

DAV Auxiliary Headquarters News



3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076 | September 2018



September Flag Flying Days

The following days have been designated as official days for flying the American Flag.

9/3 — Labor Day

9/11 — Patriot Day

9/17 – Constitution Day

9/21—POW/MIA Remembrance Day

9/30—Gold Star Mothers Day

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From the Desk of National Commander Ellen Timmerman



It's an honor to have been elected as your DAV Auxiliary National Commander. I am looking forward to continuing to serve veterans and their families alongside each of you.

In May of 2018 the "Caregiver Initiative Program" became a sanctioned program of the DAV Auxiliary. At this time, the purpose of the program is to support and provide financial sponsorship of caregiver/companion events held in conjunction with veteran-related adaptive sports events. This program is in the very early stages, and our first effort will be National Disabled Veterans TEE (Training, Exposure, Experience) Tournament co-hosted by VA and DAV later this month. We will be finding our footing in the coming year on exactly how we will progress with this program. The program's success is dependent upon donations to achieve the honoring of, and showing appreciation, to those unsung heroes – veteran caregivers. We hope to see this program expand over the years.

Membership will always be very important to our organization. Without members we will not exist. There are still so many people that don't even realize we exist, and those that do know have no idea what we do to serve our veterans and their families. Wear your Auxiliary clothing items and let yourself be seen. If you're purchasing something that involves the Auxiliary let the cashier know you're with the DAV Auxiliary; a lot of times this will start a discussion with people around you. Don't be afraid to put yourself out there! Be proud of what you do for veterans and their families. **Together, we can get it done.**

The DAV Auxiliary is very protective of our members and their personal information. If you receive any solicitations that mention DAV or Auxiliary, other than what National Headquarters sends out, please let Headquarters know. This is misuse of information and the only way we can stop it is with your help.

Keep up the good work!

God bless each of you for all that you do to help Veterans and their families.

Junior Activities by Icilda Marley, National Junior Activities Chairman

Thank you for this opportunity to express my devotion to keeping with the DAV Auxiliary's mission.

Our DAV Auxiliary families should promote junior involvement. It is very important at all ages. They can do activities, help at fundraisers and be active in their community. Families can make payments towards their life membership so they are fully paid by adulthood.

I would like to receive notices, pictures and ideas from junior members on how they get involved with Veterans. I'm excited to start receiving these responses.

I hope they have a GREAT school year. Please send information to: DAV Auxiliary, 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076.

Americanism by Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, National Americanism Chairman

There is nothing more American than a barbecue on July 4th or Labor Day, right? I would argue that this tradition actually prevents many Americans from appreciating the events that make us unique among other countries in the world.

We confuse “vacations” with “holidays.” According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a vacation is “a period spent away from home or business in travel or recreation,” while a holiday is a “a day marked by a general suspension of work in commemoration of an event.” As DAV Auxiliary members, we have an opportunity to create traditions that will ensure that current and future generations pay proper respect to our American heritage.

Let’s begin with Labor Day — a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of the country ([Wikipedia](#)). In this age of smart phones, tablets, and WiFi, information is readily available. While the coals were getting hot on the grill, I hope you took a few minutes to read about the history of the labor movement or an individual who was a leader in the movement and shared this information with friends and family.

Finally, I would like to invite you to share any other ideas to enhance the celebration of all our American holidays.

Membership by Lynn Helms Prosser, National Membership Chairman

Fall Conference in Lexington, Kentucky, is just weeks away and I’m still excited over our very successful National Convention in Reno, Nevada. I am always amazed as the events unfold and the feeling of excitement of seeing friends, attending meetings/seminars, and enjoying another adventure of this unforgettable journey. Our entire DAV/DAVA National Staff and their team are incredibly talented. Thank you for your continued hard work, dedication and leadership. It was an excellent convention!!!

National DAVA Fall Conference offers members an endless list of opportunities: meet new friends, attend informative workshops, share ideas for enhancing our programs, learn ways of promoting awareness and securing support for our veterans and their families among community leaders, planning patriotic events, and sharing various ways to encourage membership growth.

I am honored and thankful to have the opportunity to serve as your National 1st Junior Vice Commander and National Membership Chairman. Concerns surrounding ways of recruiting new members has been an important topic. I would like to implement your ideas to help other units have successful membership drives. Please send them to me at lcprosser51@gmail.com. Thank you in advance!!!

As Membership Chairman I am working with national headquarters to unveil exciting membership drive incentives for 2018-2019. We will also be discussing ways to motivate current members to participate at unit meetings and events. I hope to see you all at National Fall Conference. Safe travels.

May God continue to bless our veterans and troops and keep us **“America Strong.”**

Newly Revised DAV Auxiliary Strategic Plan

The newly revised DAV Auxiliary Strategic Plan is now available [online](#). Our goals focus on increasing membership and providing for a new generation of members to become involved, promoting growth and finding new ways and ideas while still maintaining the traditions of the organization, embracing technology and communication techniques to reach all generations, developing standard operating procedures for the national, state, and unit levels, and creating and maintain a sustainable financial income. The updated document will not be printed; however, members are encouraged to read the information and share it with others.

VAVS by Melissa Pierce, National VAVS Chairman

Fall is in the air and with it VA's across the country will be hosting Stand Downs to assist homeless and near homeless Veterans. These events provide essential services and supplies that Veterans may not otherwise have access to. This would be a good opportunity for units and chapters to collect clothing, food and other items for distribution. Volunteers will also be needed to assist that day. If you'd like more information on upcoming Stand Downs in your area or how to become involved visit <https://www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp>.

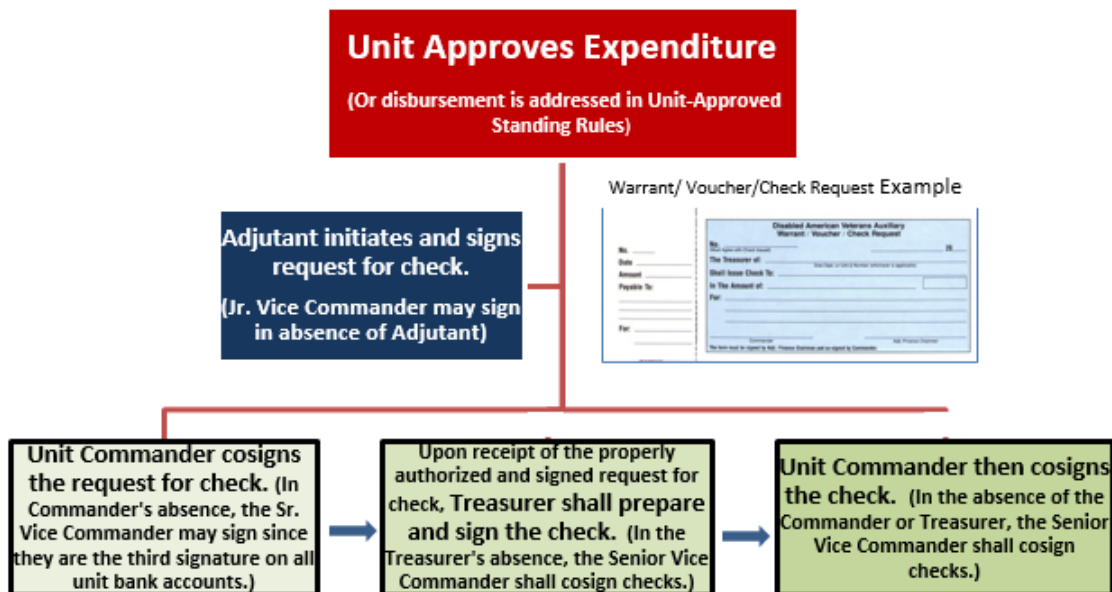
With fall comes cooler and colder weather. Now is a good time to start thinking about fall and winter clothing collections and donations to your area Veterans Outreach program. Unfortunately, we have Veterans who may not have the access or ability to purchase warm clothing for themselves and their families.

And of course, what is more fall than football! Consider a football watching party! With games on Thursday nights, Saturdays, Sundays and Monday night, you should have no problem working out a time that works for you and your local VA or CLC. Bring in decorations and special treats, have drawings or door prizes and, of course, some great football watching snacks. Your event is sure to be a hit!

Warrants/Vouchers/Check Requests

The national bylaws provide for the proper procedure when issuing checks from accounts. Unit funds may only be expended upon approval of unit members at a regular business meeting unless otherwise specified in the Unit Standing Rules.

Debit and/or Credit Cards may not be used



Please Take Note

DAV Auxiliary National Headquarters will be closed Wednesday, September 26, through Friday, September 28, due to National Fall Conference. We will resume normal business hours on Monday, October 1. If you have an immediate concern related to conference please stop by the Auxiliary headquarters and speak to a staff member. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

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

DAV AUXILIARY

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"Together, we can get it done!"

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



Newly Revised Bylaw Books



The newly revised DAV Auxiliary Constitution and Bylaw books will be available soon! In the meantime they are available to be viewed online by visiting www.davauxiliary.org.

Please remember the bylaw books change from year to year, and members are encouraged to always have the most recent copy available for questions or concerns.

The books will once again be \$2.00 each, plus shipping and handling, and will be available through Halo.



New Auxiliary Unit!

Capital City Unit #3
Columbus, Ohio
Chartered August 28, 2018

Save the Date:

2019 National Convention
August 3—6, 2019
Rosen Shingle Creek
9939 Universal Boulevard
Orlando, FL 32819
Telephone: 407.996.9939

\$137 Single/Double

The Auxiliary NEC meeting will be held on Thursday, August 1, and the District meetings will be Friday, August 2. Please plan accordingly.

Please make your reservations early to avoid sell out! They can be cancelled in the future if you're unable to attend!

Save the Date:

2019 National Fall Conference
September 26—28, 2019
Lexington Embassy Suites
1801 Newtown Pike
Lexington, KY 40511
Telephone: 859.455.5000

\$126.95 Single/Double
\$133.95 Triple/Quad

All rates will include complimentary parking, Wi-Fi, breakfast, and evening manager reception.

Please make your reservations early to avoid sell out! They can be cancelled in the future if you're unable to attend!

Reminders:

- National headquarters should be notified **immediately** when unit or state department banking information changes. Failure to notify our office in a timely manner will result in the hold of membership distributions (if any).
- Units experiencing difficulties, whether it be electing officers, establishing a quorum, or participation concerns, should notify their respective **state department** as soon as possible.
- Units are required to obtain **proper permission** from their DAV Chapter as well as DAV State Department for any fund raising events. Forget-Me-Not drives do not require DAV State Department approval; however, they should be notified so they can have information on file in the event of any questions.