

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



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PATTI RAPISAND ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER!

Patti Rapisand of Fort Worth, Texas, was elected to the position of National Commander at the 2011 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Soon after joining the DAV Auxiliary in 1980 she began serving what would be a ten-year term on the state department level as Assistant State Adjutant. In 1990, she was appointed State Adjutant, a position she held until June 2011. Patti Rapisand is a life member of Borderland Unit #10 in El Paso, Texas.

On the national level, she was elected to all vice commander offices and chaired the respective committees associated with those elected positions.

A Senior Buyer for Lockheed Martin, a Fort Worth, Texas, major aeronautics manufacturer, Patti is also active in several Lockheed Martin organizations as well as community organizations and her church. She and her husband, David, participate in many Lena Pope Home (home for troubled children) fund raisers and volunteer programs. Patti is an active alumni of The University of Texas at El Paso.

She is a graduate of The University of Texas at El Paso majoring in Business Administration. Patti is the mother of three sons—all members of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Her theme for the 2011-2012 membership year is ***Same Team... Same Dream: Serving Disabled American Veterans and Their Families.*** Congratulations to Patti Rapisand on her election to this esteemed office. She will be an outstanding leader of the DAV Auxiliary.

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2011-2012 NATIONAL OFFICERS

We are pleased to introduce the national officers elected for the 2011-2012 year:

Senior Vice Commander & Mae Holmes Chm. – Donna Adams, Arizona
1st Jr. Vice Commander & Membership Chm. – Susan Miller, Colorado
2nd Jr. Vice Commander & Legislative Chm. – LeeAnn Karg, Minnesota
3rd Jr. Vice Commander & Americanism Chm. – Linda Stake, Arkansas
4th Jr. Vice Commander & Community Service Chm. – Laurie Stopyra, Pennsylvania
National Judge Advocate – Kathryn Wiley, Washington

NATIONAL CHAIRMEN AND APPOINTEES

National Commander Patti Rapisand made the following appointments with the approval of the National Executive Committee:

National Chaplain—Christopher Easley, Texas
History Chairman – Joyce Humes, Texas
Hospital Chairman – Patricia Hicks, Alabama
Interim Constitution & Bylaw Committee – Chairman Lucille McCarthy, Florida;
Carol Gray, Michigan; Judy Steinhouse, North Dakota
Junior Activities Chairman – Ann Glende, Wisconsin
Sgt. at Arms – Ruth Gates, Texas
National Musician—Nancy Coulombe, Massachusetts
VAWS Representative – Frances Costa, Massachusetts
VAWS Deputy Representative – Ellen Drogo, Massachusetts
Strategic Planning Committee Chairman—Sandy Dobmeier, North Dakota
National Adjutant – Judy Hezlep, Ohio
National Assistant Adjutant—Pat Kemper, Kentucky

NATIONAL HOSPITAL PROGRAM

By: Kim Stake, 2010-2011 National Hospital Chairman

Although our membership year has ended, it does not mean our service and support is no longer needed. Without the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary going into nursing homes, many of our veterans would have no one. Gifts, treats and lap blankets are great things to give, but sometimes just a kind word or a big smile that does a world of good for our veterans and warms their hearts.

For you "crafty" members, I want to share an idea passed on from another member. Get some red, white and blue ribbon, add a clasp, sew the ribbon together and then add a white medallion. On the white medallion write...I AM A VETERAN. Then place it around the neck of your veterans. You will be surprised of the reaction the veterans get by wearing their new medal.

Thank you to all state departments, units, and members for making this a very successful year. The reports I have received for Hospital Non-VA reflects our commitment to carrying out the mission statement of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary and worked well with National Commander Susan Henry's theme "Helping All That Served."

Food for thought: If you refer to the DAV Auxiliary Manual under Hospital Non-VA, you will find four (4) types of volunteers. Think about our "Sponsored Volunteer." The Manual defines a sponsored volunteer as: Those who do volunteer work, and do it under the name of the DAVA, but who are NOT a member of any DAVA unit. These volunteers should be identified as "Sponsored by the DAV Auxiliary." I bet now because of the changes to our constitution and bylaws, many of them are eligible for membership. So let's see how many new members we can sign up!!!

God Bless you all and God Bless our veterans

Editor's Note: This article was omitted from the June/July 2011 Headquarters News. We apologize for this oversight.

National Fall Conference

The 2011 National Fall Conference will be held September 29 –October 1, at the Hilton Netherland Plaza in Cincinnati, Ohio. The newly elected/appointed chairmen will present their programs for the 2011-2012 year and there will be ample question/answer opportunities. The Fall Conference is an informative session for all attendees. Urge your unit members to attend and remember—the Fall Conference is open to ALL members and guests, not just officers or chairmen. Registration is \$25 which includes the reception on Friday evening, the 30th. A banquet will take place Saturday, October 1, with DAV National Commander Don Samuels as guest speaker.

Room rates range from \$110—\$140 plus applicable taxes (depending upon the type of room and guests). For reservations, call 1.800.HILTONS or dial direct 513.421.9100 (August 29, 2011, is the reservation cutoff date). Valet parking with in/out privileges is \$18.40 for overnight guests.

Those planning to attend the conference should notify DAV Auxiliary national headquarters in advance since this will enable the staff to prepare for your arrival and keep registration delays to a minimum. There will **not** be a tour of DAV national headquarters.

Planning for this year's conference is still underway, but it will be informative and fun. Since last year's carnival was so successful, another is being planned for this conference on Friday afternoon. Come and enjoy! Your participation will make this Fall Conference a great success. See you there!

Wednesday, September 28 –

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Early Bird Registration

Thursday, September 29 –

8:00 am – 7:00 pm - Registration

10:00 am – NEC Meeting

7:00 pm – Business Session

Friday, September 30 –

8:00 am – 4:00 pm – Registration

9:00 am – 11:30 am – Business Session

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm – Carnival

8:00 pm – 11:00 pm – Reception for Registered Attendees

Saturday, October 1 –

8:00 am – 11:00 am – Registration

9:00 am – 12:00 noon – Business Session

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm – Cocktail Hour

7:30 pm – Banquet

This agenda is subject to change.

Transportation Information:

The Hilton Netherland Plaza is located 13 miles from the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) in Hebron, Kentucky. Shuttle service is available through Executive Transportation at a one-way rate of \$20 or a round-trip rate of \$30. Advance shuttle reservations can be made by calling 800.990.8841 or look for the Airport Executive Shuttle Desk in the baggage claim area at the airport. Taxi service is also available.

**Registration - \$25 for all attending,
including guests**

Banquet - \$35



DAV AUXILIARY

Follow Us!

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Same Team... Same Dream: Serving Disabled American Veterans and Their Families

Reminders

- **State Officers** — Congratulations to the newly elected/appointed state department officers. Acceptance of your respective office/s is an indication of your commitment to the mission of this organization—making a difference for disabled veterans and their families. We encourage all state department officers to work with the units, officers and members to cultivate membership growth and help them attain a confident level of understanding of the DAV Auxiliary. During your term, you will face challenges and victories; feel free to contact national headquarters for assistance.
- **Form 990-N**—Filing of this electronic form (e-postcard) is an annual requirement. Units and state departments will have their non-profit status revoked by the Department of the Treasury for failure to file. State officers should follow-up with their units and advise them on the proper filing procedures and assist when necessary.
- **VAVS Certification**—In a few months, State Commanders will receive a communication from our office requesting their appointments of VAVS Representatives at the VA facilities affiliated with their state. It is not too early for careful consideration of those appointments. Representatives have a responsibility to fulfill the duties of the position and are not representatives in name only.
- **E-Newsletter**—Sign up for the DAV Auxiliary's online newsletter. Log on to www.davauxiliary.org and click on the e-mail sign-up link at the bottom of the page.
- **Orders** — Auxiliary Manuals, voucher books (on clearance for \$3), applications, brochures, transfer forms and certificates of appreciation are ordered through the DAV Auxiliary. **All other orders go through DAV National Service Foundation—Make checks payable to DAV National Service Foundation.** Log in to www.davstore.org to view Auxiliary items available.
- **Junior Members** — Send only \$3.00 per membership year for each junior payment. This is the national portion. Should your state department charge additional junior per capita, that amount should be sent directly to the state department.
- **National Mandates** — Units and state departments are required to pay an annual national mandate. (\$25—Units; \$50—State Departments). Refer to Pages N-35 & N-36 of the National Bylaws. The mandate is applied toward the Education Scholarship Fund, the Service Support Fund, and National Convention expenses. When possible, the mandates are automatically deducted from the July 1 life membership distribution. In cases where the July 1 distribution does not cover the full \$25 mandate amount, a monthly indebtedness statement is generated and sent to the unit adjutant. 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.