

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

90 YEARS OF SERVICE

*Same
Team,
Same
Dream:
Serving
Disabled
American
Veterans
and Their
Families*

At the 1922 DAV National Convention in San Francisco, California, the formation of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary (DAVA) was instituted. This organization was founded on a single impulse of an unselfish desire to render service to the disabled veterans and their dependents, to make every effort possible to rehabilitate them, to alleviate the sufferings of those who would never be able to take their place in the normal walks of life again and to provide for their families. This mission of service spread rapidly through the country.

The first regular national convention of the DAV Auxiliary was held in Minneapolis, in June 1923. A national constitution and bylaws was adopted. By 1924 there were 20 active units.

The Auxiliary was originally headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In 1965, the Auxiliary national headquarters moved temporarily to Cincinnati, Ohio. After the move to Cincinnati, a fire broke out in the building, but fortunately, no DAVA records were lost. Following the dedication of the new DAV national headquarters building in Cold Spring, Kentucky, the Auxiliary National Headquarters office became firmly established in the headquarters building of our parent organization and is located there today.

We have entered our 90th year of service. In keeping with National Commander Patti Rapisand's theme, we are still the *Same Team, Same Dream: Serving Disabled American Veterans and Their Families*.

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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)



The National Fall Conference is a learning experience and a time for attendees to have their questions answered. If you are planning to attend, come prepared to present any questions you have concerning the organization. Our national leaders are eager to respond and address your concerns.

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JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

By: Ann Glende, National Junior Activities Chairman

When you hear the word "STAR" what do you think of? Do you think of the solar system? Hollywood Stars? To me, when I hear the word "STAR," I think of the Junior Members of the DAV Auxiliary. Why, you ask? STARS are bright; they are always shining; and they are all around us. They sparkle, bring us joy, are fun to watch, and are always reminding us of the future. The junior members of the DAV Auxiliary are the STARS. They are the future; we hold our mission in them and allow them to teach others about our organization. We watch them grow and eventually become leaders as they follow in the footsteps of their family members, mentors and friends. When you see a junior member at your meetings, social events, in your own family, or in your neighborhood, remind them that they are your STAR. Allow them to sit in meetings and attend events so they can learn more about the DAV Auxiliary. Their success in our organization is based on the fundamentals they are taught today.

Undecided about signing up your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or other eligible juniors? Think about this: our organization can only grow wiser, stronger, and larger with the help of our youths. Without them, their ideas, their dedication and their commitment, the future of our organization could be in jeopardy. So, be proud of the activities your STAR juniors do. Keep track of their activities for annual reports, and remind them each day that they, in their own way, are a STAR! Now that you've had time to think about it... when you hear the word "STAR," what do you think of?

"We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future" ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt



Junior Activities National Convention

Nearly 40 junior members attended the 2nd Annual Pizza Pizzazz in New Orleans, Louisiana. They enjoyed pizza, cookies, and hanging out poolside.

Many of them have grown up in the organization and have attended a past national convention while others were experiencing a national convention for the first time. New friendships were forged, and from what was witnessed first hand, these future leaders of the organization are off to a fantastic start. We can be very proud of our junior members.

Approximately 15 juniors served as convention pages and these STARS did an outstanding job!

National Fall Conference Agenda

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 -

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.

Legislation

By: LeeAnn Karg, National Legislative Chairman

We, as Auxiliary members, need to remember that along with the DAV, we need to influence our legislators to support and vote in favor of legislation for our veterans and their families. It is our right as United States citizens to vote in the right politicians on order to ensure those benefits.

Watch the National DAV magazine for important issues to be discussed by both the National Commander and the Legislative team in Washington DC. When you see them you need to act on them and notify your representatives and tell them how you feel and ask them if they support your views. Writing a letter,

calling, or emailing is a good way to communicate with them. Personal visits are always a very good way to make yourself heard. Get to know them and them to know you.

America owes our veterans a huge debt and we need to make sure that they follow through. Freedom comes with a very high price tag. Too many times Americans take that freedom for granted. After 9/11 we were all about Americanism and pledge to the flag, but lately we have forgotten again. We need to review all of the candidates that are running in this next election and vote for the one you determine will do the best job in sup-

porting our veteran's benefits. Remember that there is strength in numbers!

Here are some bills to be watching and supporting: S. 1963 – The Caregiver and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009, HR 303 – Retired Pay Restoration Act, HR 333 – Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act. I will continue to give you more bills to watch throughout the year.

Remember to vote! Pay attention to what your congressmen are doing and saying. As Commander Rapisand said: "Same Team....Same Dream."

Constitution and Bylaw Amendments

The national convention delegates approved amendments to the National Bylaws of the DAV Auxiliary. Following are some, but not all adopted amendments.

Article X—Local Units, Section, 1, Paragraph 3—the paragraph was changed to allow national and/or state at-large members to be included in the ten new senior member requirement for the formation of a newly chartered unit.

Article IV—Duties of State Officers, Section 4: State Treasurer and Article XI—Duties of Unit Officers, Section 4: Treasurer—A new item reads as follows: "All funds received in the name of the DAV Auxiliary must be deposited within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt."

Article XI—Duties of Unit Officers, Section 3: Adjutant—A new item reads as follows: "Bring all correspondence including letters, newsletters, membership information, notices, etc., to the unit meetings and make available to all unit members."

Other changes will be depicted by shading in the new bylaw books when they are printed. At this time there is no cost available for the bylaw books. Notification will be posted in the next issue of the Headquarters News, on Facebook, and by email. *Be sure to sign up for emails at www.davauxiliary.org.*



DAV AUXILIARY

Patti Rapisand,
National Commander

Judith Hezlep,
National Adjutant

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Phone: 859.441.7300
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: dava@davmail.org
www.davauxiliary.org

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

2010-2011 Top Recruiter Award

Congratulations to Joyce Hutchinson of Clermont County Unit #63, Ohio! Joyce was the top recruiter for the 2010-2011 membership year.

Donations made at National Convention: Service Support Fund—\$3,225; National Auxiliary Education Scholarship Fund—\$1,875; Winter Sports Clinic—\$200; Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project—\$437.50; Freedoms Foundation—\$200.

Reminders

- **Red, White, Blue** — At the first business session of the National Fall Conference, Thursday, September 29, 2011, all attendees are urged to wear patriotic colors—red, white, and blue—in remembrance of September 11, 2001.
- **Recruiters** — A new membership program will be launched at the Fall Conference. Watch for details in the next issue.
- **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 the near future, 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.
- **Bylaw Books** — The books are not yet ready. Availability and cost will be announced in the next Headquarters News.