

# Headquarters News



# DAV Auxiliary



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**As of December 31, 2008, The following State Departments have reached quota for the 2008-2009 membership year. Congratulations!**

- Colorado
- Idaho
- North Dakota

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Year Message	1
Membership	1
Community Service	2
Report Forms	2
Hospital Bulletin	3
Testimonial Information	3
Reminders	4

## W E L C O M I N G 2 0 0 9



As the door of time opens for 2009, we can reflect on the year of 2008. What a year it was! Not everyone escaped the year unscathed in one way or another. We witnessed soaring and receding gasoline prices, a shaky economy with Wall Street woes, and the ongoing turmoil in Iraq and Afghanistan where our troops have been serving in harm's way.

With a new president taking the helm of our country and the 111th Con-

gress being sworn in, there is much to be done for our veterans.

With the first half of the 2008-2009 membership year completed, we must continue to focus on recruiting new members. Increased membership is needed to continue along the successful road of assuring the well being of our veterans.

Don't forget the top Auxiliary recruiter as of June 30, 2009, will receive a cash award of \$300! Three winners will also be selected in a random drawing to win \$200

abled veterans and families deserve. Through continued diligence, the DAV and Auxiliary contingent will continue the battle for well-deserved entitlements.

DAV Magazine offers a wealth of information to keep members up-to-date. Also, there is no greater source of information than the redesigned DAV.org website.

As members of this great organization, we can make a difference—now and always.

## Membership

each. How do you win one of these three cash prizes? Sign up at least one new senior Auxiliary member and be sure to include your membership number in the sponsor section of the membership application. That's it!

Contact national headquarters if you need additional membership applications and brochures. Be sure to carry these with you because you never know when a casual

conversation could result in a new member.

Provide national headquarters with a list of zip codes and a request for a listing and labels of:

- potential members
- and/or members in national at-large who can be reassigned to your unit at their request.
- and/or state at large members who can transfer to your unit.

**Sign up a DAVA member today!**

## Community Service

By Susan Miller, National Community Service Chairman

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. I wish all of you a happy, healthy New Year.

January starts the New Year. We need to find a way to "Rock our Community with Service" this month. I'm sure we all know someone in need. All communities, rural or urban, need our help. The satisfaction you get will be well worth the time and/or money you donate. You do not have to spend a lot of money or time. Phone calls, a visit, assistance with a meal, are all small gestures that could mean a lot and also lift the spirit of a person or family in need.

I am going to review the first section of Community Service, **FAMILY SERVICE**. Family service will include direct aid to families. This may be given in many ways. There may be veterans' families, which due to a change in their financial status, need assistance with mortgages, utility bills, food, prescriptions, etc. You can help by paying a utility bill, buying groceries, driving members of a family to the doctor or bank. A weekly telephone call or visit may lighten the burden. How about sitting with a veteran or children while the spouse/mother runs errands?

All we have to do is put ourselves in the others' shoes and ask ourselves, "What assistance could I use during these times?" Answer this and you can probably come up with many, many ways to assist a family.

Please keep up the great work you do and continue to "Rock your Community with Service."

### ANNUAL REPORT FORMS

Many requests for posting the Annual Report forms online have been received. Because the data indicated on the forms varies from state to state, we are reviewing options for online access. Until a resolution is determined, we will not be posting the report forms online. However, if the state departments and/or units wish to receive the report forms as an email attachment, we can provide these forms to you as individual Word documents.

**Note to units:** Be sure to make the appropriate insertions relevant to your state department such as the person to whom the reports should be returned and the postmark date. Send your request via email to Pat Kemper at [pkemper@davmail.org](mailto:pkemper@davmail.org).

## Officer and Financial Reports

Included in this mailing are the officer and financial report forms. The officer report is to be completed and the original returned to national headquarters within ten days following installation of officers. Prior to election, be sure those running for an office are paid members with dues paid for the duration of their term. When a delinquent officer is elected, it is unfortunate that the office is declared vacant, resulting in a new election. This is not only an added expense to the unit and an inconvenience to the members, but it creates an embarrassing circumstance for the member who may have unknowingly allowed their dues to lapse. Check the membership list beforehand and have a successful election.

Financial reports must be completed and audited in accordance with the national bylaws prior to the installation of the newly elected treasurer.

A **Membership List** as of December 31, 2008, is included in this mailing. Since the next listing will not be mailed until July 1, 2009, be sure to use the monthly Activity Report to update your roster with changes such as name/address/payment status, etc. Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders, and Adjutants can generate membership listings at any time by logging in to [www.davmembers.org](http://www.davmembers.org) and selecting *Reports* under the *Request for Information* tab. For assistance, contact national headquarters.

**NON-V A HOSPITAL**

By Dorothea Campanelli, National Hospital Chairman



The Holidays are over and now comes the time of the year we all dread, midwinter. The decorations are taken down and the residents of our nursing homes really become sad and depressed. This is the time for your January Dinner/Date Night. Usually the facility will provide the dinner, and you provide the dessert. Don't forget corsages for the ladies and boutonnieres for the men. If you go to a craft store and buy bunches of silk flowers and ribbon you can make the flowers that will last forever.

February 14<sup>th</sup> starts the Salute to Veterans Week. This is the week to play your Valentine's Bingo Games. With permission, use the small candy hearts for the free space. Both the Dinner/Date Night and Valentine bingo party is the same time we bring the usual gifts such as

socks, sweat pants and shirts. Don't forget to bring some stuffed animals or other little gifts that will bring a smile to their faces. Remember: EVERYONE SMILES IN THE SAME LANGUAGE.

In November I hit a bump in the road and was hospitalized for ten days. I was on an observation floor being monitored, but ambulatory, and had to walk every hour. As National Hospital Chair I looked around and thought, what does this floor need? Some light reading material would be nice instead of the Automotive magazines, Nurses Today and how to Decorate Your Home on Pennies. What was needed on that floor was some good paperbacks and, of course, People magazine, Time and Newsweek. I asked my husband to raid the bookcase at the VA Clinic where we volunteer and bring a good

selection of books and magazines. (PS, even the nurses availed themselves of some reading material.) So, the point of this little story is that when you are in the hospital for whatever the reason, as a patient or a visitor, look around and see how you can improve the area that will benefit the residents or patients.

To close I'd like to quote American Essayist Hamilton Wright Mabie, also a New Jerseyite. "Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." Let this beautiful sentiment serve as a reminder as we are swept up in the spirit of generosity throughout the year.

I want to wish all a Happy, Healthy New Year filled with peace and love. Remember to pray for our brave soldiers serving around the world in harm's way.

**NATIONAL COMMANDER TESTIMONIAL**

Mark your calendars for National Commander Sandy Dobmeier's testimonial dinner to be held Saturday, April 18, 2009, at the Grand Forks, North Dakota, Holiday Inn. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and dinner follows with a selection of steak or Walleye filet. The dinner cost is \$45 per person and tickets must be purchased no later than April 6, 2009. Make checks payable to Sandy Dobmeier Testimonial and mail to: Jim and Carol Groven, 2114 Summerset Court, Grand Forks, ND 58201. Be sure to indicate your dinner choice at the time of reservation. Contact Jim or Carol for additional information at 701.746.6602 or jimgroven@hotmail.com.

The hotel is located approximately four miles from the Grand Forks International Airport. Room rates are \$69, plus tax, and parking is free. Make your reservations directly with the hotel: Holiday Inn, 1210 N. 43rd Street, Grand Forks, ND 58203. Phone: 701.772.7131. Be sure to ask for the DAVA room block rate. Reservation cutoff is March 27. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport.

A tour of Grand Forks will also be provided on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

**Future Fall Conference Dates**

**2009—Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell, KY**  
September 24—26

**2010—Hyatt Regency, Cincinnati, OH**  
Sept. 30—Oct. 2

**2011—Hilton Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, OH**  
Sept. 29—Oct. 1



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*Making a Difference, Now and Always*

### Newly Chartered Units

The following units have been chartered since the beginning of the 2008-2009 membership year.

Milford #6, Delaware  
Robert King Jr. #9, Michigan  
Cloverleaf #4, Minnesota

Davao City #23, Philippines  
Blount County #76, Tennessee  
West Allis #19, Wisconsin

### Reminders

- Some State Departments have not submitted the state convention information due by Dec. 15, 2008.
- The Annual Dues block on the Officer Report form is for indicating the amount of annual dues charged by the units for annual members.
- Form 990-N – Units have five months and 15 days following the end of their accounting period to file the newly required Form 990-N if their income is less than \$25,000. Refer to previous communications concerning this requirement or visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). If your unit or state department EIN is not recognized by the IRS, contact national headquarters and we will send a notification of inclusion to the IRS.
- If requesting membership cards externally through the DAVmembers.org membership page, be sure to select "Update" after selecting "Reissue Card." Otherwise, the system will not update your request and a card will not be issued. This holds true for name and address changes also.
- Visit the [www.dav.org/dava](http://www.dav.org/dava) website. It is newly redesigned and navigation is much easier. We've added a link to the DAVA constitution and bylaws and supply/pricing information. We hope to build on this site for the added convenience of our members. Give us your thoughts!
- For personal delivery, the **Headquarters News** is available at an annual cost of \$10.00.
- The Member Count at the bottom of the membership listing is not a list of active members; this is the total number of members affiliated with the unit, including paid and delinquent members. For total membership refer to the Distribution Report

Thank a vet today!