



HAWAII DAV DEPARTMENT NEWS

November 8, 2010



“Building better lives for all of our nation’s disabled veterans and their families.”

Regulation 10: National Constitution Bylaws and Regulations

Priority: To help veterans, focus on resolution.

Convention

Mark your calendars and begin your plans for the **60TH DAV STATE CONVENTION, June 10, 11, 12, 2011 at the Pagoda Hotel in Honolulu.** If you have a preference and a desire for a particular aspect of the convention and want to volunteer, please make it known. The convention address and contact:

60TH DAV STATE CONVENTION 2011

Disabled American Veterans

P.O. Box 860945

Wahiawa HI 96786

808-621-8888 FAX 808-839-5376

Convention Chairman: Willie James Howard

phatcow99@AOL.Com

Editors note: Convention Co-chairman Henry Sonoda is filling in for Willie Howard while Willie is on vacation. Henry's contact is: 808-352-1866, folno100@yahoo.com or BidoKalihi@gmail.com

Chairman Howard is asking all Chapter Commanders and members to begin now to prepare for your respective Chapter Report of your chapter's activities throughout the year. Information regarding registration, Convention Booklet space sale rates, and instructions will be distributed as soon as possible. Meanwhile, begin now to compile your list of prospective customers, pay them a visit, and solicit for new members at the same time. Many of these are businesses with veteran employees.

DAVA

Commander Lorna Kakesako reports DAVA is participating and attending planning meetings for the 2011 Convention.

Department Participation

Department of Hawaii DAV was one of the many veterans organizations invited to participate in a WW I Veteran Memorial Stone Unveiling on November 6, 2010 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). After the unveiling the stone will be placed in the Pu'ukamali'i Cemetery in Alewa Heights in time for this coming Veterans Day November 11, 2010.

The stone honors four Hawaiian veterans who served during WW I. They are believed to be interred on these grounds. Deteriorated and displaced grave markers give evidence to these veterans, and perhaps others as well.

After more than a decade of research and investigation, through military and genealogical records, the assistance of Senator Akaka, and with a great deal of perseverance of the families and local veterans organizations, this stone will acknowledge these four Hawaiian veterans and their service to their country. The stone has provisions for names to be added in the future should records be discovered suggesting, more veterans are also interred on this site. This is particularly significant in that their service to their country took place 41 years before Hawaiian statehood.

Chapter 4's Robert Kent, Sr. represented the Department honoring the memorial with the presentation of a lei. Thank you, Bob.

The Department will participate in three ceremonies on Veterans Day, Punchbowl, Kaneohe, and the Sunset service on the USS Missouri.

Hospital Service and Transportation Coordinator

HSTC Nalu Perez continues to expand the transportation program and is in need of more drivers. The 2011 DAV TN Van Grant requests and information is available at the Department Headquarters.

Michael Walsh, National Director of Voluntary Services, stated a new vehicle is available this year, the Ford Flex, in addition to the regular Ford Explorer and Club vans. They must **receive** the request before December 3, 2010. Delivery will be in the late spring 2011.

Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP)

Three years ago, National initiated the "Local Veterans Assistance Program" with the intent to find new ways to recruit and engage new members and volunteers to many of the DAV programs.

Through LVAP, any volunteer activity that contributes to our mission of building better lives for disabled veterans and their families is recognized – therefore, volunteering is no longer limited to VA facilities alone.

Volunteers can perform a variety of chores that will assist fellow veterans. This service goes both ways. You may have a special skill to share with those who match that need. And there are those that have these skills, and have a need to utilize them in the form of assistance for a sense of pride and well being. Are you a former teacher, electrician, accountant, etc.?

There's a disabled veteran that needs your professional skills in their everyday lives.

DAV and Auxiliary volunteers can receive credit for donating time to further the DAV's mission. Participation in sanctioned fundraising activities, outreach efforts, service officer activities and other official DAV and Auxiliary duties are all deserving of recognition through LVAP.

Youth volunteers who don't live near VA facilities can take advantage of LVAP hours which are eligible toward application for the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship so long as they meet the minimum eligibility requirements for consideration.

Some Departments and Chapters are reporting great success with this program, while

others aren't taking advantage of what this valuable program has to offer in such a close to home atmosphere of volunteering. Chapters and interested individual members alike, please make good use of this program by referring to information online or contact your Commander or department. LVAP success stories do appear in the *DAV Magazine*. Who knows, the next story may be about you!

Benefit Changes

The most recent Public Law 111-275, the Veterans' Benefit Act of 2010, H.R. 3219, signed into law October 13, 2010, contains too many items to include in this newsletter, but contains very important information that affects many of us, or our families. The highlighted version of this law, the department received is attached. Please read and contact your representative for further details. Copies will be available at SEC.

SEC meeting in November

Mark your calendars, and submit your items for consideration on the agenda, November SEC meeting will be November 21st .

Veterans Day Transportation

Veteran transportation is available on Thursday morning, November 11th, Veterans Day, from Keehi Lagoon Memorial to Punchbowl for the service on a first come, first served basis. The van will depart Keehi Lagoon Memorial at 0800 for Punchbowl. Please call 429-6885 or 282-1017 or 833-3746 to reserve space. The van will also go to Kaneohe for Governor Lingle's service as well.

Please give us your feedback and/or offer of assistance, PLEASE, on this newsletter; 808 833-3746 / Fax 808-839-5376; or HIwebmaster@davfrat.org

Edward K Keoho, Sr.

Commander, Department of Hawaii DAV