



**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES**  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Disabled American Veterans, Department of Ohio  
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February, 2014

**FROM THE DESK OF DENNY HANNEMAN**

Happy New Year wishes are sent from Darlene and I and the Ohio Department of Disabled American Veterans staff. Please, always keep in your prayers, works and deeds our fellow Disabled American Veterans and their families. A visit, a phone call, or a note to them at this time of year is always a welcome sight. The hospitalized Disabled American Veterans sometimes feel forgotten after the holiday season. This year has really started out being a very cold, snowy and blustery winter so far. You can bring a ray of sunshine to a Disabled American Veteran and their family by just taking a few minutes to reach out to them and say "Hello." The snow covered and icy roads have caused Darlene and me to not attend several functions. We are sorry about cancelling but safety first. Please keep that in mind when you are out on the highways or cleaning off sidewalks and driveways around your home.

I have attended 15 Veterans funerals in the past three months. This is a sad but necessary obligation to honor our fallen comrades and their families. Thank you to all the color guards that have given their time and service to our deceased Veterans during this cruel winter.

Department of Ohio is doing well on membership. Thank you and keep up the good work. We need new members to fill in and take on the leadership role in some of the struggling Chapters. Please keep asking friends, family, neighbors and others if they would like to belong to a GREAT service group – The Disabled American Veterans and/or the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Have you contacted your Congressman or Senator lately? In the January Bulletin there was information on how to contact your local Congressman and the best way to present your ideas and thoughts on how they should support the Veterans and their families. So put your best foot forward, and make contact with your local Representatives before the D.A.V. goes to Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. February 22-25. Our D.A.V. National Commander Joe Johnston will speak February 25, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. in front of the Joint Session of Veteran Affairs Committee.

These are a few Legislative priorities you may want to address. The DAV wants to protect Veterans from harmful cuts imposed through sequestration. We want to oppose further increases in TRICARE fees, including prescription drug fees. We want properly funded VA care to ensure quality health care and benefits for Veterans. We want to have Congress provide quality education through Post 9/11 GI Bill. We want continued support for programs on assisting Veterans with jobs. We also need support for Veteran-entrepreneurs. A BIG must is to end Veteran homelessness. Another BIG must is to eliminate the VA claims backlog. Congress must repeal taxes that penalize Disabled Veterans and their widows on their benefits and their annuities. With your voice and your support, we can represent the voices of ill and injured Veterans across Ohio and our country and bring these concerns before Congress.

Dennis Hanneman  
Department Commander of Ohio, DAV

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Nat'l. Hdqrs., DAV	(877) 426-2838
NSO Office, Cleveland	(216) 522-3507

NSO Office, Cincinnati	(513) 684-2676
Washington Office, DAV	(202) 554-3501
Cincinnati HSC, Tom Kirstein	(513) 475-6443
Dayton HSC, Leland Sink	(937) 268-6511 Ext. 2962
Dayton HSC,	(937) 268-6511
Patricia Alteslane	Ext. 2962
Wade Park HSC,	(216) 791-3800
Walter Dryja	Ext. 3395
Chillicothe HSC	(740) 773-1141
Larry Queen	Ext. 7916
Columbus Clinic,	(614) 257-5487
Henry Snodgrass	
Parma Clinic,	(216) 739-7000
Richard Healy	Ext. 2405

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

February 23-26, 2014	C&A Midwinter Conference, Crystal Gateway Marriott, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.
February 28, 2014	Cincinnati Trench Rats 1 p.m., Golden Corral, 4394 Glen Este Withamsville Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.
March 1, 2014	DAV-USA Warriors Sled Ice Hockey Clinic, 9:45 a.m., OhioHealth Ice Haus (at Nationwide Arena), 200 W. Nationwide Blvd., Columbus, Ohio.
March 29, 2014	DAV and DAVA Commander's Dennis Hanneman and Mary Lou Miller Testimonial Dinner, The Findlay Inn, Findlay, Ohio.
April 5, 2014	5 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting, at 1 p.m., Norwalk, Ohio.
April 5, 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> District Meeting, Meeting to begin at noon, picnic to follow, Chapter #15, Veterans Park, 20 New London Road, Hamilton, Ohio.
April 5, 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Meeting, Dayton VA Hospital Building 305, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Dayton, Ohio.
April 5, 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting, 12 noon lunch, meeting at 1 p.m., Barnesville Chapter #121, Barnesville, Ohio.
April 6, 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting, Summit County Chapter #35, Akron, Ohio.
April 12, 2014	National Commander Joseph Johnston's Testimonial Dinner, Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio.
June 26-29, 2014	Department of Ohio Convention, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
October 10-12, 2014	Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
June 18-21, 2015	Department of Ohio Convention, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
October 16-18, 2015	Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.

June 23-26, 2016

Department of Ohio Convention,  
Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.  
Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza,  
Dublin, Ohio.

October 14-16, 2016

### **NOTES FROM THE STATE ADJUTANT WILL DAVIS**

The DAV's policy is to seek only reasonable, responsible legislation to assist disabled veterans and their families. Concentrating on issues such as disability compensation, pension, medical care, job and training programs, burial benefits, education and survivors' benefits, the DAV's legislative goals are set by the organization's members in a process that begins in local DAV chapters. With the Mid-Winter Conference this month, and many of our officers going to Washington D. C., it is our goal to present these issues and concerns before our Representatives and Congress. For those of you that are not able to attend, write a letter, make a phone call or e-mail your representative to keep them informed of the challenges our veterans have upon returning home.

- Eliminating Offsets for Veterans and Survivors
- Women Veterans
- Suicide Prevention
- VA Mental Health Care
- Licensure and Certification of Active Duty Military Personnel
- VA Construction
- Strengthening VA's Advance Appropriations
- Future Healthcare and Financial Security Primary Caregiver
- Veterans' Death Benefits
- VA Tricare
- Social Security Benefits

### **Pending Legislation**

- HR2189 Disability Claims Improvement
- S234 Retired Pay Restoration Act
- HR1405 VA Appeals Form
- HR543:Blue Water Navy Vietnam
- HR569 Veterans' Compensation
- HR3361 Freedom Act

### **IRS information for Veterans with Disabilities**

If you are a military retiree and receive your disability benefits from the VA see [IRS Publication 525](#) for more information. VA payments to hospital

patients and resident veterans for their services under the VA's therapeutic or rehabilitative programs are no longer included in income. For more information see IRS Revenue Ruling 2007-198. Do not include disability benefits you receive from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in your gross income. In particular some of the payments which are considered disability benefits include:

- Disability compensation and pension payments for disabilities paid either to veterans or their families
- Grants for homes designed for wheelchair living
- Grants for motor vehicles for veterans who lost their sight or the use of their limbs
- Benefits under a dependent care assistance program

### **Fisher House**

Fisher House is "a home away from home" for families of patients receiving medical care at major military sites and VA medical centers. There are 62 Fisher Houses located throughout the United States. Fisher House Foundation is a not-for-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS code. Families do not pay to stay at these facilities. Fisher House has full-time salaried managers but depend on volunteers to enhance daily operations. Ohio currently has two locations, Cincinnati VA Medical Center and Wright-Patterson Medical Center 1 and 11. There is a recognized need for a Fisher House in northeast Ohio at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Hospital, the third largest VA hospital in the United States. The cost to build the house is \$7 million. The goal of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House is to raise half of the money through community fundraising and donations. The Fisher House Foundation will then provide the remaining \$3.5 million. For more information and details <http://greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org>

### **Membership**

This is a never ending job to keep our numbers growing. Do not let one veteran go unnoticed. Reach out into the community, church and neighborhood and share what the DAV can do for them. Remind them there is never a charge for the assistance these veterans' benefits experts

provide. Look within your chapter and see what they are achieving. Praise goes a long way and will lead to a more successful organization.

### **National Salute to Veteran Patients**

The week of February 14 is a time to pay tribute and express appreciation to veterans. This is a great time to make the community aware of the DAV. Your local VA medical centers usually have a variety of activities scheduled. For more information contact your local VA center.

### **U.S. Tech Vets**

DAV is partnering with U.S. technology trade associations on U.S. Tech Vets. This is an online community that connects veterans to employment opportunities in the industry. The initiative seeks to help veterans transition to civilian careers and provide access to jobs within the technology sector. U.S. Tech Vets was unveiled January 8 during the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. Member companies of these associations will be posting jobs and searching resumes to find potential veteran employees. This site will create the largest collection of veteran job candidates and technology industry jobs available anywhere. DAV is excited to be a supporter of U.S. Tech Vets. Visit [www.ustechvets.org](http://www.ustechvets.org) for more information.

### **Testimonials**

Commanders Hanneman-Miller DAV/DAVA Testimonial Dinner is Saturday, March 29, 2014. A cash bar will be available at 5:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Findlay Inn & Conference Center. For more information regarding room reservations, please call directly at 419-422-5682 or 800-825-1455. Please call the department for more information concerning the dinner, 614-221-3582.

National Commander Joseph Johnston's Testimonial Dinner is Saturday, April 12, 2014, held at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. More information will be forth-coming.

Remember Sr. Vice Commander DAVA Jeanette Scott in your thoughts and prayers as she has had some health issues.

God Bless America, God Bless our Troops and May God Bless the DAV!

## **REDUCE YOUR RISK OF IDENTIFY THEFT**

Ken Marcum, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jr. Vice Commander

- Carry only the number of credit cards that you need for a specific outing. Keep your Social Security card in a safe place at home...DON'T CARRY IT AROUND!!!
- Don't give out your personal information unless you initiate the contact.
- If you are doing business online, make sure the site is secure and your anti-virus, firewall, and other personal computer security applications are up-to-date.
- Shred all documents that contain personal information before you dispose of them.
- Keep copies of credit cards (front and back) in a safe place so you will be able to call and cancel them if they are stolen.
- Check your credit card history at least once a year using [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or by calling 877-322-8228. If you notice suspicious activity, contact the appropriate credit bureau immediately.
- Review your medical, bank and credit card statements thoroughly upon receipt, and notify the provider/institution of any discrepancies.
- Contact local law enforcement and file a police report.
- If you notice any accounts in your name that have been compromised or opened without your consent, close them immediately. Call each bank or company and then follow up in writing.
- Immediately place a fraud alert on your credit report(s) by contacting the three major credit reporting companies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by calling 877-ID-THEFT.

## **GOLDEN CORRAL**

In November, 2013 the Disabled American Veterans partners with the Golden Corral Restaurants. The Chapters in Ohio collected over \$40,000 during the event. The monies will be used to help purchase DAV vans to help transport veterans to the VA Hospitals.

The Department of Ohio salutes the efforts of the Chapters and the Golden Corrals in Ohio.

## **8 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO GET READY FOR THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE THAS HAS BEEN EXTENDED**

Kenneth Marcum, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jr. Vice Commander

1. **Explore current options.** You may be able to get coverage now through existing programs. Visit **HealthCare.gov** to learn more about health insurance for adults up to age 26 and programs for people and children in families with limited incomes including Medicaid and CHIP.
2. **Learn about different types of health coverage.** Through the Marketplace, you'll be able to choose a health plan that gives you the right balance of cost and coverage. You can be better prepared if you understand the types of coverage you have to choose from.
3. **Make a list of questions you have before it's time to choose your health plan.** For example, "Can I stay with my current doctor?" or "Will this plan cover my health cost when I'm traveling?"
4. **Make sure you understand how insurance works, including things like premiums, deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, copayments, and coinsurance.** You'll want to consider these details while you're exploring your options. Visit **HealthCare.gov** to learn more about how insurance works.
5. **Gather basic information about your household income.** Most people using the Marketplace will qualify to save money. To find out how much you're eligible for you'll need income information like the kind on your W-2, pay stubs, or tax return.
6. **Set your budget.** There will be different types of health plans to meet a variety of needs and budgets. You'll need to figure out how much and want to spend on premiums each month.
7. **Ask your employer if it plans to offer health insurance in 2014.** If not, you may need to get insurance through Marketplace or from other sources in 2014.
8. **Find out if your state is running its own Marketplace.** Some states run their own Marketplace. In other cases the Marketplace is run by the federal government. Either way, you get the same access to all of the Marketplaces coverage options.