

DAV Auxiliary

Headquarters News



3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076 | March 2017



March 17, 2017

These State Departments
have achieved 2016-2017
membership quota!

Congratulations!

Indiana

Louisiana

New Jersey

Ohio

Virginia

Inside this issue:

From the desk of the National Commander	1
Delegate Listing	1
VAVS	2
National Convention	2
History	3
Recruiter News	3
Deadlines	4
National Fall Conference	4
Reminders	4

From the desk of National Commander Frances Costa...

I don't know about most of you reading this message, but spring is just around the corner and I can't wait.

With it comes the time where most of our units elect new officers for the 2017-2018 year. We have many units struggling to keep afloat. I know it is hard sometimes to get new officers to step up and we re-elect the same officers. We need to elect new officers and give them the opportunity to move the unit forward. Keep in mind that they may do things differently. That is okay. We cannot continue to do things "the way it has always been done" because we don't stimulate our members who quite frankly are probably very capable of being the Commander, Adjutant, or Treasurer, for example.

We are not always going to agree or like every member, but for the sake of the DAVA, we need to run our meetings with integrity and accountability because this is the first step in a line of poor opinion in the unit amongst its membership. If members are not comfortable coming to a meeting, they will not come back to a meeting or event. They will lose interest.

I hear so much in regards to personality conflicts within units or state departments. It is truly sad that these petty differences can destroy our units and carry over to the national level. It is like a disease that spreads and draws others into the conflict. We need to express a united front with the DAV Chapters and not draw them into unit conflicts because we need each other. We both have national bylaws and standing rules to follow.

For the sake of our veterans and their families that it is our mission to assist, please resolve these internal problems and give the DAV Auxiliary positive reinforcement. This is our mission; this is our passion for our veterans.

(From the heart of a volunteer)... If love is truly a verb, if help is a verb, if forgiveness is a verb, if kindness is a verb, then you can do something about it.

When you have passion in your heart you can keep your hands busy moving your unit forward. I thank each and every one of you for what you do for our veterans and for the DAVA.



Don't forget to select/elect your national convention delegates and submit their names on the yellow Delegate Listing form. Prior to national convention, letters will be sent to the delegates and alternates with convention information. **This letter will be their official** credential and must be presented upon Auxiliary registration at the convention hotel.

VAVS by Nancy Mooney, National VAVS Chairman

In New England, March is a month that we look forward to. The days get longer, the sun feels warmer, and nature starts to change. We enjoy a season called “Maple Sugaring.” We boil sap from Maple trees to produce fine sweet syrup to put on pancakes. Yummy! Then towards the end of the month we experience the showing of pussy willows which is a true sign that Mother Earth is coming to life again. As anyone can see, life has its ebbs and flows which create excitement, and many things to look forward to. This is not necessarily the case for our veterans; therefore, please continue to be a part of their lives and show them you care by volunteering at your local VA Medical Center.

And perchance you are not a volunteer, I suggest you consider becoming a volunteer at one of the many VA facilities that care for our veterans. There are many opportunities to serve as a volunteer. Your time may be limited, or you may have all the time in the world, which will determine the type of position that best fits your schedule.

You will find that the time spent supporting a veteran in the VA Medical Center is so rewarding you will receive more than you ever give. The veterans appreciate the simplest of things we do for them even if it is just a short visit to say a few words. I would like to share with you a memo received from the VA office, “Start each day with a smile. Be Present. Make a difference. Have fun. Engage more with Veterans. Listen. Be an advocate. Take pride in your volunteering. Take Veterans where they need to go. Inquire about other VA opportunities to get involved. Challenge yourself. Enjoy Today. Be the Best YOU.”

Reminders for volunteers: always fill in the paperwork for the hours you volunteered at the VA Medical Center. **Please note if an individual is receiving compensation for their time at a VA facility, those hours may not be recorded or reported as volunteer hours.** VAVS Representatives please schedule to get your Annual Joint Review completed as soon as possible.

Make plans to attend the 2017 DAV/DAV Auxiliary National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Hilton New Orleans Riverside is across the street from Harrah's Casino, attached to the Outlet Collections at the Riverwalk, and just a few blocks from the French Quarter. The hotel offers contemporary and comfortable guest rooms and suites, amazing downtown or Mississippi River views from upper floor rooms, two outdoor pools, and a health club by Hilton Fitness Facility.

2017 DAV/DAV Auxiliary National Convention ~ New Orleans, Louisiana Hilton New Orleans, Riverside Hotel

Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130—504.561.0500
\$130 Single/Double

July 27—Registration	July 30—Memorial Service
July 27—Auxiliary NEC Meeting	July 30—Convention Committee Meetings
July 28—National District Meetings	July 30—Fun Night
July 28—Memorial Service Practice	July 31—Auxiliary Business Session
July 29—Joint Opening Session	July 31—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
July 29—Auxiliary Opening Session	August 1—Final Auxiliary Business Session
July 29—National Commander's Reception	August 1—Introduction of Natl. Officers & Dinner

Tentative Agenda Subject to Change

History by Margaret Snelling, National History Chairman



PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES PICTURES

"What would the future of man be if it were devoid of memory." ~ Elie Wiesel

I have my eyes on you!! I saw you enjoying all that beautiful snow in January, giving and getting all of those sweet valentines in February and now comes March. I see that Leprechaun looking over your shoulder. We will probably never catch him and find that Pot o' Gold, but YOU can certainly make your Department History Book a goldmine of memories with all those beautiful pictures that you are collecting.

February was a short month, but a lot happened. Let's see: there were the President's Birthdays, Valentine's Day, National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, and the whole month was dedicated to Negro History. These are just a few February events I hope you were able to celebrate. I just know that somewhere in those months, and the months to come, you will find the opportunity to take pictures. Keep those cameras ready with pen and paper for documentation.

Above all, **don't forget to share with me especially if National Commander Fran is visiting.**

Many thanks to Bencha Forrester for the pictures of your Nevada State Convention and then Senior Vice Commander Fran. Thanks also to Jim Hall (we all remember Jim), Joyce Humes, Evelyn Bryant, and Headquarters. Your pictures are great.

Are you proud of this organization? Then show your pride by making your Department and our National Commander's History Book the best. I can't do it without YOU.

Recruiter News

Earn a Recruitment Certificate



Recruit ten new, paid members and receive a certificate of appreciation!



The third quarter sprint is underway! For every new, paid member you recruit, you'll be entered to win \$100 cash! Hurry, this sprint ends March 31, 2017!

Sponsors are now awarded one point when using a paper application to recruit a new part-life member. An additional point will be awarded when the part-life member converts to a fully-paid life member.

Earn a DAV Store Gift Certificate



Recruit 25 new, paid members and receive a \$30 gift certificate to use at the DAV Store!

The person who recruits the most new, paid members from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, will be awarded the recruiter of the year award and will win \$200 cash!



Recruiters of new part-life members using our online application, which requires a credit card shall earn one point. Two additional points will be awarded when the part-life member converts to a fully-paid life membership.

Congratulations



Kimberly Taylor, Ohio #13, has received her second \$30 DAV Store Certificate for recruiting another 25 new, paid members!

Follow us on Social Media for news and information on the DAV Auxiliary.



Sponsors Needed!!

Sponsorships are available for the 2017 National Fall Conference in Lexington, Kentucky. This is an opportunity for a business or organization to say thank you to disabled veterans and their families, and to provide a memorable Fall Conference experience for our deserving members.

Currently, these sponsorships are available:

- ⇒ Signature Sponsor (\$5,000)
- ⇒ Special Event Sponsor (\$2,500)
- ⇒ Sponsor Exhibitor (\$1,000)
- ⇒ In-Kind Sponsorships

For more information, please visit http://www.davauxiliary.org/news/documents/Fall_Conference_Sponsorship.pdf. Any business or organization interested in a sponsorship opportunity should contact Auxiliary national headquarters.

DAV AUXILIARY

Frances Costa,
National Commander

3725 Alexandra Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Patricia Kemper,
National Adjutant

Phone: 877.426.2838
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: dava@dav.org
www.davauxiliary.org



**“Hands full of heart are DAV/DAVA helping hands.
It’s time for some heart work!”**

Deadlines!!!

- Education Scholarship Applications must be postmarked no later than March 10, 2017. Scholarship information can be found online at <http://www.davauxiliary.org/membership/Programs.aspx> or call Auxiliary national headquarters.
- PNC Outstanding Member of the Year Award submissions must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2017. <http://www.davauxiliary.org/membership/PNCAwardForm.aspx>.
- Mae Holmes National Outstanding Unit Report—Units are no longer required to achieve quota by April 1 to be considered for this award.

2017 National Fall Conference September 28—30, 2017



Lexington Embassy Suites
1801 Newtown Pike
Lexington, KY 40511
859.455.5000

\$124.00 Single/Double
\$134.00 Triple/Quad

All rooms are mini-suites with a bedroom and a sitting area. Room prices include parking, complimentary breakfast, and evening cocktails.

Reminders~

- ♦ **Officer and Financial reports** are available online at www.davauxiliary.org under the *Membership/Resources* tab.
- ♦ **Recruiters**—Be sure to take credit for sponsoring your newly recruited members by writing your membership code in the “Sponsor’s Code Number” section on the membership application. If there’s no number listed, you can’t get the credit you deserve!
- ♦ **Membership Applications**—Oftentimes one important section of the membership application is overlooked—the **state and unit** the member wishes to join. We have learned that we can’t always assign a unit based on the sponsor’s member code so rather than return the application for clarification, the new member is assigned to national at-large then reassigned to the unit of their choice at a later date upon written notification. Another important omission is the new member’s **date of birth**. This is vital information, and applications cannot be processed without it.