

# DAV Auxiliary Newsletter



860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018

November 2023

## *Quota Achieved!*

Congratulations to the following State Departments for reaching 2023-2024 Quota!

Illinois  
Louisiana  
New Hampshire  
New Mexico  
Oklahoma  
Pennsylvania  
Wyoming

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## Legislative by Terry Grabowski, National Legislative Chairman

I hope everyone had a great time at Fall Conference and learned much. Thank you to Congressman Steven Doan for his amazing presentation on how an idea goes from a bill to a law.

Now on to important things. I am hoping members belong to the Commanders Action Network (CAN), but if you don't I would encourage you to join. It is so simple and all you need is to input your name, address, and email. That's it! Then, whenever an important bill comes up, you are sent an email pre-filled out for your representative. All you do is click to send and it does the work for you. You should get a response back saying they received it from the person it was sent to. If you need help, just let me know and I will help you. As a reminder, if you are not registered to vote, please sign up and don't forget to vote on November 7th.

### A few new bills that need to be sent to your representatives:

- ◆ H.R. 5697: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure veterans may obtain a physical copy of a certain form by mail or at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.
- ◆ S. 2803: Wounded Warrior Access Act of 2023
- ◆ H.R. 5470: Veteran Medical Exams for Distant Areas Act

## Americanism by Kathleen Wenthe, National Americanism Chairman

Fall and winter are upon us, which means Veterans Day is almost here.

It's time to ensure that your American Flag is in pristine condition. Take a look at your local businesses, church's, and schools, does their flag need to be replaced? This is a good opportunity for you as an Auxiliary member to talk to the establishment about replacing the worn flag. By taking the time to talk to them, you are also telling them about the DAV Auxiliary.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, take time to thank a Marine as it is the Marine Corps Birthday.

Don't forget to check with your local schools for when they will hold their Veterans Day program to honor the men and women that served. Auxiliary unit members should take the opportunity to get to know the veterans that are present for the programs.

As many of you know, Golden Corral will provide a free "thank you" meal to U.S. Military retirees, veterans, active duty, National Guard or Reservist on or around Veterans Day. This year the annual Military Appreciation Night will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023.

While Golden Corral may be widely known for its appreciation to all military, did you know that there are plenty of other restaurants that provide complimentary food on or around Veterans Day? Businesses such as Hooters, Dunkin' Donuts, Freddy's, Applebee's, Bob Evans, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chili's, Cracker Barrel, Denny's, IHOP, and Texas Roadhouse, just to name a few. Be sure to check with your local restaurant to find out if they will be participating in a "thank you" to the Military.

Veterans Day is always busy with different local programs! Be sure to find out where your local program will be held.

I wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope your house is filled with hugs and laughter from family and friends.

**The DAV 5K will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on November 11, 2023. There is also a virtual participation option this year for those who are not local during the month of November! DAV Auxiliary encourages our members to participate in this event! Learn more or sign-up at [www.dav5k.org](http://www.dav5k.org).**

## Community Service by Carolyn Harris, National Community Service Chairman

### Thank you for your Service!

What a great time to show how much we care about our veterans. As we approach **Veterans Day** and the **Thanksgiving** holiday, think of the many things a unit and its members can do to honor those men and women who are serving and have served our country.

There will be parades and programs in your communities honoring veterans. The unit could host a brunch, lunch or dinner to say thank you to our veterans for their service. Plan excursions to take veterans who are able to see the parades and attend the programs honoring them.

As veterans and their families look toward preparing for Thanksgiving, there may be a veterans family who will need work done at their home like painting or cleaning carpets for the holidays. These services could be provided by members or a company willing to donate their time and service to the veteran and their family. A barber could designate a day to provide free haircuts to veterans.

Under our community service report, these activities would fall under **Recreation and Entertainment and Professional & Trade Services/payments**.

As we head into this season of love and thankfulness, so many families will be gathering to reconnect and to share the bond of family love. So as a family we, the DAV and DAVA, must continue to stay in contact with veterans in our communities, in healthcare facilities, nursing homes and State Veteran Homes. To all our Veterans past and present, **thank you for your service!**

## Membership by Melissa Pierce, National Membership Chairman

Have you ever felt as if the disabled veteran in your life has been forgotten? Sadly, when the guns of battle fall silent, too many people tend to forget about the war... and about those who fought. Even our politicians begin to forget. But, you can't forget. The disabled veteran in your life is a constant reminder of the sacrifices made in defense of our country. That's why the women related to disabled veterans got together in 1922 to found the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. The DAV Auxiliary still serves today, helping the families of veterans who sacrificed so much for us.

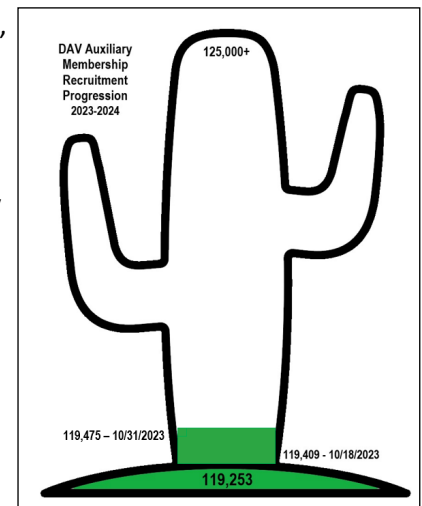
[\(DAV Auxiliary website membership page\)](#)

Someone once said "Membership is not about belonging to a group, but about being a part of something greater than yourself." (*Unknown*) It's why we are all here – to help veterans and their families. While we all know the value of membership in the DAV Auxiliary there are many out there who don't know who we are or what we do. It's time to change that!

As you may have heard, our membership goal for 2023-2024 is to reach at least 125,000. I challenge all of you to share our beliefs and goals to those around you. Let them know who we are. Show them what we do. And then invite them to join our mission of giving back to the veterans and families who have given so much to us. We can't do what we do without you. We can't continue in the future without them. We have all heard it before – Membership is the lifeblood of any organization. Membership, both current and future, is vital to the success of the DAV Auxiliary.

And don't forget about those membership incentives – a PAID trip to the 2024 Fall Conference in Lawrenceburg, IN, OR a PAID trip to the 2025 National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. And for units and state departments who reach quota plus one, you could win a pizza party.

If you haven't already begun recruiting new members, what are you waiting for? Reach out to your family members. Reach out to your co-workers. Reach out to your neighbors. Reach out to strangers. Reach out and help us **STRIVE FOR 125,000** members strong.



DAV Auxiliary National Headquarters will be closed on Friday, November 10, in observance of Veterans Day. We will also be closed Thursday, November 23, and Friday, November 24, in observance of Thanksgiving. Please remember to keep those who cannot be with their families, including military members and community heroes, in your thoughts and prayers.