

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

STATE DEPARTMENTS REACH MEMBERSHIP QUOTA!!!

The DAV Auxiliary membership year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the following year. Each July 1 a membership quota is established for units and state departments. Without the diligence of members across our great nation, membership quota could not be achieved on the local or state levels. It is with great pleasure that we announce the following DAV Auxiliary state departments that have achieved their membership quota for the 2011-2012 membership year. **Congratulations!**

- Arizona Delaware Georgia Kentucky Louisiana Maine
 Massachusetts Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Mexico
 North Carolina Oregon Pennsylvania Puerto Rico Rhode Island
 South Carolina Virginia



Camp Corral Project Update



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According to Golden Corral National Events Manager Dolly Mercer, plans are well underway for the 2012 Camp Corral season. At this time, enrollment is at 48% which is an increase from this time last year.

They anticipate 100% capacity (approximately 1,879 children) throughout their nine locations. Golden Corral is very excited about these summer camps and looking to add an additional ten camps in 2013.

Through the generosity and ingenuity of our members, approximately \$6,000 has been collected and earmarked for the transporta-

tion efforts of the children attending Camp Corral in 2012. These are all donations from the members, units, and departments of the DAV Auxiliary. Needless to say, Golden Corral is thrilled with the support of our organization. And one of the nicest parts of this new project is that much of the money was raised by DAV Auxiliary Junior members. What a great response to the "DAVA 4 Kids" Program!

As an organization, we are proud to be a part of making a difference in the lives of children and affording them the opportunity to

experience a week of a lifetime.

Later this summer we will provide a report of the number of children who benefited from the generosity of our members. We are already looking forward to providing this opportunity to military children in 2013 and encourage junior members and units to contribute to this worthwhile project.

Ms. Mercer plans to attend our National Convention in Las Vegas to update us on the fun times had at Camp Corral.

Americanism

By Linda Stake, National Americanism Chairman

How to Discard Old & Torn American Flags

The American flag is not just any piece of cloth. Its red, white and blue colors represent more than 200 years of sacrifice and history. For this reason, a flag should never simply be thrown away when it is no longer usable as a flag. Instead, it should be disposed of in a dignified way. The preferred method is burning it, according to *U.S. Flag Code, Section 8*.

Ceremony

- Only one flag should be used in the ceremony, which is representative of all the flags to be burned in the service. The remainder of the flags collected should be incinerated at a corporate, government or military incinerator.
- The ceremony should be conducted outdoors and it should be very special.
- The ceremony involves two color guards, one for the flag currently in use and a special color guard for the flag to be retired from service.
- The color guard responsible for the flag receiving the final tribute moves to front and center. The leader should present the color guard with the flag which has been selected for its final tribute and subsequent destruction.

Ceremonial Burning

Fire Preparation: It is important that the fire be sizable - preferably having burned down to a bed of red hot coals to avoid bits of the flag being carried off by a roaring fire - yet, be of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.

Flag Preparation: The color guard assigned to the flag opens up its tri-corner fold and then refolds the flag in a coffin-shaped rectangle.

When all is ready:

1. Assemble around the fire. The leader calls the group to attention.
2. The color guard comes forward and places the flag on the fire.
3. All briskly salute.
4. While still at attention, the leader conducts a respectful memorial service as the flag burns. National Flag Foundations singing "God Bless America" followed by the flag's meaning followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" and then silence.
5. When the flag is basically consumed, those assembled (except the leader and color guard) should be dismissed, single file, and depart in silence.
6. The leader and color guard remain until the flag is completely consumed.
7. The fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried.

If you have never attended a ceremony, I strongly urge you to do so. The American Legion in our area performs this ceremony once a year.

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Mission Statement:

Making a difference for disabled veterans and their families.

Vision:

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary is committed to supporting the principles of the Disabled American Veterans and fulfilling the purpose and goals to which our organization is devoted. As advocates for the well being of disabled veterans and their families, we are dedicated to the pursuance of veterans' legislative initiatives, instilling patriotism in our fellow Americans, promoting youth involvement in all programs, and encouraging voluntary service.

DAV Auxiliary Core Values

- ☆ Comradeship
- ☆ Loyalty
- ☆ Devotion
- ☆ Service

National Hospital (Non-VA) Report

By Patti Hicks, National Hospital Chairman



Our Hospital Program in the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary is designed to offer members the opportunity to fulfill our mission by showing personal concern for veterans through volunteer service for non-VA hospital work. This activity may be performed in general hospitals, nursing homes, state hospitals, and other such facilities. Through this work we are able to raise the morale and offer encouragement to our veterans. Since many of us do not have a VA hospital nearby, the opportunity for meaningful volunteerism is greatly expanded.

Spring came in with a BOOM and Easter is already gone, so now we can move toward more outside activities for our veterans. Picnics, barbeques and fishing trips are being planned for our veterans in some state homes. Holidays such as Mother and Father's Days, and Memorial Day are now on the horizon. So we need to look for opportunities to make the lives of our confined veterans more meaningful during these special times. Regardless of the limitations one may face as aging takes its toll, we can be the light that shines wherever we volunteer.

On another matter, as we busy ourselves with spring don't forget that it is annual report time. I know many of you will have great reports containing ideas that may be shared with all of our hospital volunteers. We remain the 'same team, same dream' as we seek good ideas and activities for our veterans.

Remember, as a Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Hospital Volunteer, let's do what we can, for whom we can, with what we have, and where we are!.....have you hugged a veteran today?

A good volunteer is kind, tactful, dependable, loyal, honest, and a good listener. Thank you for all that you do each day.

Updated Forms

Many of our forms are available online at www.davauxiliary.org. As information is revised, the online versions are also updated.

Outdated membership applications with the former life amounts are accepted for processing at national headquarters; however this could result in some disappointed new members if they were given an old membership application with lower life amounts.

The Service Support Fund application is not available online, but is sent or emailed upon request. As with the membership applications, outdated forms are being submitted resulting in processing delays and/or denial due to ineligibility.

**Year End Membership Submission
Deadline is June 25, 2012!**

Notice to Recruiters/Sponsors -

When signing up a veteran as a new Auxiliary member, confirm that he or she wants a membership in the DAV Auxiliary, not the DAV. Most disabled veterans prefer DAV membership, if eligible. However, they are more than welcome to join the DAV Auxiliary.

In recent months, we have experienced a large volume of veterans complaining they were processed as DAV Auxiliary members, but they intended DAV membership. In all cases, the Auxiliary membership application was used.

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 & Din-

New in 2012!!!

Members of indebted units/state departments will not be registered as convention delegates. Please pay all national mandates and submit a current financial report to DAV Auxiliary national headquarters no later than July 27, 2012.



DAV AUXILIARY

Follow Us!

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



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

New Auxiliary Units Chartered

Berlin #127
Berlin, Pennsylvania
Chartered April 11, 2012

Blount County #28
Oneonta, Alabama
Chartered April 11, 2012

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

Brigitte Rice, Kentucky #3
Elizabeth Brown, Indiana #15

History—By Joyce Humes, National History Chairman

History - an account of what has happened/narrative/all known and **recorded** events of the past.

Though these events may have happened with our Commander Rapisand or in your units, since I am History Chairwoman, I have been entrusted to **record** the history that has already happened throughout the U.S. I have gotten a few pictures from some - Thanks - and I have what I have taken. But I need a LOT more from everyone. Things like invitations to events, itineraries, special happenings in your individual states, pictures of your juniors with their name and your unit, pictures of you in a parade, things from where you may volunteer, brochures from places - just anything that your unit has done, hopefully with a date and place sent to me to notate that. If it happens to have Patti or the National Officers that represent her in the picture, that is even better, but if I haven't made this clear before - it is not necessary. Even if you haven't any from up until this point...there is Memorial Day coming up, 4th of July, and the State Convention. I have to get started and Soon. So, please help.

Reminders

- **Life Pins** — Members who began their life membership on or after July 1, 2011, have until June 25, 2012, to submit final payment in order to qualify for the complimentary life membership pin.
- **Chain of Command** — Units → State Departments → National Headquarters
- **990-N** — Units and state departments are required to file the IRS electronic postcard 990-N, without exception. Units and state departments with gross income greater than \$50,000 are required to file Form 990.
- **Auxiliary members** must not become involved in DAV matters. DAV Auxiliary units and state departments are governed by the National Constitution and Bylaws, Standard State Department Bylaws, and Standard Local Unit Bylaws. Concerning matters of fund-raising, DAV bylaws must be strictly followed.
- **Junior Members** who will be attending the national convention are invited to attend a special pizza party in their honor. Juniors may also serve as convention pages. Please advise national headquarters of the names of the juniors attending the party and those who wish to act as pages.
- **Annual Dues** are not credited toward a life membership. Please advise potential members of this policy.