DAV Auxiliary Making a Difference

CALIFORNIA NEWS

Volume 2, Issue 3 WINTER 2014



Commander's Message

Mary Lou Caldwell
Commander

The Holiday season is with us once again and I want to send you and your families the warmest greetings. Whether it is Hanukkah, Christmas, New Year, Kwanzaa or the year of the Goat, please know that you are in our prayers.

It can be a lonely time of the year for many people. This can be especially true for care givers. These are the Mothers, Fathers, Husbands, Wives, Sons or Daughters who, to one degree or another, have put their lives on hold to care for a disabled veteran. They give their time and energy with love and compassion, but it does not make the task any less exhausting. They work behind the scenes, hardly noticed by the outside world. Without their commitment and dedication some Disabled Veterans would live in institutions.

In the coming weeks try to not only remember our Veterans, but alsol their care givers. A call, a card, even an e-mail can make a tremendous difference for them at this season. Offer to visit with a Veteran for an hour or two, so that the caregiver can shop or go to lunch or just get out of the house. It is a way of showing someone cares for their sacrifices. These kindnesses last more than a day, and mean more to the recipient than you could ever imagine.

FAITH HOPE LOVE

The Four Candles

The four Candles burned Slowly
Their Ambiance was so soft you could hear them speak…

The first candle said, "I Am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me lit." Then Peace's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

The second candle says, "I Am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable." Then Faith's Flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

Sadly the third candle spoke," I Am Love and I haven't the strength to stay lit any longer." People put me aside and don't understand my importance. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them." and waiting no longer, Love goes out completely.

Suddenly…A child enters the room and sees the three candles no longer burning. The child begins to cry, "Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay lit until the end."

Then the Fourth Candle spoke gently to the little boy, "Don't be afraid, for I Am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles."

With Shinning eyes the child took the Candle of Hope and lit the other three candles.

Never let the Flame of Hope go out of your life. With Hope, no matter how bad things look and are…Peace, Faith and Love can Shine Brightly in our lives.

Author Unknown.



Membership News

John A. Medvigy
Sr. Vice Commander

Greetings My Fellow Veterans and Dependents-
I haven't been able to accomplish very much this Quarter, as I acquired a particularly miserable infection that just did NOT want to go away!It kept me away from the Forget-Me-Not Fundraiser and caused me to miss the Kern County Veterans Day Parade, the only time I've missed since I joined DAV/DAVA!

The*ONE*bit of news I can give is that I've been given another request for information on how to establish another Unit.This makes the 4thChapter to request information since Mid-Winter!I've contacted the other three and have been told progress has been made.

I hope all will ask Vets and families to consider membership in our Organization.Just remember, Annual Membership will expire on 01 July 2015.New Life Members will have a longer amount of time to pay for their membership.

I hope all had a safe and happy Thanksgiving Holiday, and want to wish all Happy Channukkah, Merry Christmas, Kwanzaa, Happy Holidays, or whatever each celebrates at this time of year, and for a safe and prosperous 2015!In just a few weeks later, it will be time for Mid-Winter Conference.Make your plans now.Time flies before you know it!

I will remain your comrade in serving our fellow veterans and their dependents.

Recruiting is Rewarding

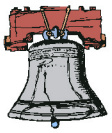
Unit Incentives:

1st place: $75 2nd place $50 3rd place: $25

Individual Incentives:

1st place: $50 2nd place $30 3rd place: $20

Freedom Foundation



Mary Lou Caldwell,
Chair

As chairperson of the Freedoms Foundation Committee I am pleased to provide information about the American Leaders Youth Summit. For many years the Auxiliary has been able to send students to this conference where they have the opportunity to study current issues, develop leadership skills, and explore the foundation of the American political process.

This is a three day conference for high school student's sophomore to senior grades. Each session is limited to approximately 100 students from throughout the United States.

The requirements for a student to apply are a minimum 3.0 grade point average, a letter or recommendation and a letter from the applicant expressing their desire to attend. There are currently two secessions in April 2015 that are capable of accommodating participants. It is important that the information/application be filled out completely and all documentation be included and sent in on time.

This is an Auxiliary Sponsored event and all tuition and transportation for the students and chaperone are paid for by the Auxiliary. If your Chapter or Unit or an individual is interested in supporting the program please send contributions to the DAV Auxiliary, Department of California headquarters, and indicate the donation is for Freedom Foundation.

I urge to share this information with your Unit and Chapter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 626-355-8941 or maryloucaldwell59@gmail.com

Mary Lou Caldwell
Freedom Foundation Chairperson







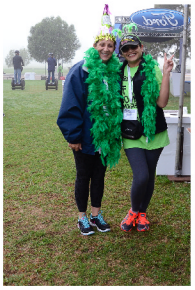




DAV 5K

Samantha Galliher

Jr. Vice Commander







Season's greetings to all our Department of California Units!! It has been a busy end of the year for many of us I'm sure. We had a very successful kickoff of the first annual DAV 5k on November 9th. We ended up with over 750+ runners and participants. I just wanted to quickly thank all of the volunteers and especially our Adjutant, Julie and our Commander Mary Lou for all their help and support. It was a great turnout and lots of fun. I'm looking forward to an ever better turnout next year. Don't forget the Mid-Winter Convention is coming in January in Sonoma. I hope to see many of you there! I wish you all a very happy holiday and a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year. I will see you all in 2015!!













MID-WINTER

January 23-24, 2015

Doubletree
1 Doubletree Dr.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 584-5466

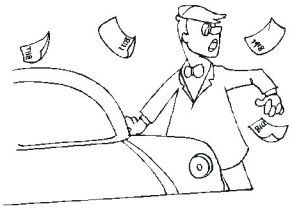
Friday, January 23, 2015

9:00 AM	**DAVA Finance Meeting –** **Standing Rules Meeting –**
12:00 – 1:30	**Lunch**
1:30 pm – 2:30	**DIC SEMINAR**
2:45pm – 3:30pm	**Support Our Troops Project: Make Valentine Day cards**
3:45pm	**DAVA COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
6:00pm	**Take Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, PSC, NEC out to dinner DTBA**

Saturday, January 24, 2015

8:00 AM	**Women Veterans Think Tank**
9:30 AM	**VRR Workshop**
12:00 – 2:00	**Lunch**
2:00 pm	**DAVA State Executive Committee Meeting** **(Committee reports)**
6:00 PM	**Commanders Reception**

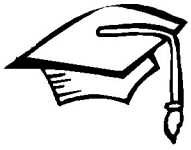
Member Resources



Financial Hardship Assistance

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA AUXILIARY VETERANS FUND:
Provides a one-time grant up to $1,000 to pay bills.
http://dava-ca.com/docs/AUXILIARY%20VETERANS%20FUND%20APPLICATION.pdf

NATIONAL DAVA SERVICE SUPPORT FUND:
Assists those who find they are temporarily unable to meet outstanding financial obligations such as utility bills, mortgage payments, hospital bills, etc. This is a one-time grant of up to $1,000.
http://auxiliary.dav.org/membership/Programs.aspx



Scholarships

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP:
Provides financial assistance for books.
http://dava-ca.com/services.htm **Deadline: May 1, 2015**

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY NATIONAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND:
Amount of a scholarship can be up to, but not more than $1500 per year for a maximum of 5 years. **Deadline: March 15, 2015**
http://**auxiliary**.dav.org/membership/documents/**ScholarshipApplication**.xls

Jesse Brown Scholarship:
It recognizes outstanding young volunteers who give of their time by awarding annual scholarships that may be used to continue their education.
http://auxiliary.dav.org/membership/documents/scholarshiprules.pdf

Elected & Appointed Officers

COMMANDER
Mary Lou Caldwell
Unit #19
(626) 355-8941

SR. VICE COMMANDER
John Medvigy
Unit #157
(661) 366-6666

JR. VICE COMMANDER
Samantha Galliher
Unit #2
(530) 876-0306

Adjutant
Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, PSC
Unit #7
(510) 926-2529

TREASURER
June McJunkin
Unit #6
(530) 673-3859

CHAPLAIN
Betty Quintana
Unit #92
(760) 243-3032

Judge Advocate
Alma Fowlkes, PSC
Unit #123
(310) 410-4549

NEC Representative
Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, PSC
Unit #7
(510) 926-2529

ALTERNATE NEC
Melissa Valdez
Unit #12
(909) 838-2634

DAVA, DEPT OF CALIFORNIA
13733 E Rosecrans Ave
Sante Fe Springs,CA 90670

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

January 23-24, 2015
Doubletree
1 Doubletree Dr.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 584-5466

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

June 10-13, 2015
Peppermill Resort & Casino
2707 S. Virginia St.
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 826-2121