



FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Disabled American Veterans Department of New Mexico **NEWSLETTER**

Issue #3 03/2016

Getting Ready For Convention 2016



Department has been busy gearing up for our 75th Annual State Convention which will be held June 8-11 at the MCM Elegante Hotel in Albuquerque. If you are planning on staying at the Hotel, you can call for reservations at (505) 884-2511 and don't forget to mention that you are with the DAV to get the special room rate of \$81/night + tax. Convention information has went out to all Chapters and a printable copy of the Convention schedule of events can be found on Department's website at davnewmexico.org.

*****New This Year*****

DIC Training

This year Gary Prescott will be giving an informational seminar regarding Death Indemnity Compensation, which covers what benefits are available to the spouses of deceased veterans. The information is also covered in the Death Benefits Guide put out by National, but this seminar will give you a chance to ask any questions you may have and hopefully clarify the materials. The training will be held on Thursday, June 9th from 2:30pm-3:30pm in Embassy 2&3.

Forget-Me-Not Luncheon

The DAVA Forget-Me-Not Luncheon will be held from 11:30am-1:00pm on Friday, June 10th. The choices of entrees are: chicken salad croissant, chef salad or veggie wrap. The price for the luncheon is \$16/person which is payable to DAVA Department of New Mexico and sent to State Adjutant Ellen Timmerman.

Chapter Service Officer Training

Chapter Service Officer training will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at the MCM Elegante Hotel from 12-4 in Embassy I. If you are not familiar with the layout of the Hotel, ask the front desk staff to point you in the right direction. If you are planning to attend the training, please call NSO Supervisor Gary Prescott at (505) 346-4864 so he and the NSO staff can assemble the proper amount of informational material..

Banquet

This year's Convention Banquet will take place from 6-8pm on Friday, June 10th. The entree is beef tips over rice and the price per person is \$25. A separate registration form must be filled out for each attendee and they have been mailed out to all the Chapters. You can go to Department's website at davnewmexico.org for a printable registration form.



From the Desk of the State Commander

First I want to congratulate all the newly elected or appointed Chapter officers. Please take your sworn oath seriously as your fellow Chapter members have faith in your leadership ability. Remember only you can let them down, so do what's right and have a great year. I hope all went well with your Chapter elections and moving on to helping veterans, spouses and children in your part of the state. If you or your predecessors haven't already ordered the new National Constitution and Bylaws, please do so now by calling toll free 1-877-426-2838 option 4 National membership or going online at dav.org. You also should order the Chapter Officers Guide for each line officer, several mentor guides and death benefits guides just to name a few. This will help you throughout the year as you are asked questions by members of your Chapter and veterans at your different events. Remember you are not alone; we at Department are here to help. If your Chapter isn't moving forward, the Chapter is doomed to fail. To do the same thing over and over and expect a different result is the definition of insanity. You must change with the times as the younger veterans (men and women) are looking for information on the internet and other social media. They don't want to hear what you have done, they want to know what you are going to do in the future. They are looking for information that we have and we need to share it willingly even before they ask. If you want new members you need to have something that makes them want to join, such as what you are doing for the community in which you live. They don't want to hear about the internal bickering or schoolyard antics. Rather, they want to know where they can go for assistance or if you can help them with whatever they need help with. It could be as simple as helping file a claim, giving them a ride to an appointment or just listening to their problems or concerns. They probably don't want to hear about your war stories as they have their own they're working through.

We at Department are gearing up for our 75th annual Convention set for June 8-11, 2016 at the MCM Elegante Hotel here in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Chapter Service Officer training will be held on the 8th from 12-4pm and will be conducted by the National Service Officer staff. This is a DAV National annual requirement for you to be certified in order to be a Service Officer. We have sent a lot of information out this year via e-mail, so if you haven't shared it with your Chapter members, they have missed out on lots of valuable information. Department has already sent out registration packets to each chapter and unit for the convention. If you need further information, please call Department. This year's Department gun raffle is still moving very slow for whatever reason. Remember, the funds go to helping veterans. Some Chapters that I have visited didn't even know we were having a fundraiser. I don't know what to say about that.

Last, but not least, if you didn't help with a fundraiser, membership drive or other event, don't take credit for it just because you are in a leadership role. Recognize those who did the work and give them the credit.

Eugene (Gene) Weber, Department Commander

505) 294-6193



THE DAV TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IS IN NEED OF A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN TO VOLUNTEER AS POV DRIVERS TO HELP OUR STATE'S VETERANS GET TO AND FROM THEIR NECESSARY MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

**TO VOLUNTEER, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LUPE CRUZ,
TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR ,**

AT (505) 265-2821



From the Desk of the State Adjutant

December 7, 2015 I assumed the position of DAV Department Adjutant when State Department Commander Gene Weber asked me to fill the vacated position. With the help of the Department staff and the Commander, we have been moving forward supporting our veterans and handling the day-to-day issues. The Commander has changed the look of the Department by getting an Eagle Scout to take on our building as a project. The exterior was painted and the shrubs and weeds surrounding the building were cleaned up. We also hired a roofing company to reroof the entire building after a major leak in the meeting room. This is a lesson in taking care of our DAV assets per the National Constitution and Bylaws.

There is a new Transportation System (VTN/DAV Shuttle Services) in the works that will augment the existing DAV Van system. This new system supports wheelchair patients as well as ambulatory patients. When I say wheelchairs, it means just that: wheelchairs and motorized chairs, not scooters. There will be a coordinator stationed at the Albuquerque VA Hospital where patients can make arrangements for transportation. If there are no other means of transportation in the area and it would be cheaper to fly, they would cover that form of travel. It should be up and running in five to six months. This is just one of the things that are coming out of the VA.

There are new procedures for the IRS Form 990-N this year and it will be necessary to follow the instructions carefully to complete the forms. The information was sent to all Chapters so everyone could get started right away.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the State Convention June 8-11 this year. The 8th is Service Officer Training and the Finance Committee meeting will be held at the Elegante Hotel. We are working hard to make this another great Convention. After all is said and done I hope that I have met your expectations as your State Department Adjutant.

May God bless you and may God bless America.

Timothy J. Timmerman, Department Adjutant

(505) 261-7198

Auxiliary News

Spring is right around the corner and signals a very busy schedule for DAV Auxiliary Units. This is the wonderful time of year when we come together to nominate, elect, and install officers. It also is the time for us to reflect on what our Units have accomplished this year and complete our reports accordingly.

It is also full of important events, so here are some dates coming up that should be put on your calendars for District 17 stateconventions: Wyoming State Convention May 13-14, Colorado State Convention May 16-20, New Mexico State Convention June 9-11, and Utah State Convention June 16-18.

Additional information can be found at dav.org.

Other events scheduled: National Commander Linda Stake's Testimonial Dinner April 15-16 and the National VAVS Conference which will be held on May 3-6. Last year we had a lot of help from Chapters/Units for the conference expenses, so if you would like to help us again this year, please contact Sonja Brown at the VAVS office at the Albuquerque VA.

God bless America, our veterans and you, the members who make DAV/DAVA successful!

Departed Comrades

Curtis August, Chapter 5
 Max Lucero, Chapter 5
 Bobby Lee Trogdon, Chapter 5
 Jose A. Lopez, Chapter 6
 Warren Lee Nuckols, Chapter 6
 James F. Sercey, Chapter 6
 Alexander M. Espinoza, Chapter 9
 Sidney R. Meadows, Chapter 33

(This information is compiled from what is received by Department. If you have information on a departed comrade that was not included in this list, let us know and we will make sure they are listed in the following issue of the Newsletter.)

Memorial Service

The Memorial Service at the Convention will be held on Thursday, June 9th from 9-10am. Department is compiling the deceased list for the Memorial Service and we are asking all Chapter Chaplains to email or mail a comprehensive list of deceased members from June to present so all will be included. The sooner you can get this information to us, the better. Paul Bower will be singing at the service again this year and Len Faulconer will be back to perform Taps, so we look forward to another must-attend event.

Does your Chapter have any news you would like to share with the DAV community? Don't be shy! Submit your pics, news, information, etc. to Department and we will try and get it in the next issue

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DEPARTMENT OF NM
 75th Annual State Convention
 June 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, 2016
 MGM Elegant Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

PROGRAM

Wednesday - June 8, 2016

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	DAV Chapter Service Officer Training	Embassy 1
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Finance Committee	Mesa Room 201

Thursday - June 9, 2016

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Registration	Lobby
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Memorial Service	Embassy 2 & 3
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	DAV State Executive Meeting Followed by Constitution/Dy- Laws Committee	Embassy 2 & 3
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Nomination Committee Meeting	Mesa Rm. 201
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch (on your own) or Hospitality Room	Crest Ballroom 1 & 2
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Registration	Lobby
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Chapter Officers/SEC Training	Embassy 2 & 3
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	DIC Informational Seminar	
2:15 PM - 4:00 PM	Candidate Interviews	Mesa Rm. 201
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	National Reps Reception	Atrium Ballroom
	DAV- Past National Cmdr Don Samuels	
	DAVA- Past National Cmdr Judy Steinhouse	
8:15 PM - 10:00 PM	NOTR Meeting	Atrium Ballroom

Friday - June 10, 2016

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration	Lobby
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Past Dept. Cmdrs. & Adj. Breakfast	Atrium
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Joint Session	Embassy 2 & 3
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Forget-Me-Not Luncheon OR Lunch (on your own)	Atrium
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	2 nd Business Session	Hospitality Room
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Banquet	Embassy 2 & 3
		Embassy 2 & 3

Saturday - June 11, 2016

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	2 nd Business Session	Embassy 2 & 3
	DAV Dept. Officers Nomination/Election	
	SEC Meeting following Elections	

Veterans Appreciation Day at the Roundhouse

Dept. Cmdr. Gene Weber and Chap. 33's Tillery Dingler (Cmdr.) and Bill Anaya (Sr. Vice) join forces with a Kirtland AFB Lt. Col. at the Roundhouse for the Veteran-related President's Day festivities.

