



# HAWAII DAV DEPARTMENT NEWS

August-September 2011



“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.

## National Convention

Four members from Hawaii represented the Department and its chapters at the National Convention August 6 - 9, 2011 in New Orleans. Commander Joe Penn and Fred Dauer represented Chapter 1. Archie Brito and Martin Anderson represented Chapter 2. Fred Dauer was also privileged to attend the National Blind Chapter DAV Officer Installation. The installation was officiated by Hawaii Chapter 5’s Past National Commander, Ray Dempsey. All delegates were selected to sit on various National Committees as delegates or alternates. This provides opportunity to participate at the National level

## September 2<sup>nd</sup> Ceremony on USS Missouri

Ceremonies commemorating the end of WW II on the very vessel the documents were signed by all Nations some 66 years ago always offers a poignant time of reflection and acknowledgement of the war, and most of all the WW II veterans themselves. They can never be repaid, but must always be acknowledged as their

ranks continue to shrink. Keynote speaker Dr. E. Bruce Heilman, a Marine, and current Chancellor, University of Richmond. was deployed to, and arrived in Okinawa during the suicide bombing raids on the fleet. He continues to represent The Greatest Generation as spokesman for The Greatest Generation Foundation, a 501(c3) tax exempt organization that sponsored the return of twenty WW II veterans to Pearl Harbor, including 3

Women Airforce Service Pilots, WASP. The WASP flew over 60 million miles delivering every type of military aircraft, thus making their male counterparts available for combat service. Thank you, one and all.

## National Service Officer

Hawaii has now added a 3<sup>rd</sup> NSO in training to assist NSOs Soto and

Beemon. Their work load continues to expand as veteran needs increase. Ryan Burgos has joined our ranks as a trainee. Ryan is a member of Chapter 1. He is an active member “Operations Enduring Freedom” and “Operations Iraqi Freedom” He comes from a long line of DAV members and is looking



Chapter 4, well represented at September 2 ceremonies on board USS Missouri: L to R Benny Quiseng, Ernie Sakamoto, Al Remigio, Michael Yokote

forward to serving our community of veterans here in Hawaii. Welcome aboard, Ryan.

### **Publicity Officer and Rehab**

Chairman Kent continues to canvas areas of Oahu, and provides information to further the DAV mission and recruits members and volunteers. He sets up tables providing information and “conversation” for his fellow veterans and potential volunteers.

### **Hospital Service & Transportation Coordinator**

All three vans have been delivered. Two are in service. The third will be delivered to the Big Island via Young Brothers. Thank you, Young Brothers for supporting our efforts to assist our veterans.

Th presentation of the keys to VA for the DAV vans was September 22 at Tripler Army Medical Center. The Van Transportation Network provides transportation to assist



DAV Department Commander Joseph Penn presents VA Director, Dr. Hastings with keys for DAV donated vans at Tripler Army Medical Center.



HSC Perez and past HSC Kent begin their coordinated efforts with Director Hastings to provide the transportation needs of the veterans of Hawaii.

veterans in meeting their healthcare needs. This is a nation wide coordinated effort. Ford Motor Company has donated 240 plus vehicles over the life of the program.

Hawaii’s monthly transportation statistics for August are: 531 hours of volunteer service, driving 4823 miles, and transported 184 veterans to their respective appointments. (ed note) HSC Perez represents 122 of those hours and 1987 miles, and 70 veterans transported. Thanks, Nalu.

Chapter 7 has recruited 15 potential volunteer drivers and waiting on VA to qualify them to begin their service.

HSC Nalu Perez continues to search for volunteer drivers. If you are able to help, please call Nalu at 808-433-7749

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

The DAV Headquarters is staffed 1000-1400 Mondays & Wednesdays, and by appointment.