

DAV Auxiliary

Headquarters News



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



May 29, 2017

These State Departments
have achieved 2016-2017
membership quota!

Congratulations!

Alabama
Indiana
Louisiana
Massachusetts
Nevada
New Jersey
North Carolina
Ohio
Tennessee
Virginia
Wisconsin

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National Quota Has Been Achieved!!!



Thanks to our hard working members, DAV Auxiliary achieved national quota for 2016-2017. There is still plenty of time if your unit or state department has not achieved quota, so start planning and recruiting. Together we will continue to grow!

From the Desk of National Commander Frances Costa...

I would like to acknowledge everyone who attended my testimonial events from around the country, and to also offer appreciation to those who could not attend, but acknowledged with kind words. I feel blessed to have a life touched by so many wonderful people.

I am reaching out to our older members (not necessarily older by age, but by experience) to mentor our newer and younger members. As we were mentored at one point so that we learned the workings of the DAV Auxiliary, so must we mentor those coming up. When we mentor, it is to offer direction and knowledge to those who are unfamiliar with our mission. It is not about any one individual; it is about service to veterans and their families. It is not about personal gain or control; it is about sharing information, ideas, and knowledge. It deeply saddens me when we see units facing challenges and new members hesitate to seek or accept leadership positions because others don't step aside or give them a chance. The public and our membership remember the negativity and not necessarily the positive that is accomplished because of internal conflict.

If we are to grow and continue with our mission we **MUST** encourage fresh ideas from newer members to give them the confidence to come forward. I am asking for your help so that we do not lose any more units or very capable members.



"A mentor empowers a person to see a possible future, and believe it can be obtained." ~ Shawn Hitchcock

Helpful Tips:

- ♦ To remind members of the purpose of the DAV Auxiliary, open the meeting with the organization's Vision Statement: *"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."*
Follow with the Mission Statement: *"Making a difference in the lives of disabled veterans and their families."* Meetings should focus on the issues related to benefiting disabled veterans and their families. Personal disagreements and conflict have no place in a unit meeting.
- ♦ When handling and counting cash, two members should always be present. For the purpose of safeguarding assets, the two individuals should not be family members.
- ♦ Under no circumstances do DAV Auxiliary units or state departments loan funds to others.
- ♦ The Treasurer's Report should be thorough and should outline, in detail, each income and disbursement. Bank statements should be included with each report. The Treasurer should make these items available at each meeting as members have a right to view the records.
- ♦ Warrants/Vouchers/Check Requests require two signatures.

History by Margaret Snelling, National History Chairman



Hello out there all you Auxiliary members! Spring is here and most of us are preparing for our State Conventions. Remember this is the outgoing State Commander's Convention, so take many pictures and include all programs, etc., from his/her activities during the convention. This will make a beautiful "Special and Social Event Section" (Section X) for his/her history book.

Please don't let SPRING FEVER get you down and stop you from working. There are many events this month: Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day to name a few. That's a lot of good material and pictures for your Americanism, Community Service, and Junior Activities sections.

With so many of our men and women having made the supreme sacrifice, I know there will be many wreath laying ceremonies and that pictures will be taken of the National Commander at some of these events. Please share them with me.

If you have had a visit from the National Commander, or if someone else visited as the National Representative in your state, send the information, along with pictures of that visit, as it still represents National Commander Fran's year.

This has been a fantastic journey for me. I have had pictures, notes, cards, letters, e-mails, and phone calls from some of the nicest people and I have enjoyed every minute of it.

Thank you for all your hard (fun) work and bring many, many HISTORY BOOKS to New Orleans! Just a small personal note: Many thanks for the thoughtful messages I received on the death of my sister.

Earn a Recruitment Certificate



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

Earn a DAV Store Gift Certificate



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

Recruitment

Congratulations to the following member for recruiting 25 new, paid members and receiving a \$30 gift certificate to the DAV Store!

David Hall, NJ #2

Americanism by Lynn Helms Prosser, National Americanism Chairman

“There’s NO place like HOME”!!! It is time for ALL Americans to revisit their “American Dream.” Some may say they would like to have a bigger house, a better job making more money, or a new luxury car. Although these materialistic things may sound great, most true Americans really want the basics: freedom to live a safe, healthy, secure, and peaceful life with the love of their family and the respect of their fellow man. Many American soldiers have paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect and secure the foundation of “The American Dream.” It’s called **freedom**.

Americanism is not just a word, it is our way of life. Again it starts with our unfailing love and our loyalty to OUR country’s ideals and principles. They include honor, devotion, truth, courage, and our sincere willingness to protect America against all enemies, and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America.

As members of the Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary, we must continue our dedication to fulfilling our mission of taking care of our veterans, our military personnel, and their families. Supporting our programs is vital to successfully keeping those promises and building the strength of our organizations.

Please be active in your communities by attending and sponsoring patriotic programs, especially for children. Many units are sponsoring essay writing programs in their local schools and passing out small flags and brochures teaching proper flag etiquette.

Also, remember your homebound and nursing home veterans. A short visit and giving them a flag would be very much appreciated. Always remember, if you see a veteran or active member of our military, please thank them for their service to our country.

As your Americanism Chairman, I look forward to receiving your reports and reading about the various programs you are doing to promote, support, and educate members in your communities about patriotism and our organizations. Thank you for everything you are doing to help our veterans and their families.

May God continue to bless each of you and protect our troops serving in harm’s way. Always remember, **“There’s NO place like Home”** and may we always stay **“America Strong.”**



VAVS by Nancy Mooney, National VAVS Representative

Thank you to all our representatives who completed their Annual Joint Review (AJR) in September and October. I appreciate that you have a good working relationship with your VA station’s staff. All VA Medical Centers have a date list of when an organization is to have their AJR completed. Remember, it is your responsibility to contact your voluntary services staff to set up a time to do this in September. We need these reports to validate the time spent caring for our veterans, both in hours and donations.

On January 1, 2017, the VA implemented a changeover to a new data system. Unfortunately, there have been glitches to work out. The biggest impact on our organization is that during this time the VA has not had the ability to produce data for reports, thus making it difficult to record monthly and AJR reports.

To those of you who have not been able to complete AJR reports, I suggest that you look at activity sheets and use the information as best you can to assist with filing these reports. Please maintain contact with VA staff to determine how best they can provide you with accurate figures to include in your reports.

This report has been slanted toward VAVS Representatives to highlight and share current problems with the reporting system. However, this does not negate the need to continue to stay on track and serve our veterans’ needs at the VA Medical Centers despite bumps in the road. The smiles on veterans’ faces as we say “Hi, glad to see you” still gives me that warm feeling knowing that we may have given him or her the recognition that they matter and we care.

Thank you to all who volunteer at the VA Medical Centers!

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



New Auxiliary Units

Reno #1
Reno, Nevada
Chartered April 5, 2017

Eastern Panhandle #8
Martinsburg, West Virginia
Chartered April 13, 2017

990-N e-Postcard

Units and state departments are required to file an annual 990-N e-Postcard, as warranted by income. This is required by the IRS, and failure to file for three consecutive years will result in the revocation of the unit or state departments tax-exempt status which ultimately affects the unit's charter. Once filing has been completed and approved, please send the confirmation to state and national headquarters to remain in compliance with the national bylaws.

DAV AUXILIARY

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**"Hands full of heart are DAV/DAVA helping hands.
It's time for some heart work!"**

2017 DAV and DAV Auxiliary National Convention



July 29—August 1, 2017
Hilton New Orleans, Riverside
2 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
1.800.HILTONS or 504.561.0500
Group Name: Disabled American Veterans
\$130 Single/Double plus applicable taxes
Discounted parking is available on site for \$24 per day

Tentative Auxiliary Agenda Subject to Change

7/27 - Registration	7/30 - Fun Night
7/27 - Pre-NEC Meeting	7/31 - Auxiliary Second Business Session
7/28 - National District Meetings	7/31 - Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
7/29 - Joint Opening Session	7/31 - Department Receptions
7/29 - Auxiliary First Business Session	8/01 - Auxiliary Final Business Session
7/29 - National Commander's Reception	8/01 - Post-NEC Meeting
7/30 - Memorial Service	8/01 - Introduction of National Officers and Dinner
7/30 - Convention Committee Meetings	

Reminders:

- **National Convention** - If you have juniors attending National Convention who wish to serve as pages, please submit their names to national headquarters as soon as possible.
- **Membership Listings** - Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders, and Adjutants are authorized to generate membership listings through the membership system and/or submit a request in writing to national headquarters. Keep in mind these reports contain personal member information (including junior members) and are to be safeguarded at all times and not freely distributed.
- **National Fall Conference** - Fliers and attendance slips have been mailed to all units. Please fill out the attendance slip and return it to national headquarters as soon as possible to that staff can begin preparations and plan accordingly. Remember to include if guests plan to attend the banquet and reception.
- **Bank Account Changes** - Bank account changes should be reported to national headquarters promptly. It is necessary to have a direct deposit form filled out by the unit/state department and the bank so that proper distribution can be credited to the account. Failure to do so will result in a delay of direct deposits.