

# Headquarters News



# DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

## MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to the members, units and state departments working diligently to recruit new members and achieve the coveted membership quota. With the welcomed eligibility expansion, membership recruitment is now easier than ever. Recruiters who sign up ten or more new senior members are entitled to receive a special recruiter pin. Also, by signing up one new senior member, recruiters are automatically entered into a random monthly drawing for one of two \$25 cash awards.

- The down payment to start a life membership has been reduced from \$40 to \$20. Members have three years to pay the balance. If they are not financially able to complete payment of the life membership in the allotted time, they can continue making regular payments on the membership until it is paid in full.
- Life members who started a life membership on or after July 1, 2010, will be entitled to a free life membership pin should they pay the entire balance prior to June 30, 2011, which is within one membership year.
- New annual senior members can sign up and pay the unit's normal annual dues and be paid through June 30, 2012.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
Membership	1
Hospital	1
Junior Activities	1
Americanism	2
Community Service	2
Legislative	3
Indebtedness Statement	3
Reminders	4

## NATIONAL HOSPITAL PROGRAM

By: Kim Stake, National Hospital Chairman

Spring is here with warm weather in most of the country. What a good time to plan events for nursing home veterans! Picnics or bar-b-ques, trips for those who can get out (fishing, maybe?), parties and other things that show these veterans we care. It is always rewarding to see the joy on the faces of our hospitalized or nursing home veterans. There are days in the upcoming months that honor veterans, whether it is Flag Day or Mother's/Father's day. Present a small flag to them...and for the mothers, take them a flower. If you know veterans who are hospitalized, go visit him/her, send cards and bring good cheer to them.

Remember to get your hospital report forms filled out for State and National grading. That time is right around the corner! Good luck to all!

## Junior Activities

By: Laurie Stopyra

Well, *Spring has Sprung* and now it is time to get your yearly reports sent in. I know that our DAV Auxiliary Juniors are doing projects. I want to hear about them.

Remember, Juniors are the first piece of the DAVA puzzle. Let them be useful in your Unit. Give them jobs to do make them feel needed.

I hope we have a great turnout of Juniors at our National Convention. New Orleans is a fun place for the whole family.

## AMERICANISM

By: LeeAnn Karg, National Americanism Chairman

Have you made any flag presentations this past year? When you drive around your community, keep an eye out for worn or tattered flags, especially on public buildings. It is our duty as citizens and as DAV Auxiliary members to point this out to the community. Many people have given a lot to preserve this National symbol. It is to be respected and handled with the utmost care. Does your community have an annual flag burning ceremony? If you have not attended one, please take the time to do so. Worn out and tattered flags are disposed of in a dignified way by the burning of it. The union is cut out of the flag and then placed in the incinerator. The stripes are then cut away from the flag starting at the top and placed in the incinerator.

Once this has been done the incinerator is lit and the pledge is recited by all that are in attendance. If your community does not hold an annual flag burning ceremony maybe your unit could start one.

Fly your flag each day and make sure it is kept in good condition.

It is not too late to start planning for a POW/MIA recognition day observance. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is in September, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. If you have an Ex-POW in your community why not ask him if he would be willing to speak at a dinner. You could also perform the POW/MIA "The Empty Table" ritual. If you were at National Fall Conference I included it in my handout. It is also in the Auxiliary Manual. It is simple

and easy to do.

Did you know that this is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Viet Nam war? Please do something special to welcome these veterans home. They have not had an easy time of it since coming home from that awful war. As of December 2002 the number of Americans still missing and unaccounted for from the Viet Nam war is 1,891. WELCOME HOME VIET NAM VETS! I am proud of you and your service to our country. Hold your heads high, walk tall, and accept the respect that you all so richly deserve!

~

**Some dates to remember are:**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Armed Forces day;**  
**May 30<sup>th</sup> - Memorial day;**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup> - D-Day; June 14<sup>th</sup> - Flag Day .**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

By: Linda Stake, National Community Service Chairman

May? Already? Where has the time gone? It is time to prepare for State Conventions - this month and next! It is time to fill out reports for all the good Community Service work you have done this year. I encourage all units to fill out reports.

If you, as individuals, did not report to your unit on all the good things you have done; and, if units have not kept up with month-to-month reporting, sit down as a group at your next meeting and "figure out" what each has done. Add up money, time and miles. See what happens!

Do you sing in your church choir, play the piano, or teach Sunday school? How many hours a week? How many hours do you practice or prepare? Have you visited your elderly neighbors or veterans, taken them food, or taken them gifts? Have you helped your schools by running off papers, tutoring children, or planning parties? What about the Chamber of Commerce? Did you get a list of activities and help plan events around town? Did you send cards or care packages to our veterans on active duty?

When you begin tallying hours, money, and miles you have spent and driven, you will be amazed. Show all units in your State Department the good work you have done. Win that State Community Service Award! Win that National Community Service Award! And, most of all, continue to be a good neighbor! Continue your loving, caring, sharing ways! Thank you for all you do!

**Online donations to the DAV Auxiliary may now be made by visiting [www.davauxiliary.org](http://www.davauxiliary.org).**

## LEGISLATIVE

By: Susan Miller, National Legislative Chairman

### One Way to Contact Our Elected Officials -

The letter is by far the most important communication tool that we can utilize to present our views to our elected officials. Here are a few tips:

- Address your letter to the Washington, D.C., or the local office of your legislator.
- Personalize your letter. That is, use your own words and avoid postcards and/or “form letter” type of communications.
- Know the issue you are discussing and have your facts in order.
- Be as brief as you can and still make your point. Lengthy letters are prone to be “skimmed.”
- Focus on one issue. Don’t clutter up your letter with a lot of extemporaneous information and comments.
- Be polite and civil. No one likes to be insulted.
- Ask for a response to your concern.
- Write often. Urge others to write. Keep on writing. Don’t get discouraged. Sometimes it takes a long time for a reply.

### FACT SHEET ON LEGISLATION:

*Address your envelope to a Senator as follows:*

The Honorable John/Jane Doe  
United States Senate  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

*Address your envelope to a Representative as follows:*

The Honorable John/Jane Doe  
United States House of Representatives  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

*The Salutation is as follows:*

Dear Senator Doe:

*Salutation is as follows:*

Dear Congressman Doe  
Dear Congresswoman Doe

*Proper closing for both is:*

Sincerely,

or

Very truly yours

Sign up for the E-Newsletter and receive up-to-date  
DAV Auxiliary information!

Go to [www.davauxiliary.org](http://www.davauxiliary.org) and click on the “Join  
Email List” button.

## INDEBTEDNESS STATEMENT

This statement is sent to unit adjutants on a monthly basis if the unit is monetarily indebted to the national organization. A national mandate is charged annually to cover the education scholarship fund, the service support fund, and national convention expenses.

Each July 1 a distribution of \$.50 is made to the unit for each life member. The national mandate is automatically deducted from the July 1 distribution, provided the unit has sufficient life membership to make adequate distribution to cover the national mandate. In cases where the July 1 distribution does not cover the full \$25 mandate amount, an indebtedness statement is generated.

To satisfy this balance, the unit can either submit a check to pay the amount owed or it can wait to see if enough membership is processed during following months to make adequate distribution. However, for units to be cleared for voting at a state or national convention, the mandates must be paid in order for units to participate in state and/or national conventions as members from indebted units will not be permitted to act as delegates at the conventions..



## DAV AUXILIARY

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*Helping All That Served*

### *New Auxiliary Unit Chartered*

**John W. Covert #47**  
**East Liverpool, Ohio**  
**Chartered April 26, 2011**

### 2011 DAV/DAVA National Convention ~ New Orleans Hilton New Orleans Riverside

2 Poydras St. – New Orleans, LA 70140 ~ 504.561.0500—\$124 Room Rate

8/4—Registration	8/7—Auxiliary Business Session
8/4—Auxiliary NEC Mtg.	8/7—Fun Night
8/5—National District Mtgs.	8/8—Auxiliary Business Session
8/6—Convention Committee Mtgs.	8/8—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
8/6—Joint Opening Session	8/9—Final Business Session
8/6—DAV Natl. Comdr. Reception	8/9—Intro. of Natl. Officers & Dinner

*Tentative Agenda Subject to Change*

#### 2011 National Fall Conference

Hilton Netherland Plaza  
35 W. 5th Street ~ Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513.421.9100

**September 29—October 1**  
\$110 (1 bed), \$120 s/d (2 beds),  
\$140 tr./quad (2 beds)  
Direct reservation link:

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/>

**Disaster Relief Fund**—Recent weather events have ravaged parts of our nation and affected the lives of many veterans and their families. The DAV Auxiliary has donated \$10,000 from our Disaster Relief Fund to the Disabled American Veterans to assist in rebuilding the lives of those members drastically affected by these catastrophic events. Donations can be sent to DAV Auxiliary National Headquarters.

## Reminders

- **Delinquent Members** — Annual members with a **One-Year Delinquent** status are those whose dues have not been paid for the current 2010-2011 membership year which began July 1, 2010. Annual members with a **Two-Year Delinquent** status are those whose dues were not paid for the previous 2009-2010 membership year, nor have they paid for the current 2010-2011 membership year. Membership dues payments can only be applied to the current membership year or to prepay the next membership year. We cannot process membership dues for a past membership year.
- **Sponsors** — Be sure to take credit for sponsoring your newly recruited members by writing your membership code number in the “Sponsor’s Code Number” section on the membership application. If there’s no number listed, you can’t get the credit you deserve!
- **National Convention Delegates** — It’s time to elect delegates to represent your unit at the national convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. In accordance with the bylaws, each unit shall be entitled to one elected delegate and one elected alternate for its charter, and one elected delegate and one elected alternate for each twenty-five senior members or major fraction thereof. Example, if your unit has 42 senior members, the unit will elect three delegates and three alternates.
- **Unit Funds** shall **not** be expended without unit approval.