designed to highlight American history. The goals of Freedoms Foundation are:

- Preserve the ideals and principles upon which the United States was founded.
- Educate young people on the heritage and values of America.
- Encourage Americans to become informed, responsible, and active citizens in the social, political, and economic life of our nation.
- Inspire each generation, through individual honors, to rededicate them to the American Dream.



Each year more than 3,000 elementary and secondary school students from around the country visit the Valley Forge campus to learn about America. The students are engaged in a living history educational experience that connects them in topics critical to the future of freedom. Classes include workshops that highlight American history. Many young Americans are provided a great opportunity.

High school students have the opportunity to interact with experts on current issues of citizenship, leadership, and community service. Teachers are provided with workshops that focus on responsible **citizenship**, the benefits of the free enterprise system, and teaching the youth of America critical history. Many awards are given to Americans from across the national who have made significant contributions toward public understanding of

the American way of life under the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

I encourage you to write Freedoms Foundation and ask for information on all the programs offered. Freedom for all of us depends on responsibility by each of us. To contact Freedoms Foundation write or call:

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
1601 Valley Forge Road
PO Box 706
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0706
1-800-896-5488
www.freedomsfoundation.com

If you should call and decide you meet the qualifications for one of the programs, please drop me a line and let me know. I would love for anyone who can to take advantage of this wonderful foundation.

F R E E L I F E M E M B E R S H I P P I N

Let's start the new membership year off with life membership. When you sign up new life members after July 1, 2008, remind them that if they pay their life membership in full prior to June 30, 2009, they will receive a free life membership pin. *Remember, the pins are awarded based on a membership year, not a calendar year.*

If by some chance you have missed the deadline for earning a free life membership pin, the silver-tone pins can be purchased from national headquarters at a cost of \$15.00 each. We also have gold-tone pins of the same design available for \$25.00 each.



DAV Auxiliary life membership pin.

176,683 Members as of June 30, 2008.

142,100 life members ~ 25,185 annual senior members ~ 9,398 juniors

NATIONAL CONVENTION NOTES

Reservations -

It's not too late to make your reservations for the national convention to be held at Bally's Las Vegas Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Reservations can be made by calling 1.800.634.3434. Registration begins August 7 with the NEC meeting held that evening. Districts meet on August 8 and the joint opening session is August 9, followed by convention committee meetings. The final business session is Tuesday, August 12.

NEW ! Widows and Dependents Seminar -

At this year's national convention, the DAV has set aside time for a brief seminar concerning Widows and Dependents. The one-hour seminar will be conducted by a DAV National Service Officer and is scheduled for Sunday, August 10 at 1:00 p.m. Be sure to attend this informative session.

Junior Pages -

With the national convention fast approaching, the national headquarters staff is making final preparations for another successful convention. National headquarters does not have to be notified of juniors who will be in attendance; **however, if your junior members wish to be involved in the convention and serve as junior pages, you must inform national headquarters as soon as possible.** All junior pages must wear white attire and will serve under the direction of the National Sergeant at Arms. Again, if your juniors plan to act as junior pages at the national convention, please notify national headquarters. This is an excellent opportunity for the junior members and enables them to actively participate in the national convention events.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

Due to the unfortunate passing of National Hospital Chairman Vicki O'Neal, National Commander Kathryn Wiley has appointed Annie Stewart of California as the new National Hospital Chairman. Annie will complete the chairmanship term and serve through the national convention.

NATIONAL HISTORY CHAIRMAN REPORT

Etter Bowers, National History Chairman

I am pleased to inform you that so many auxiliary units have given me their support in making our national commander's history a success. So far, I have received pictures and memorabilia from the following

states: New Jersey, Maryland, Texas, California, Massachusetts, South Dakota, Washington, DC.

A big "thanks" to all that have already participated in this project.

Remember the motto for this year, "**Seize the Moment**," and be a star in our National Commander's history. I will see you in Las Vegas!!



NATIONAL FALL CONFERENCE—OCTOBER 2-4, 2008



Holiday Inn Cincinnati Eastgate
4501 Eastgate Blvd.
Cincinnati, OH 45245
Toll-free reservations- 888.465.4329 or
513.752.4400

Fall Conference information was mailed to all units with the May month-end mailing. The July-August DAV Magazine will also contain additional information.
Room rates are \$79 single/double. Ask for the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Group rate.



DAV AUXILIARY

Kathryn Wiley,
National Commander

Judith Hezlep,
National Adjutant

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Phone: 859.441.7300
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: davamail@dav.org
www.dav.org/dava

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

Reminders

- Unit standing rules may not supersede the national constitution and bylaws. So, if it's in the national bylaw book, the units or state departments can't make contradictory standing rules.
- Five senior members shall constitute a quorum at a unit meeting and one member present must be the Unit Commander or a Vice Commander.
- Units are required to hold at least ten regular business meetings per year.
- The Membership List is a list of all unit members and provides, code number, name, address, and paid status. The Member Count at the bottom of the report is basically a count of all members affiliated with that auxiliary unit and does not necessarily reflect the number of paid/active members. Refer to the Distribution Report for the actual number of paid/active members.
- Membership lists are sent to the units twice a year – July 1 and December 31. Update these reports using the monthly Activity Reports indicating address changes, payments, transfers, unclaimed, etc.
- Commanders and Adjutants have the capability of printing membership lists and labels by going to www.davmembers.org. Call or write national headquarters for additional instructions if needed.
- Members with invalid addresses are marked "unclaimed" and are moved to the national at-large during the June 30 year-end processing. If they're missing from your July 1 membership list, chances are they were "unclaimed." Send their new address information to national headquarters along with a request to move them back to the unit.
- Don't be alarmed if you see an address change on the activity report for a member who hasn't moved from their home in fifty years. A "fix" has not yet been made to the portion of the membership system that triggers an address change message even if an address has not been changed. It seems that a variety of transactions causes this message such as card reissuance or marking a record as a national convention or conference attendee. Please bear with this minor annoyance until the problem has been rectified.

Sometimes it is not enough to do our best; we must do what is required. ~ Sir. Winston Churchill