

DAV Auxiliary Headquarters News



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



“I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot, together we can do great things.”

~Mother Teresa

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William Craig Johniken Elected National Commander

William Craig Johniken was elected National Commander of the DAV Auxiliary at the 2017 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Craig is the first male to serve in this capacity since the inception of the organization in 1922.

Mr. Johniken is eligible for membership through his wife, Teresa, a service-connected disabled veteran and DAV member since 1995, and his son, Tim, also a service-connected veteran.

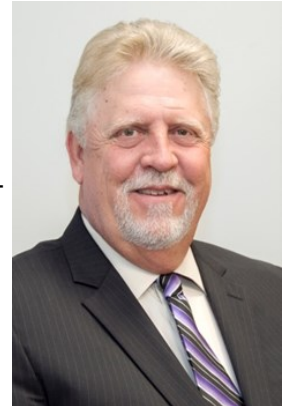
A native of Texas, Craig began his career at the Texas Department of Transportation in 1979, and retired after 30 years of service in 2009. He is currently a sales representative for Roy Bingo Supply, a position that has provided opportunities to communicate bingo fund raising efforts to many DAV Chapters and Units.

Craig's interest and involvement in DAV Auxiliary activities began long before he was eligible to join the organization. Volunteering at DAV and Auxiliary functions with event set-up, cooking, and cleaning afforded him the opportunity to participate in events with his wife and family. As time went on, the DAV and Auxiliary became a second family and sparked great interest in the mission of the organizations. When DAV Auxiliary membership eligibility was changed in 2005 to welcome male family members, Craig did not hesitate to join and was one of the first to do so!

Mr. Johniken served as a Unit Commander for three years, and was the 2011-2012 Auxiliary State Commander of the State Department of Texas. On the National level, Mr. Johniken was appointed as a member of the original strategic planning core committee formed in 2009, chairing the membership sub-committee. He also served on the Standard Operating Policies sub-committee. In 2012, he was elected to the office of National 4th Jr. Vice Commander and advanced through the chairs to his current position as National Commander.

Regarding this opportunity, Mr. Johniken stated, *“I'm honored to serve in this capacity and will continue to promote awareness of the DAV Auxiliary and its mission as well as emphasize the importance of supporting caregiver initiatives and volunteerism.”*

Mr. and Mrs. Johniken married in 1985 and have one daughter, Ashley Clark, a son, Tim Johniken, and three grandchildren: Will, Emma, and Ashton Johniken, all members of the DAV Auxiliary. Mr. and Mrs. Johniken reside in Lufkin, TX.



2017-2018 National Officers

Announcing the newly elected national officers:

Senior Vice Commander & Mae Holmes Chm.—Ellen Timmerman, New Mexico
 1st Jr. Vice Commander & Membership Chm.—Diane Franz, Florida
 2nd Jr. Vice Commander & Legislative Chm.—Lynn Prosser, South Carolina
 3rd Jr. Vice Commander & Americanism Chm.—Carolyn Sensat, Louisiana
 4th Jr. Vice Commander & Community Service Chm.—Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, California
 National Judge Advocate—Donna Adams, Arizona

Important Constitution and Bylaw Amendments

There are many significant changes to the National Constitution and Bylaws that were approved at the National Convention. More information regarding these changes will soon be sent to all units and state departments. The availability of updated Constitution and Bylaw books will be announced in a future edition of the Headquarters News and other social media venues.

Some of the changes include:

- Elimination of the National History judging committee at the National Convention
- Inclusion of the applicable IRS fee(s) for new unit and state department charters
- Uniform financial reporting period for all units and state departments of **July 1 to June 30**
- Uniform filing date of the annual financial report and appropriate IRS Form 990 of September 30
- Unit and state department gross income of \$300,000 requires a review and verification by an Independent or Certified Public Accountant

We anticipate that these changes will be beneficial for Units and State Departments when determining due dates for important reports. More information to follow.

National Convention Donations:

DAVA 4 Kids: \$2,761.00	Winter Sports Clinic: \$100.00
National Fall Conference: \$50.00	Service/Support Fund: \$2,270.00
Education Scholarship Fund: \$2,925.00	Freedoms Foundation: \$150.00
HVWP: \$50.00	<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>

Exciting Changes to the National Fall Conference

Change keeps things interesting and we are going to experience a few “last-minute” changes to the 2017 National Fall Conference.

- ◆ There will not be a banquet. Instead, join us for a casual and relaxing hospitality event on Friday evening, September 29, and prepare to be entertained by some local comedians. Light food offerings and drinks will be available and don't forget to charge up your cameras for the photo booth experience!
- ◆ The conference will conclude with a Saturday evening reception with light snacks, cash bar, and dancing with DJ entertainment.
- ◆ Conference registration fee will be \$50 to include the conference packet, the Friday evening hospitality, and the Saturday reception.

Thursday Night,
September 28,
is Patriotic Night!
Wear your
red, white and blue
to the evening
business session!!

We look forward to seeing many returning and new attendees at the conference and hope that everyone enjoys the experience! Please share this update with any member attending.

Tentative Agenda Subject to Change

9/27 - Early Bird Registration

9/28 - Registration

9/28 - Health and Wellness Fair

9/28 - NEC Meeting

9/28 - Business Session

9/29 - Registration

9/29 - Business Session

9/29 - Hospitality Night

9/30 - Business Session

9/30 - Reception for Registered Attendees



National Chairmen and Appointees

National Commander Craig Johniken made the following appointments with the approval of the National Executive Committee:

National Chaplain—Aura-Lee Nicodemus, New Hampshire
History Chairman—Ashley Johniken, Texas
Hospital Chairman—Linda Bailey, Tennessee
Interim Constitution & Bylaws Committee—Judy Steinhouse, Chairman, North Dakota;
Darlene Spence, Texas; Ann Marie Hurley, Massachusetts
Junior Activities—Kim Stake, Arkansas
Sgt. At Arms—Charlene Parker, Texas
VAVS Representative—Melissa Pierce, Iowa
VAVS Deputy Representative—Terry Grabowski, New York
VAVS Deputy Representative—Ann Glende, Kentucky
National Adjutant—Pat Kemper, Kentucky
National Assistant Adjutant—Bunny Clos, Kentucky

Quota Calculation

Unit quotas are based on the June 30 population, less cancelled, deceased, and transferred-out members, plus any transferred-in members. Units with less than 50 members will have a quota increase of one (1) additional member. Units with 50 or more members will have a quota increase of one (1) additional member per each 25 members.

Example: Based on the June 30 total members (minus cancelled, deceased, transferred-out and plus transferred-in).

Units with 1—49 members will add 1 member
Units with 50—74 members will add 2 members
Units with 75—99 members will add 3 members
Units with 100—124 members will add 4 members

If you have any questions regarding the quota calculations, please contact your State Department or National Headquarters.

Indebtedness Statement Explained

This statement is sent to unit adjutants early in the new membership year and then again in January and April (if the unit is monetarily indebted to the national organization). A national mandate is charged annually to cover the education scholarship fund, the service support fund, and national convention expenses.

On July 1, a distribution of \$.50 is made to the unit for each life member (excluding over-80 complimentary members and those under the age of 18 paying towards a life membership). The national mandate is automatically deducted from the July 1 distribution, provided the unit has sufficient life membership to make adequate distribution to cover the national mandate. In cases where the July 1 distribution does not cover the full \$25 mandate amount, an indebtedness statement is generated.

To satisfy this balance, the unit can either submit a check to pay the amount owed or it can wait to see if enough membership is processed during following months to make adequate distribution. If the latter is decided, measures should be taken to ensure the balance is paid prior to state and national convention in order to keep your unit in good standing should you have delegates attending.

Making a difference in the lives of disabled veterans and their families.

DAV AUXILIARY

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Sponsors Welcome!

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 [click here](#). Any business or organization interested in a sponsorship opportunity should contact Auxiliary national headquarters.

Reminders:

- **Meetings**—Units must hold a minimum of four regular business meetings per year. Additional meetings are encouraged. The minimum quorum is four senior members, and one member present must be the Unit Commander or a Unit Vice Commander.
- **Bank Changes**—When a unit or state department has a change in account information, it’s important to contact National Headquarters. A new direct deposit form is required, and a delay in receiving the information could mean a delay in receiving funds.
- **Stories Wanted**—State Departments and Units who have done something remarkable are encouraged to share their story with us. Ideas include, but are not limited to: special fund raisers, outreach programs, holiday events, meetings, and Forget-Me-Not drives. Every unit has a story! Please send your story and any pictures to dava@dav.org. Your article could be published in our E-Newsletter, on our social media outlets, and even in the Headquarters News!
- **VAVS Representative Certifications**—State Commanders will be receiving notification requesting appointment/s for VAVS Representative/s to serve a two-year term in the VA facilities in their respective states. The position is more than a title; the appointee should be a member who is committed to fulfilling the role of the VAVS Representative. Now is a great time to start talking to your members and finding individuals to serve in this capacity.
- **Membership Listings**—Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders, and Adjutants are authorized to generate membership listings. Keep in mind these reports contain personal information (including junior members) and are to be safeguarded at all times and not freely distributed.
- **Meeting Cancellation**—If a Commander cannot attend a unit meeting, this would not be grounds for cancellation as the bylaws allow for the Senior Vice Commander (or Junior Vice Commander) to fill that role and conduct the meeting. In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances that would prevent members from safely attending a meeting, these would be instance where a meeting may be canceled by the Commander with proper member notification. Meeting changes (date, time, location) must be by majority vote of the unit, not at the pleasure of the Commander.