

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

COMMUNITY SERVICE

By: Linda Stake, National Community Service Chairman

March – What a great time for Community Service! When we think of March, our thoughts turn to St. Patrick’s Day and spring. Since snow has covered our communities with its white blanket for such a long time, most of the nation is ready for green.

Let’s think green. Have you thought of a St. Patrick’s Day party at your local nursing home? Green Kool-Aid and cookies with good Irish music would make a wonderful day in the lives of our veterans and other residents. Junior DAVA members could decorate the doors with lucky charms, four-leaf clovers and the little men in green. Consider your “shut-in” neighbors and take them a St. Patrick’s Day treat.

March – whether it comes in like a “Lion” and goes out like a “Lamb” or vice versa, most are ready for the new season. Along with the winds, strong or mild, we will see the new birth of greens in our communities – green grass, green tree leaves, and greens of vegetables or flower gardens during the beginning of season. Let’s begin our new season by helping our friends and neighbors – and, by recruiting new members for our DAVA Organization.



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Bylaw Orders....a clarification

Bylaw orders are placed through the DAV National Service Foundation. The January 2011 edition of the Headquarters News announcing the pending arrival of the bylaw books was premature with the cost. **The actual cost per book is \$2.00.** Make checks payable to *DAV National Service Foundation* (or DAV NSF). *Send orders to DAV National Service Foundation, 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076.*

Item #607030

Label Charge Change

A new pricing system is now in effect for label requests fulfilled by our office. Charges will be based on number of labels rather than per set.

- 1 – 1,000 labels - \$15
- 1,001 – 5,000 labels - \$25
- 5,001 – 10,000 labels - \$50

Send requests and payment to:
 DAV Auxiliary
 3725 Alexandria Pike
 Cold Spring, KY 41076

NEW ITEM! - NAME BADGES

The **DAV National Service Foundation** is now selling DAV Auxiliary name badges for unit members/officers and state department officers. These badges come with a strong magnetic clasp and feature a 3/4" round DAV Auxiliary seal. They measure 3 1/4" wide, 1 3/4" high.

Badges can be ordered online at www.davstore.org or you can **submit your order to DAV NSF by mail with item number and engraving specifics.**

~ \$10 each ~

Unit (Blue) Badge – Item #607035

Three lines of engraving available. (white lettering)

- Your name
- Title
- Unit Number and State

State (White) Badge – Item #607036 (for state officers)

Three lines of engraving available. (white lettering)

- Your Name
- Title
- State Department

Make checks payable to DAV NSF and allow 4 – 6 weeks for delivery. Send to: DAV NSF, 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

By: Laurie Stopyra, National Junior Activities Chairman

Spring has sprung and now it is time to review your reports. I know your Unit is working on projects that involve Junior members. Now that the Bylaws have changed and opened up to all interested family and friends let's sign up the children. I can't wait to read and report on our Junior events. Easter is coming; now candy, cards and Easter eggs are to be made. Give our hospitalized Veterans a visit let them know you care. Most Veterans like seeing children ~ it brightens their day.

AUXILIARY ITEMS FOR SALE

At this time, there are only *two* items available for sale by the DAV Auxiliary. All other Auxiliary fraternal items are sold by the DAV National Service Foundation.

- The **Auxiliary Manual** has been revised and is available for downloading at www.davauxiliary.org. The cost is \$15 per manual and those checks should be made payable to DAV Auxiliary and sent to 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076.
- **Warrant/Voucher/Check Request** booklets are selling out and once they are gone, they will not be reordered. As an Auxiliary clearance item, these are being sold by the DAV Auxiliary at a cost of \$3.00 each. There is a limited supply so act now.

Important – Checks must be made out to the respective company selling the items (DAV Auxiliary or DAV NSF). Manuals and/or voucher book checks should be made payable to DAV Auxiliary. All other fraternal sales items should be made payable to DAV National Service Foundation (or DAV NSF). Do not combine orders from two different companies in one check as this will cause shipping delays.

Life Pins—Life membership pins are sent to those who begin their life membership and pay it in full within one membership year (July 1 through June 30). Paying off a life membership within a calendar year does not qualify for the life membership pin if the dates are not within the range of the membership year.

V A V S

By: Frances Costa, National VAVS Chairman

A big Thank You to all of the volunteers who remembered our veterans throughout this loooong, coooold and wet winter! It took commitment and compassion to be there when you might have preferred being home snuggled up in a warm blanket or in front of the fireplace. Dreary, cold days of winter are tough on all of us, but just think! We Can Get Out (road conditions permitting), but our hospitalized veterans cannot. We can be the sunshine in their day when they are doing the same things day in and day out, looking at the same walls and staff. It brightens their day to have someone to converse with or just hang out, play cards, watch TV, just enjoy the simple things.

It is very interesting when reading through the Advisory Committee Minutes from the VAMC's . Along with the minutes is an attendance report of all the organizations by rep and dep and an attendance log is maintained. Also I have noticed that most of the minutes regularly note when the Annual Joint Reviews (AJR's) are due, list the duties of the VAVS Reps and Deps as well. These are the same minutes sent to all representatives and deputies as well as the service organizations. If you have not been reading this information, please read them through. This is how you can pass the word to the units in your area and hopefully by keeping them informed, they will become more involved. Sometimes all they need is for someone to invite them once and they keep returning. It is important ---DAVA or any organization on the Advisory Committee will be removed for having no representation at the meetings by the representative or deputies.

Please help us retain our standing on the VAVS by attending VAVS Advisory meetings quarterly-that is it--only four (4) meetings per year. VAVS guidelines require that the name of a member organization be removed from the cumulative attendance record when the organization has not been represented at three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings by a certified representative or deputy representative. It also notes representatives and deputy representatives are responsible for checking the date of expiration and keeping their appointments current. If it is overdue, please notify the National Representative or Certifying Official (National Headquarters). This is very important to both the VA Health Care System you are assigned to and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

I ask that you encourage all DAVA volunteers to be properly registered with Voluntary Service and to attend the volunteer orientation as well as having all volunteers update their information with Voluntary Service. Things like a change of address, phone number, etc., can cause miscommunication with the volunteers when invitations are sent out, for example.

It is also noteworthy to see the many programs covered by volunteers and new ones are popping up all the time. Like the Team River Runner Kayaking Program, Horses For Heroes Project (a 10 wk pilot program through Central Kentucky Riders For Hope) Victory 5 K Run/Walk-Fly Fishing Program, VAVS Bake/Arts and Crafts sales, Hot Dog luncheons, Welcome Home Celebrations, National Salute to Veteran Patients Week, Creative Arts Festival (Fine Arts and Performing Arts), Winter Sports Clinic, Summer Wheelchair Games, Veterans Golden Age Games, Summer Sports Clinics. Another event that piques my curiosity is the "To Hell and Back" Biker Rally noted in the South Texas VAMC minutes.

Other ways to volunteer are Patient Reminder Callers, Feeding Assistants, Shuttle and Van drivers. Spring is just around the corner, check with Voluntary Service/Recreation to register as a Greenhouse Volunteer or aide. Patient Escorts are always needed-magazine or refreshment cart volunteers (yes even popcorn poppers), volunteer Ambassadors giving directions and general information to veterans and visitors.

Great ideas can be transformed into meaningful experiences for our veterans with your help.

Thank you for all that you do and will continue to do to enrich the lives of our veterans. Like Uncle Sam needed them! We Need You!!

2011 DAV/DAVA National Convention ~ New Orleans, Louisiana Hilton New Orleans Riverside

2 Poydras St.— New Orleans, LA 70140—504.561.0500

\$124 Single/Double

August 4—Registration	August 7—Auxiliary Business Session
August 4—Auxiliary NEC Meeting	August 7—Fun Night
August 5—National District Meetings	August 8—Auxiliary Business Session
August 6—Convention Committee Meetings	August 8—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
August 6—Joint Opening Session	August 9—Final Business Session
August 6—DAV Natl. Commander's Reception	August 9—Introduction of Natl. Officers & Dinner

Tentative Agenda Subject to Change



DAV AUXILIARY

Follow Us!

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Helping All That Served

New Auxiliary Units Chartered

Le Flore County #63
Poteau, Oklahoma
Chartered Feb. 10, 2011

Person County #72
Roxboro, North Carolina
Chartered Feb. 23, 2011

Donald A. Moody #33
Warner Robins, Georgia
Chartered Feb. 24, 2011

Recruiter Winners

Congratulations to the February membership recruiters whose names were drawn for a \$25 cash award.

Ellen Keller, Ohio #45
Glenda Thompson, Mississippi 37

Sponsor a new senior member to be entered into the drawing to receive a \$25 cash award. Be sure to include your membership number in the sponsor section of the application.

Reminders

- **Quota Members** – During April, May, and June, new annual senior members paying their normal unit annual dues will be processed as Quota members meaning they will be paid for the current 2010-2011 membership year and the 2011-2012 membership year (through June 30, 2012).
- **Life Membership** – The down payment to start a life membership is \$20.
- **Fund Disbursements** – Unit funds may only be disbursed by vote of unit members at a regular business meeting. Funds cannot be disbursed without unit approval. If disbursements are clearly spelled out in the unit-approved standing rules, then disbursements do not require further approval.
- **2011-2012 Renewal Notices** will be sent to annual members in late March.
- Junior Members do not receive membership cards from the national organization. However, units are urged to prepare a card for the juniors. A junior card template is available for downloading at www.davauxiliary.org.
- **VAVS Reports**—In order to make report judging easier, complete the report heading and have only one person, the commander or committee chairman, sign and send in the report. There have been instances where more than one report, per category, was submitted from the same state which ended in both being disqualified. Please be fair to your volunteers who deserve the credit and be concise in filling out reports. **Remember that uncertified hours are those in preparation for an event or donation to the VAMC and certified hours are those certified by the VAMC when volunteering under VA supervision.** Also, list on the reverse side itemized donations and expenses where required. F. Costa
- **Report Forms**—Fillable report forms in PDF format are available at www.davauxiliary.org under the Membership/Resources tab.