



Disabled American Veterans Department of Colorado

YOUR VOICE FROM HEADQUARTERS

March 2016

Commander's Report Richard Hogue

As I near the conclusion of my term as Department Commander I want all of you to know what an honor it has been to serve. It has been my pleasure to represent the Department of Colorado at numerous activities, to meet many special individuals and to share DAV's mission with others. I also acknowledge that I could not have had a successful year without the support of my fellow Department Officers and our members who continue to serve and contribute to our mission. I thank you for your support.

The Department continues to pursue establishment of the Disabled Veterans of Colorado Foundation, a 501(c)(3) entity that will improve the ability of the Department and Chapters to solicit grants and donations to support our mission. We anticipate having the foundation in place late spring/early summer this year.


The 96th Annual Department of Colorado Convention is scheduled for May 18-20 at the DoubleTree Hotel (32nd & Quebec St), Denver. I encourage your attendance to participate in the business meetings and to socialize with your fellow members. If you have never attended our Department Convention, make this the year you attend and support the Department. Contact your Chapter to register as a delegate and to obtain further details regarding the convention schedule.

New department officers will be elected at the convention to include Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders and Judge Advocate. Any member who believes they have the qualifications and desire to serve as a department officer, may submit their nomination to Department Headquarters (*nomination forms were provided to each Chapter*). Serving as a department officer is not a full time commitment, but it does require time to attend meetings and other Department related activities. However, serving as a department officer is a gratifying and rewarding experience. I have received tremendous satisfaction as Department Commander knowing that I am contributing to improving the lives of my fellow veterans.

Commander's Report Cont'd.

And once again membership is the key to DAV's survival. As of March 20th 2016, the membership total for Colorado is 25,424. While 10 chapters have achieved their membership goal, the state remains short of our membership goal of 16,965 fully paid life members. If you are not a fully paid life member, I encourage you to become fully paid as soon as possible. If members need assistance in becoming a fully paid life member they may contact the national office at 1 877-426-2838, and press "4" to speak with a person in the Membership Dept. If you meet an individual who is eligible for DAV membership, sign him or her up.

Finally, many of our members who have been active in the DAV are no longer able to remain active because of limitations as they age or their disabilities worsen. We need others to "step-up" and become actively involved. Over the years, many DAV Chapters have relinquished their Charters because they can't remain an active organization. With approximately 22 million living American veterans we all need a strong and active DAV. That will only happen with the involvement of as many members as possible to keep the DAV active and involved in supporting the needs of disabled veterans and their families.

We all should be DAV ambassadors by promoting our mission to others. Remember,  reach out!

I again thank my fellow Colorado DAV members and the Auxiliary for your support and I look forward to presiding over our 96th Annual Department Convention in May. I hope to see many of you in attendance. And of course, "Thank you for your service."

Adjutant's Report Paul W. Jackson

Very soon we will convene for our 96th Annual State Convention. The members of our state will be gathering to share their goals, plans, and ideas. I would like to take this time to introduce our new State Chairman for the VA Voluntary Service Program, Mr. Bonnie Lindsey, who is a member of Clyde Seiler Chapter #21. We appreciate his help. As VAVS State Chairman he is responsible for coordinating our volunteers with the needs of the VA healthcare facilities, and monthly reporting of those volunteer hours to the National organization. I would also like to thank the women, and men, of the DAV and the Auxiliary who help us to fulfill our mission by volunteering their time.

Convention information and forms have been sent to all the Chapters. These include the deadline dates for all ads, boosters, nominations for Department Awards, Hospital Forms, as well as the Delegate Lists and fees. Please stay mindful of these deadline dates because Convention is a lot of work for the ladies, and having this information on time is the key to getting everything ready to run smoothly at Convention. Also, please be sure to make your hotel reservations before April 11th. We are unable to change this deadline date, so please, don't forget. Make sure to let them know you are with the DAV when you make your reservations.

Adjutant's Report Cont'd.

Clyde Seiler #21 has graciously stepped up to serve snacks in the Hospitality Room at our State Convention again this year. Your help is needed to defer some of the costs of the Hospitality Room. Please mail your donation check to Clyde Seiler #21, 8720 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver Colorado 80220. I would also like to ask the Past Department Commanders for help in manning the bar in the Hospitality Room.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in May.

***Auxiliary Commander's Report
Leslie Sandoval***

Greetings to all our DAV and DAVA friends.

I would first like to tell you all "Thank You" for keeping us in your prayers. We still have a long road ahead of us. When we found out in September that my husband Don had pancreatic cancer it was a hard pill to swallow, but with all our friends praying, we know God is on our side. Thank you all for your patience this year as we go through our journey.

Directly following the 81st Auxiliary State Convention last spring I was able to attend the Utah State Convention and the New Mexico State Convention, representing the Colorado Auxiliary. We had a wonderful time. When I returned home we had the Pueblo State Fair Parade in which we had a special car (a convertible) for our State Officers, with Dick and Marilyn Hogue in their beautiful truck. I am very happy that Kathy Hanner and Cheryl Edwards joined in as well, it was a great day. Following the parade we attended a BBQ sponsored by San Isabel Chapter, and Unit #2. Soon after that, I traveled to Monte Vista's Homelake to attend the 14th Annual Summerfest, where Garry Turks and I gave out lots of goodies to the veterans. It was uplifting to spend the day with so many great people. I was off again to deliver our donations to the nursing homes in Walsenburg, Florence, Rifle, and Grand Junction. I was affected deeply by meeting such great people and all the beautiful memories that Don and I made.

Very soon we will be having our 82nd Annual Auxiliary State Convention. I am truly honored to have been your Auxiliary State Commander. May we have a great Convention.

Thank you for all your support

Auxiliary Adjutant's Report
Susan Miller

It has been an honor to serve as the DAV Auxiliary State Adjutant again. I want to remind everyone the 82nd Annual Auxiliary State Convention will be here soon.

All SECs and DEC's are requested to participate in the Memorial Service on Friday morning of the convention. DEC's are requested to wear dark pants and shoes with white shirt and dark jacket and SEC's are requested to wear all white, including white gloves. Please try to have someone from your chapter, or unit, participate if you are not going to be there.

I want to thank all DAV and DAV Auxiliary members for their dedication to this organization. Thank you to all the veterans for your service and the fact that you continue to serve your fellow veterans.

I hope to see many of you at the convention.



Announcement

We have numerous wheelchairs, to give to anyone who might be in need, here at Department Headquarters. If you know of a disabled veteran who needs a wheelchair please contact the office at (303) 922 - 3631 or davcohq@gmail.com to set up a time and date to come by Headquarters for pick up.





Seeking Higher Department Office

Annette Johnson

Hello Comrades, my name is Annette Johnson. I am requesting your support in the form of a nomination to attain the office of Junior Vice Commander for Department of Colorado.

I served in the U.S. Air Force Transportation Division, Anchorage, Alaska. I was assigned as a Protocol Driver to serve on the details of Presidents' Reagan and G. H. W. Bush, as a driver for First Lady Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Heads of State, and other dignitaries. When not engaged in protocol duties, I enjoyed driving heavy equipment. Two of my favorites, driving up to 10-ton tow trucks and tractor trailers delivering food and support items for the troops.

In 1983, I began a lifelong passion for being in service to others by further pursuing my educational goals. Then, in 2000, I founded GIVES Incorporated, a nonprofit organization, where I have the pleasure of advocating and assisting veterans. I enjoy memberships in the American Psychological Association, Alpha Sigma Nu Alumni, American Metaphysical Doctors Association, NaVOBA, SDVOB, and other women veteran owned business memberships. I am an active member of the POW/MIA committee as well as other Veteran Organizations. I serve on the Board of Directors of the American Syringomyelia Alliance Project as the Lead Support Group Coordinator; I help raise awareness to this service connected disorder and later this year I hope to begin procuring research funding to serve better our veterans medically.

Being disabled created a valuable learning opportunity for me. I discovered I could not undergo many of the traditional treatment options. As part Native American I combined my Native American traditions with Western and Eastern traditions, beliefs, teachings, and philosophies. This form of edification created a well-rounded and diverse educational opportunity leading to my earning a BS and a dual Master's degree in Psychology and Communication, with a Leadership certification from Regis University. I also have a metaphysical background from undergoing Eastern studies earning an M.Ms, and Ph.D., becoming an Ordained Minister and a Board Certified Pastoral Counselor. Integrating alternative healing with traditional treatment options I discovered the importance of treating an individual holistically – through the mind, body, and spirit – not just the symptom(s).

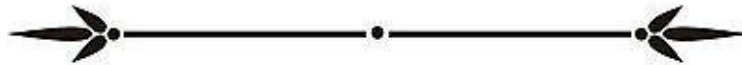
I have been in service for others over 30-years, held a DAV membership for 21-years, and for 16-years, I have been enjoying expanding the veteran services of my nonprofit and working with other nonprofits worldwide. Currently, I am honored to serve as the Acting Chaplain and a Service Officer for my Chapter.

Annette Johnson Cont'd.

As I continue to strengthen my resolve of being in service to my brothers and sisters, I ask you to join me in my endeavor through pledging your support and nominating me for the office of Junior Vice Commander.

I am looking forward to seeing you at Convention.

Annette Johnson, Ph.D.
S.L. Brown, Ch. 11
Acting Chaplain
Service Officer



It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



Please share all this information with your chapter members at your next chapter meeting.

Please make sure you have copies of this newsletter available for members.

Visit our Website at:
www.davmembersportal.org/co

The next issue of *Your Voice From Headquarters* will be mailed in late June 2016.

Please e-mail your article to:
davcohq@gmail.com
or fax to (303) 922-3820
to arrive no later than the 16th of June.

Thank you!



☞ DATES TO REMEMBER ☜

30th Winter Sports Clinic

April 3 - 8, 2016
Snowmass Village, Colorado
Recognition Dinner:
Saturday, April 2nd

53rd Annual Department of Wyoming Convention

May 13th & 14th 2016
Holiday Inn Sheridan Conv. Ctr.
1809 Sugarland Drive
Sheridan, Wyoming
Reservations: (307) 672-8931
Room Rate: \$89.00 plus tax

96th Annual Department of Colorado Convention

May 18 - 20, 2016
Doubletree Hotel Denver
Denver, Colorado
Reservations: (303) 321-3333
Room Rate: \$94.00 plus tax

75th Annual Department of New Mexico Convention

June 8 - 11, 2016
MGM Elegante Hotel & Event Ctr.
2020 Menaul NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Reservations: (505) 884-2511
Room Rate: \$81.00 plus tax

Department of Utah Convention

June 16 - June 18, 2016
Comfort Suites
Ogden, Utah
Telephone (801) 621-2545
Room Rate: \$75.00 plus tax

2016 National Convention

July 31 – August 3, 2016
Hyatt Regency Atlanta Peachtree Street
265 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta, GA 30303
Telephone: 1.888.421.1442 or
1.404.577.1234
\$125 Single/Double