



Fly your Flag

Columbus Day
~ October 14

Veterans Day
~ November 11



Congratulations!
The State Department of Georgia is the first state to achieve quota for 2013-2014!
Way to Go!

Inside this issue:

Community Service	1
Bylaw Amendment	1
Membership	2
Legislative	3
Hospital	3
History	3
Chaplain's Corner	4

Headquarters News

DAV Auxiliary



3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076

October 2013

Community Service By Ellen Timmerman, National Community Service Chm.

There are so many things that our units do for Community Service and it's time to let everyone know what the units are doing.

Members of **St. Mary's, Unit 26, Maryland**, are involved in clipping coupons to be sent to military families. They collect beverage tabs, Campbell Soup labels and Box tops. They have a newsletter that they encourage their members to participate by calling and checking on others, running errands, clothing donations to charities and other volunteer work they do for different organizations. They have a member who is a licensed EMT/IV and she donates the time she spends with the Volunteer Rescue Squad, and a member who is a teacher and donated her time to chaperone dances and other volunteer work. Because they take the time to send

out a monthly newsletter and encourage their members to participate and record what they do they are hearing from member they haven't heard from in years

Members of **San Juan, Unit 9, New Mexico**, are like many units involved in clipping coupons for military families, collecting beverage tabs for the Boys and Girls Club, Campbell Soup Labels and Box Tops for local schools for education. They have members that volunteer time with the Senior Center and their local churches. They have contacted the area hospital and donated a needed high chair and wagon to the pediatric ward and are currently collecting sweat pants and tops to be donated to the emergency room for patients who needed clothing to go home in. They also have food pantry that they keep stocked

so they can give out two weeks worth of food to veterans and their families when needed. They visit people in the hospital and collect items for boxes to send to veterans who are in combat zones.

These are just a few of the things the DAVA does for Community Service and I know these units listed do more but it is hard to list it all. We need to pat each other on the back because we know what we do. If you would like to have your Unit recognized for some of the Community Service they do be sure to write me at: P.O. Box 53, Flora Vista, NM 87415 or e-mail me at: et_dava@outlook.com

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL FOR ALL YOU DO.

National Bylaw Amendment Update

In the August 2013 edition of the Headquarters News, the approved National Constitution and Bylaw Amendments were listed. It has been brought to our attention by an observant member (*thank you!*) that one of the amendments was omitted. The amendment follows:

Page U-32, RITUAL FOR JUNIOR MEETING, Paragraph 2, JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER. Delete entire paragraph and substitute the following:

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER - All family and extended family members of any person eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans or Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary (living or deceased) under 18 years of age.

2013-2014 DAVA Membership Programs

It's time to.....*Reach for the Stars!*

Earn Recruiter Awards

Sign up 5 new paid senior members ~
Receive a **Reach for the Stars Lapel Pin!**

Sign up 15 new paid senior members ~
Earn a personalized **"You're a Star" Water Globe!**



Plus...

By recruiting just one paid senior member, you will be entered into a monthly drawing to win a \$25 cash award.

The **Top Auxiliary Recruiter** of the year (determined by National Headquarters Recruitment records as of June 30, 2014) will receive \$250!

National Service Officers – the top NSO recruiter of Auxiliary senior members (minimum of 50 new paid senior members) will receive \$250!

Membership by Linda Stake, National Membership Chairman

How do you recruit new members? Everyone has his/her own method of recruiting. Your technique of sponsoring new members will depend on you, your personality, and your concept of our organization. How well do you know the history of the DAV and Auxiliary? What does your unit do to help the veterans and your community?

When a potential member is approached, he or she might ask, "What would I have to do?" My answer would be, "You don't have to do anything; however, you might enjoy helping with the VA hospitalized veteran's Christmas program or visiting with our veterans in the nursing homes. You might enjoy going to the school and helping with an Americanism program." Name things your unit does that the potential member might enjoy doing.

If a potential member says to me, "I work. I don't have time to attend meetings. I wouldn't be able to help." My answer would be, "We need you anyway. You can help us by becoming a member. Even if you can't help us with programs right now, there may be a time when you can." Explain why we need him or her.

All you have to do to recruit is to believe in our organization and "Reach for the Stars."

Annual Membership Incentive!

New Annual Senior Members can pay \$15 which will pay them through June 30, 2015. This is a great incentive since their annual membership will be paid for the current 2013-2014 membership year as well as the 2014-2015 membership year.

Life Membership

A down payment of \$20 will start a new life membership.

Also, any currently paid annual senior member can convert to a life membership with no down payment.

Life Membership Amounts are based on the member's age at time of application.

Age	Amount
80 and over	free
71 through 79	\$140
61 through 70	\$180
46 through 60	\$200
31 through 45	\$230
18 through 30	\$250

Always provide a date of birth to guarantee assignment in the correct life membership cost category.

Pay off a life membership within one membership year (July 1 through June 30) and receive a life membership pin, free of charge.

Junior Membership

Don't forget Juniors! For just \$3 annual dues, you can sign up Junior members. The special membership recruitment incentive does not include recruitment of Junior members, but Juniors are the future of the DAV Auxiliary. Date of birth required.

I would like to thank all of our membership attending the DAV and Auxiliary National Convention in Orlando for electing me National 2nd Jr. Vice Commander and Legislative Chairman. The two top goals of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary are of course Membership followed by Legislation. All of our committees are important and support each other but there are many bills pending that have yet to be completed regarding Veterans benefits. I know you all may have heard this many times but it is necessary for our membership to

get on board with the DAV Commanders Action Network (CAN) and be proactive for our veterans with Legislation that is pertinent to them and to their families (mainly **us**). You can also go into the DAV Website for more information on bills pending.

I would like this year to be able to address the different steps on the End of Year Reports for Legislation. First and foremost is the heading. Please, please, please read it carefully and fill it out in its entirety. At the very top of the form it asks that you make the report in triplicate and send

two copies to your State Adjutant at the address listed and very importantly a deadline that the report **MUST BE POSTMARKED BY**. This is the section that lets us know how many **Senior** members you have (so that we know what category your report will be judged in), what your unit name and number are (which is found on your unit Charter-that is the name you should be putting on your reports). There is a proposed addition to the form noting how many members (or others in support of DAV/DAVA they may not be members-but

probably should be) are participating in the Legislative initiative.

I look forward to seeing an increase in the CAN initiative with the DAV from our Unit members because there is quite a bit of legislation that has yet to be enacted. Please keep all of our service men and women serving overseas in your thoughts and prayers and as well we must pray for their families as their loved ones serve and return home, many broken. This is why it is important for us to continue the fight for veterans' legislation ensuring their benefits for the future.

Non-VA Hospital

by Linda Bailey, National Non-VA Hospital Chairman

It's a New Year, New Commander but we as DAVA member's still have the same Mission!

The DAVA Hospital Program is designed to give us the opportunity to assist our Veterans in our Local Community Nursing Homes, Hospitals and House Bound Veterans.

It's time for all Units to start planning activities for Halloween, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas for the Non-VA Hospital program. For Halloween: your unit members and juniors can take treat bags to our Veterans, Veterans Day: take American Flags and Thank them for their Service to our Country, Thanksgiving: pick a Home Bound Veteran that may not have family to eat with and share a meal and Christmas: make or purchase Large Stockings and use glitter to write Proud to be a Veteran on them, fill them with goodies and take them to our Veterans.

Please remember to talk to the Veteran's Caregiver /Nursing Home Activities Director before taking food /drinks and other items for safety issues.

We as DAVA member can visit our Veterans 365 days a Year, when you have free time, visit your local nursing home, hospitals or home bound Veterans and : Thank our Veterans for their Service to our Country.

At your next unit meeting take some time to discuss how your unit can **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** in a Veterans life.

In re-cap from ideas I shared with you last year, make goodie bags with items that the Veteran can use like socks, lap blankets, pens / pencils, find-a-word puzzle books. One of the favorite things I have found that all Veterans love are American flags and hats that say Proud Veteran.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you have or ideas you would like to share. lindabailey930@charter.net

History

by Margaret M. Snelling, National History Chairman

Congratulations to all State Department History Chairmen. I hope you are as excited as I am about this membership year. I look forward to receiving many State History books for judging at the 2014 National Convention.

As History Chairman you will preserve the experiences of your State Department Commander throughout the membership year, starting with his/her installation. Everyone in your state can help with this project by providing pictures and other mementoes from his/her visits to each unit and the state conferences and convention.

I will also be preserving the membership year of our National Commander Susan Miller. Please get the word out that I want pictures and more pictures of her visit to your state. Be sure to label (not on the back) each picture with **WHO**, **WHAT**, **WHEN**, and **WHERE**, from left to right. There will be prizes for the **most** and the **best** pictures. If you have pictures from the National Convention in Orlando, especially the installation, please send them to me immediately. The prizes start with the first pictures.

Your state department history book must be purchased through National Headquarters in order to be considered for judging at the National Convention. Please contact me if you have questions. Phone: 704.663.2915; E-Mail: sicilona@aol.com, or at 1206 Larkspur Drive, Mooresville, NC 28115.

www.davauxiliary.org



DAV AUXILIARY

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Phone: 859.441-7300
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: dava@dav.org



Bylaw Books

Available as of
October 2, 2013

\$2.00 each

Make checks payable to:
DAV NSF

Send to:
DAV Natl. Service Foundation
3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Online orders:
www.davstore.org

Phone: 877.426.2838,
Ext. 3252

Notice:

DAVA clothing items have been sold out! Watch for a new product line coming in January!

DAV AUXILIARY

Susan Miller,
National Commander

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Judith Hezlep,
National Adjutant

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

United in Service

Chaplain's Corner By Aura-Lee Nicodemus, National Chaplain

Our second core value is Service. The DAVA and its members excel in this area. The Bible notes if "you have done it unto the least of these my brother, you have done it unto me." We provide service to our community and our homeless Veterans. We provide service through the VAVS program in our hospitals and for the DAV Transportation network. We have our non-VA hospital program and often use that to brighten the lives of Veteran's in local nursing homes. We care for our members in distress using our Service Support program and support the Miracles on the Mountain.

An essential service we can give each other and those we come in contact that costs nothing is the gift of actively listening and then sharing our support to help our fellow members meet the challenges that they are living with. Amongst us are many experts-we have survived and learned to adjust to the conditions our Disabled Veterans, who continue to fight the challenges that their service, left behind. PTSD, Traumatic Brain injury (TBI), loss of limb, sight or skin are just a few of the many situations that the family members are learning to adjust to and each of these often provide social isolation, financial stressor's and a list of new challenges for the family to overcome.

How can DAVA members help? We can be the team or individuals that reach out to the family in need. We can listen to the challenges that each are facing when they often don't want to burden each other and we can direct them to the resources that will help them learn to cope with the life long challenges that each will face. We can be the support system that prevents social isolation and provide them improve coping skills to meet their new life challenges. We are experts in adapting to the lifestyle changes that they are just learning about. If we reach out-we get more than a new member does.

We will make a difference and will remain "United in Service."

When recruiting new members.....

- Always inform new members that the membership year begins July 1 and ends the following June 30.
- Advise new part-life members they will receive quarterly payment reminders.
- Remind new part-life members they will receive a free life membership pin if they pay their life membership in full within one membership year (during the time frame of July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014).
- Remember that our eligibility requirements have significantly expanded to include extended family members of disabled veterans and not-dishonorably discharged veterans. Check the bylaw book or web site for further clarification.