**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**85th ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**73rd AUXILIARY ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**APRIL 25th - 26th, 2025**

The Joint Opening Session of the 85th Department Convention of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Disabled American Veterans 73rd Auxiliary Department of South Dakota convened at the AmericInn, in Aberdeen, on Friday, April 25th and was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Commander Kim Hubers.

(DAV and Auxiliary will each have three (3) chairs for officers of whoever they want at the Joint Session Head Table – The Commanders and Adjutants can decide – Ensure that the DAVA and DAV Department Flags are present).

**COMMANDER KIM HUBERS:** (RAP GAVEL*) I now call to order the 85th Department Convention of the Disabled American Veterans. Marty Pennock, Department Adjutant, will read the call to the convention.*

**ADJUTANT MARTY PENNOCK:** The Constitution and ByLaws of the Disabled American Veterans states that the Supreme Legislative powers of this organization shall be vested in an Annual Department Convention composed of the Department Officers and Representatives of the DAV Chapters.

In accordance with these directives, I, Marty Pennock, Department Adjutant, declare the 85th Department Convention of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Disabled American Veterans 73rd Auxiliary Department of South Dakota to be convened in Aberdeen, South Dakota, April 25th -26th, 2025.

Consideration and deposition of business brought before this Convention, shall be conducted in accordance with the National and Department Constitution & ByLaws now in force, and such rules as the Convention may adopt.

**COMMANDER HUBERS**: *Thank you, Marty. I would ask everyone in attendance to please turn off your cell phones and other portable devices or put them on vibrate.*

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** (RAP GAVEL THREE (3) TIMES) *Please rise to honor the Colors*

*We will now be led in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag by Auxiliary Americanism Chairperson Kathryn Karen Ellis. Hand Salute. Two.*

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** *I’d like to now call on Chaplain Gaylord Helmbrecht for the invocation.*

**CHAPLAIN GAYLORD HELMBRECHT:** Prayer.

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** (RAP GAVEL ONCE) *You may be seated.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen, this Department Convention is going to be the most productive and enjoyable one*.

*This couldn’t have happened without the valuable help of this year’s Convention Chairpersons, Chapter 13 Commander Amy Lucas and Adjutant J Arlt, and Auxiliary Unit No. 13. Thank you.*

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** *Please join me in welcoming Amy Lucas.*

**REMARKS FROM CONVENTION CHAIRPERSONS**: Amy Lucas, and J Arlt

**SR. VICE COMMANDER TIM WALSH:** Sr. Vice Commander Tim Walsh introduces Department Commander Kim Hubers for her Commander’s Report.

**COMMANDER KIM HUBERS:** Department Commander’s Report.

**SR. VICE COMMANDER WALSH:** The Chair will entertain a motion to accept the Department Commander’s Report.

On a motion by Tim Walsh, Chapter No.1, and seconded by Amy Lucas, Chapter No. 13, to approve the Department Commander’s Report. Motion carried.

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** Introduce Officers:

Please hold your applause until all are introduced.

*Sr. Vice Commander: Tim Walsh of Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of the Sioux Falls Area*

*1st Jr. Vice Commander: Amy Lucas of Aberdeen Chapter No. 13 of Aberdeen*

*2nd Jr. Vice Commander: Matt Kistler of Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of the Sioux Falls Area*

*Treasurer: Gene Murphy of Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1of the Sioux Falls area*

*Judge Advocate/Inspector: Robert Hill of Don Bren Chapter No. 22*

*Past Department Commander: Christine Speirs of Rapid City Chapter No. 3 of Rapid City*

*Chaplain: Gaylord Helmbrecht of Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of the Sioux Falls Area*

*Adjutant: Marty Pennock of Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 of the Sioux Falls Area*

*Let’s give them all a big hand.*

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** Introduce Auxiliary State Commander Karen Bolton for report and remarks.

**AUXILIARY STATE COMMANDER KAREN BOLTON:** State Commander’s Report and Remarks.

**AUXILIARY STATE COMMANDER KAREN BOLTON:** Introduction of Auxiliary State Line Officers:

Please hold your applause until all are introduced.

Sr. Vice Commander: Verna Messerschmidt of Watertown Unit No. 6

1st Jr. Vice Commander: Marlene Barrow of Watertown Unit No. 6

Chaplain: Loretta Helmbrecht of Don Bren Unit No. 22

Treasurer: Jacqueline Worth of Northern Hills Unit No. 11

Judge Advocate/Inspector: Nancy Worth of Northern Hills Unit No. 11

Adjutant: Wanda Mix of Don Bren Unit No. 22

Americanism Chairman: Kathryn Karen Ellis Unit 6

Let’s give them all a big hand.

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** Introduce distinguished guests and give time for their remarks

Recognize Past DAV National Commanders:

Gene Murphy (Sioux Falls, SD)

Recognize Auxiliary Past State Commanders: Christine Speirs (Rapid City); Dan Francis (Sioux Falls); Dick Turnwall (Piedmont); Gaylord Helmbrecht (Sioux Falls); Bob Hill (Brookings); H.G. Krosschell (Rapid City); and Gene Murphy (Sioux Falls)

John Donovan, DAV 1st Jr. Vice Commander

**COMMANDER BOLTON**: Introduction of distinguished guests.

Recognize Auxiliary Past State Commanders: Nancy Worth (Piedmont); Verna Messerschmidt (Watertown); Wanda Mix (Brookings), Vinceen Hanson (Watertown)

Kathleen Wenthe DAV National Auxiliary 1st Jr. Vice Commander

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** Introduce distinguished guests and give time for their remarks

Travis Schaunaman, Mayor of Aberdeen

Glynis Collier, Commander SD Veterans of Foreign Wars

Kevin Morello, Commander Veterans of Foreign Wars

Chase Natalie, Adjutant DAV Department of Montana

Warren Tobin, Past 14th District NEC Committeeman

**COMMANDER HUBERS**:

Convention Sponsor Program – Give Thanks to Supporters For Assisting the Hosting of DAV 85th Department of South Dakota Annual Convention

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**: Adjutant Pennock : *Please look over your DAV and Auxiliary Convention Agenda*

2:30pm Veterans Town Hall Meeting – DAV Aberdeen Chapter Commander Amy Lucas

4:30pm Gail Harkey – South Dakota State Coordinator Quilts of Valor Foundation

4:45pm DAV and DAVA Working Together - DAVA 1st Jr. Vice Commander Kathleen Wenthe

6pm Evening Meal

7pm DAV Auxiliary Auction

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** *Ladies and Gentlemen, will you please rise and Department Chaplain Helmbrecht will lead us in closing prayer.*

**CHAPLAIN HELMBRECHT:** Prayer.

**COMMANDER HUBERS:** *Thank you, the Convention is recessed(at 2:21 p.m.) until 2:30 p.m. for the Veterans Town Hall Meeting – YOU’RE ALL INVITED!*

**LOGISTICS TO CONSIDER**

Gavel

Table Cloth

Speaker System

Projector

Sound System

Laser Pointer

Podium

Name Tents

DEC and Department Officer Folders

Delegate Folders

Challenge Coins

Buisness Cards

PHamphlets

Posters

Poster Holders

Folding Tables x3

Small Folding Tables x2

Raffle Tickets

Computer / Extension Cord / HDMI Cord / RCA Cords/ Mouse / Key Pad / Computer Power COrd

**DAVA**

Make sure the Amerianism Officer is going to attend