

DAV Auxiliary Newsletter



860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018

June 2024

Quota Achieved!

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

Alabama
Arizona
Arkansas
Florida
Illinois
Louisiana
Maryland
Minnesota
New Hampshire
New Mexico
New York
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Texas
Vermont
Virginia
Wyoming

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Membership Incentives

At the time of this publication, we are 4,068 members away from our 125,000 goal by June 30, 2024. We still have time to reach our goal!! **All membership must be to our office by June 26, 2024, by 12:00 p.m. to ensure year-end processing.**

As we count down the days to the end of our 2023-2024 membership year, it's a good time to refresh members of the amazing incentives for both recruiters and new members! All drawings will be held around July 2, 2024, live on our Facebook page!

- ♦ **Win a trip to the 2024 National Fall Conference in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, or the 2025 National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada!** Recruit at least five new, paid members with at least \$20 down to earn one entry. Each additional new, paid member gets the sponsor an additional entry. This incentive began on October 1!
- ♦ **Race to the finish!** Recruit at least one new, paid member with \$20 down to be entered to win an exclusive DAV Auxiliary Stanley Cup! The contest is for ADULT and JUNIOR members. As long as there is \$20 down, you'll get an entry. Two winners will be drawn!
- ♦ **New member drawing!** Any new member that paid at least \$20 down beginning May 21 will automatically be entered to win a \$50 gift card to the DAV Store!
- ♦ **Unique Email Link!** An email was sent to over 26,000 prospective members of DAV Auxiliary in mid-May. Any new member who signs up using the unique email link will be entered to win a one-of-a-kind patriotic Stanley Cup.
- ♦ **Pizza Parties!** Each state department and unit who achieves quota plus one by June 30 will be entered to win a pizza party! One unit and one state department will be drawn!

As you can see, the possibilities for prizes are endless! Trips, a gift card, pizza parties, and Stanley Cups! Not to mention, bragging rights and growing our amazing organization so we can continue our mission of helping veterans and their families!

A Big Thanks to Our Recruiters!

Last month we started a section congratulating the individuals who recruited at least five new, paid members since October 1, 2023, and would be entered into our free trip incentive drawing. We're excited to add a few more names to the drawing!

Jennilee Anderson
Bethany Briggs
Nikki Cochran
Timothy Declaire
Tracie Fulcher
Melinda Gibson
Jennifer Greene
Vera Hendrickson
Wilton King
Joyce Komprood

Wilton King
Sandy Martin
Hannah McCauley
Angelia Naves
Andrea Osbourn
Timothy Osbourn
Stephanie Proffit
Paula Quinn
Anissa Rader
Jerri Rambin

Rhonda Rawson
Ava Reed
Letisia Rendon
Billie Sanders
Tammy Sigman
Catherine Tierno
Billie RayVan Dyke
Caroline Walter
Thomas Wohlrab

Junior Activities by Tammy Sigman, National Junior Activities Chairman

The Juniors have been doing a lot of great work around the United States. The Junior Activities reports are coming in and the projects and community service these Juniors have been doing are fantastic. From making cards to helping with veterans lawn care needs, this just shows you the love that they have for our veterans and their families.

Also remember that when you have your elections the Junior members can be Patriotic Instructors, take up the money march and help with set-up of snacks at the meetings. Get them involved and they will continue on as senior members.

Families are encouraged to start a life membership for children to lock in the life membership rate of \$250.00 with a \$20 down payment. Parent or legal guardian signature is required. Payments can be made at the family's discretion. Any amount paid while under the age of 18 will be applied to the life membership amount of \$250.00.

Junior members of the DAV Auxiliary consist of boys and girls from birth through age 17. They are eligible for membership through a family member who is a DAV Auxiliary member or who served in the military and was honorably discharged.

Children 17 years old and younger are eligible for a complimentary membership that expires the day they turn 18 years old. Parent or legal guardian signature is required.

Check out the auxiliary.dav.org to find out more about the scholarships and other great opportunities for our Juniors.

DAV Caregiver Support Program

DAV continues to be a vital force and instrument of positive change for so many veterans and their families because we refuse to settle for “good enough.” We innovate, execute and lead the way in bringing positive change for our brothers and sisters in arms.

The DAV Caregiver Support Program is a no-cost initiative which offers concierge support and resources to the friends, family members and loved ones who provide care to those who served. It helps improve the quality of life for veterans and their caregivers while extending the time they can live outside of healthcare facilities.

Powered by TCARE, a Service-Disabled Veterans-Owned Small Business founded by a DAV Patriot Boot Camp alumnus, the program allows veterans and their families to access tailored caregiver support and resources—including individual support from a trained specialist—at no cost.

The program officially launched in October. Through the DAV Caregiver Support Program, caregivers can access:

- Online resources and risk screening to better understand their role as a caregiver.
- Digital tools to support their caregiving responsibilities.
- Personalized care plans and one-on-one support from a trained caregiver specialist with experience supporting veterans and their loved ones.

By being provided with a proven support program, caregivers and the veterans they love benefit from improved relationships, reduced caregiver stress, depression and other negative health outcomes. Participants also develop increased resilience and the ability to navigate complex caregiving responsibilities, including health care systems and financial planning.

To participate, caregivers can follow three easy steps:

- **Register**—Visit www.davcaregiver.org to enroll in the program and complete the DAV Caregivers Support Program screener. The registration code is **DAV**.
- **Access Resources and Support**—Access online content, local resources and digital tools tailored to each caregiving situation, role and responsibility.
- **Receive Tailored Support**—Depending on the screening results, participants may receive one-on-one support from a trained caregiver specialist to help navigate caregiving responsibilities.

DAV is able to continue to expand our services in new and exciting ways because of the leadership and support of so many. We are grateful to each of you for helping make this exciting new program possible.

Community Service by Carolyn Harris, National Community Service Chairman

We are into the of time year where annual reports are being submitted and then judged at state conventions. The winning reports from each state department are sent to National Headquarters for judging on the national level. Even with reports submitted direct assistance to veterans and their families continues. This is a seven days a week, 365 days a year mission. That is never ending.

With that in mind, the upcoming summer months will be the prefect opportunity for continued visits to the home bound veterans and/or family members. This also would be the perfect opportunity to plan excursions to sporting events and different events taking place in the community, if they are able.

Another perfect opportunity this summer is continuing to volunteer at nursing homes and state veterans homes. Under the direction of the Activity Director, members can help with arts and craft activities, calling bingo and helping with outside activities at the facilities.

With the school year ending this would be an opportunity to host an end-of-the-year party for your Junior membership or plan some summer activities and include them in the unit volunteer work. This will keep them engaged with the unit and the mission of the Auxiliary.

Contact your Chapter members and city officials to work together on outreach in the community. They may know of veterans in the community that are in need of support and aid from your unit. Continue to document all of the volunteer work done by members and the unit as a whole. In this day and time our service to veterans and their families are so important and so needed.

VAVS by Patty Davis, National VAVS Representative

Last month, I had the privilege of representing DAV Auxiliary at the National Advisory Committee meetings in St. Louis, Missouri. During those meetings, Veteran Service Organizations meet with CDCE (Center for Development and Civic Engagement) Staff to discuss how we can recruit, retain and encourage volunteerism at our VA Medical Centers. We also celebrate the amazing work our volunteers do, network and plan for the future.

I am excited to share that DAV Auxiliary has seen an increase of 13,503 hours served in the VA Medical Center between FY 2022 and FY 2023. Furthermore, our organization is seeing a trend upwards in new volunteers. This means that our members are heading back into the VA's to serve veterans.

During our conference, one of the biggest takeaways with the discussion of regular versus occasional volunteers. With society being as it is today, CDCE is encouraging VSO's to recruit **occasional** volunteers instead of regularly scheduled volunteers. Occasional volunteers are what the CDCE demographic is. Those are the moms and dads with children who can only dedicate one day a month, but want to help. It is the college student who is passionate about serving in memory of a grandparent but has a lot on their plate. It's the family who is serving with their veteran. AND, the VA is working hard to RETAIN those hours. Many VSO's are NOT getting the occasional hours reported to them, which is missing hours used to showcase OUR organization. What a team effort we can work on to get new, occasional volunteers and make sure that we are accurately recording their hours. If you are a VAVS Representative, be sure that you're utilizing Form 50A to get as many monthly hours as possible from your facility volunteers and turning them in!

Thank you for sending in your annual VAVS reports. And thank you for taking the time to fill them out so accurately. This information will truly showcase our organization and what we each do to serve veterans in our VA System!

Forget-Me-Not Luncheon—Ticket Pre-Sale Information

Tickets to the Forget-Me-Not luncheon at National Convention **must** be purchased in advance. No luncheon tickets will be available for purchase on site. Checks may be sent to national headquarters at any time and should be earmarked "Forget-Me-Not Luncheon" with the number of tickets requested. Those wishing to pay with a credit/debit card may call national headquarters between now and the reservation cutoff date of July 12, 2024.

The cost of the luncheon is \$55.00 per person. The menu is a Phoenix Farmer's Green Salad, Seared Chicken Breast, Cheddar Mac and Cheese, Broccoli, Caramelized Onions, Black Forest Cake, Water, and Coffee.

Please send checks to national headquarters at 860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018.

Luncheon tickets will be available for pick-up beginning Thursday, August 1, 2024, in the DAV Auxiliary office. Pick-up location to be determined.

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



Save the Date:

2024 National
Fall Conference
September 26—28, 2024
DoubleTree by Hilton
51 Walnut St.
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
Telephone: 812.539.8888

\$149.99 Single/Double
\$159.99 Triple
\$169.99 Quad

All rates will include complimentary parking and breakfast.

Overflow Hotel:
Hollywood Casino
777 Hollywood Dr.
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
Telephone: 888.274.6797

No transportation will be provided between hotels.

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

National Fall Conference—Ticket Pre-Sale Information

Tickets to the Saturday evening dinner at National Fall Conference **must** be purchased in advance. No dinner tickets will be available for purchase on site. Checks may be sent to national headquarters at any time and should be earmarked "Fall Conference Dinner" with the number of tickets requested. Those wishing to pay with a credit/debit card may call national headquarters between now and the reservation cutoff date of September 13, 2024.

The cost of the dinner is \$60.00 per person. The menu is Classic Italian Buffet with Chicken Parmesan, Pasta Primavera, Marinara Sauce, Cavatappi, Alfredo Sauce, Penne, Breadsticks, Caesar Salad, Lemon Italian Crème or Chocolate Cake.

Please send checks to national headquarters at 860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018.

Dinner tickets will be available for pick-up beginning Thursday, September 25, 2024, in the DAV Auxiliary office. Pick-up location to be determined.

DAV Recruiter Rally

You don't need to be a "super recruiter" to join the new DAV recruiting sweepstakes! Here are the details:

- Beginning May 1, 2024, and running through June 30, 2025, any DAV or DAV Auxiliary member who recruits at least one DAV member is eligible to win a trip for two, including hotel, to Las Vegas for the 2025 DAV and Auxiliary National Convention and \$2,500 spending money!
- Simply recruit one member during this period and you will automatically be entered into the drawing.
- After July 1, 2025, DAV will draw the lucky winner at National Headquarters and broadcast it live on DAV social media channels.

Remember, this is a separate recruitment program from DAV Auxiliary! If you have questions or concerns, you can reach out to the DAV Membership Team at member-ship@dav.org.

Reminders:

- ⇒ State Convention Adjutants—you have ten (10) days from the close of the convention to submit your convention paperwork to DAV Auxiliary national headquarters! Please remember to be observant of this deadline. Do not put your state department in jeopardy of their voting privileges at national convention!
- ⇒ Units—if you haven't already done so, please be sure to pay your national mandates prior to June 30, 2024. Failure to do so will prohibit your unit from having a voice/vote at state/national convention.
- ⇒ If you are having issues with your DAV CAN (Commander's Action Network) messages, please email a member of the Washington, D.C., supportive staff at legislative-public@dav.org.
- ⇒ DAV Auxiliary national headquarters will be closed Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in recognition of Juneteenth Day.

DAV Auxiliary junior members attending national convention are encouraged to sign up to participate as pages. They will volunteer during meetings with passing out information, escorting dignitaries as needed, and be on hand to assist members throughout the convention. If you have a junior interested in volunteering, please contact national headquarters at 833.368.1220, and provide their contact information.