



## National Fall Conference

Make your plans now to attend the Fall Conference.

Hilton Netherland Plaza  
35 W. 5th Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513.421.9100

October 3-5

\$119 Single/Double  
\$144 Triple  
\$169 Quad

Registration: \$25  
Banquet: \$40

NEC Meeting Thursday afternoon at 4:00 pm. First business session at 7:00 pm Thursday evening, with sessions Friday and Saturday.

The banquet will be held Friday evening and the conference will wrap up with a reception Saturday evening.

Reservation cutoff:  
September 11, 2013

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# Headquarters News DAV Auxiliary

3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY

August 2013

## Susan Miller Elected National Commander

Susan Miller of Las Animas, Colorado was elected to the office of National Commander at the DAV Auxiliary's 91st National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Joining the organization as a junior member in 1971, she credits her parents for instilling a deep passion for the organization and a tenacious commitment to our nation's wounded heroes.



Having served in nearly every office on the unit and state level, Susan was also elected Commander of the DAV Auxiliary State Department of Colorado. Presently she is serving her 15<sup>th</sup> term as unit Treasurer and a 12<sup>th</sup> term as state Adjutant. On the national level, she served as 17<sup>th</sup> District National Executive Committee Member and began her journey toward the organization's highest office in 2008 when first elected as a National Vice Commander.

Susan also holds life memberships in Utah, Wyoming, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Now retired, Susan was employed by the Veterans Health Administration as a registered nurse. She and her husband, Jerry, live on a farm in Las Animas, Colorado. They have three sons and three grandchildren. Her son, Trent, is serving in the United States Army, currently on his second deployment in Afghanistan.

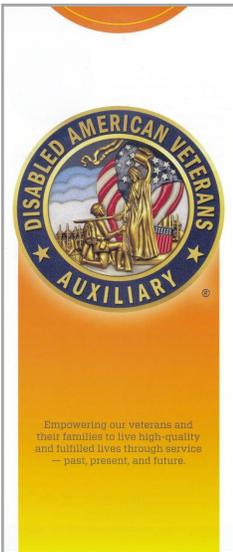
**"United in Service"** ~ a fitting theme chosen by National Commander Susan and a compelling reminder of the mission of our organization.

We congratulate Susan on her many accomplishments and wish her much success during her year as National Commander.

## 2013-2014 NATIONAL OFFICERS

Announcing the national officers elected for the 2013-2014 year:

Senior Vice Commander & Mae Holmes Chm. – LeeAnn Karg, Minnesota  
1st Jr. Vice Commander & Membership Chm. – Linda Stake, Arkansas  
2nd Jr. Vice Commander & Legislative Chm. – Frances Costa, Massachusetts  
3rd Jr. Vice Commander & Americanism Chm.– Craig Johniken, Texas  
4th Jr. Vice Commander & Community Service Chm. – Ellen Timmerman, New Mexico  
National Judge Advocate – Carol Gray, Michigan



**Updated Brochure**

Need membership applications or brochures? Contact DAVA national headquarters for a supply.

Phone: 877.426.2838, #5  
Email: [dava@davmail.org](mailto:dava@davmail.org)

The availability of updated **Constitution and Bylaw** books will be announced in a future edition of the **Headquarters News** and other social media venues.

## Membership "Reach for the Stars"

By Linda Stake, National Membership Chairman

What military family member have you not signed up in the DAV Auxiliary? With our present eligibility for membership, our potential is unlimited! Will you help? Will you sign up your family members and extended family members to help make our organiza-

tion grow? Let's all do our part this year and grow our DAVA family!

My membership theme for the 2013-2014 term is:

**"Reach for the Stars."**

Will you sign up a "star" member? Who knows? The member you sign up

today may one day be a Unit Commander, a State Commander, or a National Commander! The Sky is the Limit – Let's all "Reach for the Stars."



## Community Service

By Ellen Timmerman, National Community Service

"Community Service is involvement. It is knowing, caring and participating in our surrounding environment. It is being aware of life, and all the responsibilities it holds." (Auxiliary Manual)

If it is possible, I would like to report on *Community Service* that our units are doing. The time and effort that you put into helping your communities is amazing. Let's share that knowledge because what works in your community may also work for some other community. Take the time to contact me either by computer or by snail mail. Please make sure to include the unit name, unit number, and state with the report.

Mailing address: Ellen Timmerman  
P.O. Box 58  
Flora Vista, NM 87415

The e-mail address to use is:  
[et\\_dava@outlook.com](mailto:et_dava@outlook.com)

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!

## National Bylaw Amendments Approved at National Convention

**Page U-18, GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGULAR UNIT MEETINGS. Paragraph 3 now reads:**

The Membership Initiation Ceremony may be given to Auxiliary members within their respective units.

**Page U-21, REGULAR MEETING, Paragraph 3, JR. VICE COMMANDER. Paragraph 3 now reads:**

**JR. VICE COMMANDER** - The family and extended family members of any person eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans, or members of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary (living or deceased) or a veteran not dishonorably discharged, are eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

**Page U-22, ORDER OF BUSINESS. Item 3 now reads:**

3. Introduction of new members. Initiation Ceremony, if applicable, may follow.

## National Chairmen and Appointees

National Commander Susan Miller made the following appointments with the approval of the National Executive Committee:

National Chaplain – Aura-Lee Nicodemus, New Hampshire  
History Chairman – Margaret Snelling, North Carolina  
Hospital Chairman – Linda Bailey, Tennessee  
Interim Constitution & Bylaw Committee – Chairman Judy Steinhouse, North Dakota;  
Jean Jackson, Colorado; Sylvia Heath, Maine  
Junior Activities Chairman – Tawnya Kingsley, Kentucky  
Sgt. at Arms – Kim Stake, Arkansas  
VAWS Representative – Ann Glende, Wisconsin  
VAWS Deputy Representative – Shirley Ashmore, South Carolina  
VAWS Deputy Representative – Melody Whitaker, Kentucky  
National Adjutant – Judy Hezlep, Ohio  
National Assistant Adjutant – Pat Kemper, Kentucky

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## Chaplain's Corner by Aura-Lee Nicodemus, National Chaplain

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary is founded on four core values. An essential value that is the glue that holds our organization and grows our organization is comradeship. Webster's dictionary notes comradeship is friendship. With our binding force caring for Disabled Veterans and their family members, we share a common bond that forges deep friendships throughout our States, Units, and National organization.

Comradeship is essential to work together. With this year's theme "United in Service," it is essential that we forge the deep bonds of friendship to most effectively serve our Veterans and their family members. If we do not enjoy working together, we can never effectively serve. The Bible notes -"Love one another"-there are no if's provided beside this verse-if you are kind, fun, generous, pleasant to be around, it is merely three words-"love one another." We must not limit ourselves to those that are in our regular circle of friends who dress and act as we do, but we must reach out to those who truly need our friendship and love.

In our organization, many of our members are carrying the heavy burdens that their loved ones' injuries have brought to their home. If they are sad, lonely or irritable, are we taking the time to reach out to find a way to help? Or, are we walking away from helping a fellow member through a challenging time. Is the member in pain, physically or emotionally? With the understanding from fellow DAVA members there is so much we can and should do to help those individuals that no one else is reaching out to as they are not able to show the happy, easy side at that moment. Many of our members have family recovering from or living with the side effects of PTSD, Traumatic brain injury, a family member grieving the loss of limb, eyesight, or a friend, and thus the strain on their family is tremendous. It is essential that comradeship extend the strongest to those that perhaps we find the most challenging to reach out to.

It is often said that our youth are our future. Our youth excel at comradeship. National Convention was a great example as they reached out to youth from around our Nation and formed lasting friendships, which from reports of older members that started as juniors remain to this day. I was extremely proud of our Juniors at National Convention as they extended their friendship to Disabled Veterans and their family members. Watching the Juniors reach out to and befriend those that were alone and the difference in those that they befriended was powerful! We must all reach out as our Juniors do to members of all ages.

Within our States and units we can accomplish this each time we get together, but in a few weeks when we meet at Fall Conference we will all experience the amazing comradeship that can unite us and prepare us for service. We must also extend our comradeship to those within our community that have not yet found their way to the DAVA-if we extend our comradeship in their time of need we will truly fulfill our mission. Let's reach out to those that we haven't met and embrace them into our circle of life long friendships!!

[www.davauxiliary.org](http://www.davauxiliary.org)



## DAV AUXILIARY

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### Donations Collected at National Convention

Camp Corral—\$920.22  
Scholarship—\$2,303  
Service Support—\$2,387  
Winter Sports Clinic—\$400  
HVWP—\$100  
Fall Conference Gift—\$50

### *New Auxiliary Unit Chartered*

**SFC Luis Morales #3  
San German, Puerto Rico  
Chartered July 12, 2013**

**Correction:**  
New Unit **Brooklyn #28** was incorrectly identified in the July 2013 newsletter as **Brooklyn #38**. Our apologies to the new unit for this error.



### Membership Listing

New Membership Listings are being sent to the units and state departments to replace the listings sent with the year-end mailing. Those sent previously contained erroneous information.

## DAV AUXILIARY

Susan Miller,  
National Commander

Judith Hezlep,  
National Adjutant

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*United in Service*

### Remembering Two Past National Commanders.....

DAV Auxiliary mourns the passing of two Past National Commanders.

**Nelda Wilson**, of Illinois, was elected to the organization's highest office in 1972. Following her term as National Commander, she remained an active member throughout her life. Nelda passed away July 16, 2013.

**Sally Wilton**, of Arizona, passed away July 17, 2013. She was elected National Commander in August 1984 and was an active member for many years.

Both past national commanders will be remembered for their dedication to the organization which contributed significantly to the Auxiliary's success.

### Oklahoma Unit #88 Juniors Hold Fundraiser for Camp Corral

Junior Members of Wagoner County Unit #88, located in Coweta, Oklahoma, participated in fundraisers to collect donations to help send other kids to Camp Corral. Their efforts proved how successful our junior members can be and the major contribution they are making to the DAV Auxiliary.

At the national convention in Orlando, they presented a check in the amount of \$615.61.

#### Way to go, Oklahoma Juniors!



### Top Recruiter Award Winner

The DAV Auxiliary 2012-2013 Top Recruiter is **Karla Schwartz** of Indiana. At the Orlando, Florida, national convention, Karla was presented with a certificate and a \$250 check for recruiting the most new paid senior members, 39 in all. Since joining the organization in 2006, Karla has been a staunch advocate for our nation's disabled veterans. She also organized a very successful Women Veterans Retreat and hopes to make this an annual event. She has served as State Commander and currently serves as State Senior Vice Commander.

Special thanks to Karla for her recruiting efforts!

### 2012-2013 National History Chairman

by Iris Brzezinski

It's not too late to send me any pictures or mementos you may have to include in Past Commander Donna Adams's History Book. You can send them to me directly (address in the Constitution and Bylaw book), or through National Headquarters.