

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

Congratulations to the following state departments for achieving 2011-2012 membership quota:

- Arizona
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Virginia
- Puerto Rico

We Have Reached 2011-2012 Membership Quota!!!!

We did it—National quota has been achieved! It could not have been done without the dedicated members of this organization. Thank you for your recruitment efforts!

Quota achievement is always a fantastic goal to attain, but for this our 90th year of existence, it is an extra special accomplishment.

National Commander Patti Rapisand's theme is "Same Team, Same Dream....Serving Disabled American Veterans and Their Families."



Go Team DAVA!

Mae Holmes

By Donna Adams, National Mae Holmes Chairman

With the arrival of spring, we see people begin planting flowers to brighten their lives. This spring, let's all sow some seeds to brighten the lives of those around us.

A visit to your local VA hospital or your nursing home can bring joy to someone who hasn't had a visitor; so many of our veterans simply want someone to listen. A letter to your legislator can heighten awareness of issues facing our veterans regarding timeliness of getting seen at the hospital for a medical need or getting an accurate decision on a claim they have filed. Talking to a cub scout or brownie troop about the flag can help plant the seeds to instill patriotism in some young people – especially if you give them a small flag to take home. By simply driving someone to the store, you can help them fill their pantry as well as letting them know you care. As you do your spring cleaning, consider your local homeless shelter for those items that shrunk while they hung in the closet. Offering your neighbor the opportunity to join us with their membership can allow them to become involved our commitment to service.

All of these projects will enhance your unit's programs and add to the Mae Holmes, all encompassing, program. Simple acts of kindness and caring sow seeds of love in those around you. Moreover, when harvest time comes, your garden will be full because you took the time to enrich someone's life.

Thank you for your service to our veterans and their families.



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Americanism

By Linda Stake, National Americanism Chairman

Respect for the Flag

The Flag Code, a national guideline on ways in which the flag is to be respected, states that no disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America. Specific ways in which the flag should **not** be used, according to the code are:

- The flag should not be dipped to any person or thing, and can be flown upside down only as a distress signal.
- The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. Bunting of blue, white, and red can be used for covering a speaker's desk, draping the front of a platform, or for decoration in general.
- The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a way that would allow it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged.
- The flag should never have any mark, insignia, letter, work, or other designs of any kind placed upon it.
- The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything.
- The flag should never be used for advertising purposes. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, paper napkins, boxes, or anything that is designed for temporary use.
- No part of the flag should be used as an element of a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be worn on the uniform of military personnel, firemen, and members of patriotic or other national organizations, such as the uniforms of veterans' service organizations or scout uniforms.

Just Four Unit Meetings?

The 2011 national convention delegates approved a bylaw amendment reducing the minimum number of auxiliary unit business meetings from ten to four. Some interpreted this change to mean units could only meet four times a year. Quite the contrary!

This change was set in place to coincide with the DAV chapter meeting requirements, but DAV Auxiliary units can schedule any number of meetings provided there are a minimum of four. Many units hold ten to twelve business meetings throughout the year and follow the meeting ritual as outlined in the bylaws.

For units wanting to change things up a little and spark new interest, here's something you might want to try – First, schedule at least four **business** meetings per year. During the months when business meetings are not scheduled, try organizing different functions on “meeting night.” Examples would be to line up guest speakers, national or state service officers, community leaders, VA speakers, or hospital service coordinators. Organize group projects, school of instruction, family night, etc. Have an open house and welcome the community to sit in to see what the DAV Auxiliary is about. Be creative and most of all.....be productive!

National Convention Information

Indebted Units

Units and state departments that have not paid their national mandates nor submitted an annual financial report are considered INDEBTED.

An important change will be implemented at the 2012 national convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, to expedite the registration process. Please ensure that 2011-2012 national mandates are paid and a financial report is on file with national headquarters by July 27, 2012. Failure to comply will result in elected delegates not being permitted to register in the capacity of convention delegates at the national convention.

A member of an indebted unit or state may attend convention business meetings and functions as a registered member/guest without voice or vote.

Elected national convention delegates are entitled to the privilege of representing their unit/state department so please see that all indebtedness is satisfied prior to the national convention.

Convention Delegate Listing

The yellow delegate listing forms are being sent to units and state departments. At the unit's next business meeting, elect delegates to represent the unit at the national convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Elect them even if there is a remote possibility of their attendance.) State departments will elect their delegates at state convention. Write the delegate/alternate names and membership numbers on the form and send to DAV Auxiliary National Headquarters no later than July 6, 2012.

As the national convention approaches, each delegate and alternate identified on the yellow delegate forms will receive a bar-coded letter. This will be their credential. Delegates/alternates will bring this credential letter with them to the national convention and present it to the DAV registration staff. Since the bar-coded letter is their official credential, it is a requirement for proper national convention registration.

2012 DAV/DAVA National Convention Las Vegas, Nevada

Bally's Las Vegas Hotel and Casino

3645 Las Vegas Blvd., South – Las Vegas, NV 89109
800.634.3434

\$112 Single/Double

August 2—Registration
August 2—Auxiliary NEC Meeting
August 3—National District Meetings
August 4—Joint Opening Session
August 4—Convention Committee Meetings
August 4—DAV Natl. Commander's Reception
August 5—Auxiliary Business Session
August 5—Fun Night
August 6—Auxiliary Business Session
August 6—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
August 7—Final Auxiliary Business Session
August 7—Introduction of Natl. Officers & Dinner

Tentative Agenda Subject to Change

*From the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary,
We support those who serve our country.
We assist the wounded that answered the call,
And remember those that gave their all.—M. Holzworth*

Community Service

By Laurie Stopyra, National Community Service Chairman

Spring is coming and reports are due soon. There are so many things we do in our everyday life to help other people. You can count the hours you spend taking an elderly neighbor to the store, a doctor's appointment, and to the drug store for medicine. Clip coupons for the military overseas. Collect items and have a yard sale in your community. Plant flowers at your local town square. All these things are Community Service. Keep a record of all your Community Service; that way it will be easy to remember everything you and your Unit participated in throughout the year.



DAV AUXILIARY

Follow Us!

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

New Auxiliary Unit Chartered

**North Central #7
Bemidji, Minnesota
Chartered March 19, 2012**

Recruiter Winners!

Congratulations to these recruiters whose names were drawn in February for a cash award of \$25 each:

John Wynn, Virginia #5
Julie Steinbaugh, California #7

2012 National Fall Conference
Lexington Downtown Hilton
369 W. Vine Street ~ Lexington, KY
859.231.9000
September 27–29
\$109 Single/Double

<http://www.lexingtondowntownhotel.com/>

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 2011-2012 membership year and the 2012-2013 membership year (through June 30, 2013).
- **Life Membership Pins** — If a member initiated a life membership on or after July 1, 2011, they will qualify for the free life membership pin if they pay their membership in full prior to June 30, 2012.
- **Unit Officer Installation**—All officers must be installed in person before assuming the duties of their respective offices. Refer to Page U-3, Article VIII—Installation of Unit Officers for additional information. Under no circumstances are Auxiliary officers to be installed by a DAV chapter/state officer.
- **IRS Form 990-N** — It cannot be stressed enough how important it is for units and state departments to file the electronic postcard 990-N with the Internal Revenue Service. Many units have lost their non-profit status due to failure to file this required information annually. Restoration of the non-profit status is a timely and costly endeavor. Avoid the frustration by taking a few minutes to file this electronic postcard within five months and 15 days of the close of your fiscal year.
- **Forget-Me-Not Drives** — Income from Forget-Me-Not Drives shall be used solely for service to disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors and for no other purpose.
- **New Members** must be initiated at a regular business meeting (not the meeting held for elections). There is no reason for not properly initiating new members. **All members** in good standing have the right to speak and vote on issues at a regular business meeting. Forbidding them to do so is a violation of their membership rights and a violation of the bylaws. Let us all work together for the good of the organization. **Units do not vote on acceptance of new members.**