



**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

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TO: DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, DEC, CHAPTERS, AND AUXILIARY UNITS
FROM: CHRISTINE SPEIRS, COMMANDER AND MARTY PENNOCK, ADJUTANT
SUBJECT: MARCH 2024 DAV MONTHLY REPORT
DATE: MARCH 1st, 2024

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS MONTHLY REPORT IS TO BE PRESENTED AT YOUR MONTHLY MEETING EITHER BY THE DEC REPRESENTATIVE OR ADJUTANT. YOU SHOULD TRY TO HIGHLIGHT EACH OF THESE ARTICLES FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP MEETING. YOU MAY USE ANY OF THESE ARTICLES FOR YOUR CHAPTER NEWSLETTER.

1. MEMBERSHIP:

- Attached Membership Discount Flyer – January 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2024
- Attached DAV March Membership Madness Flyer – Douglas K. Wells National Membership Director – February 21st, 2024
- Attached Population Summary 2/27/24 – Department is short 13 of goal
- Officer Election Report Filing Memorandum - – Douglas K. Wells National Membership Director – February 13th, 2024

2. SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS COUNCIL: *The next SDVC meeting will take place April 17th, 2024,* at the VFW Post 1273 in Rapid City. The meeting will run from 9am to 12pm (MST).

3. DAV HOSPITAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK: The 2023-2024 DAV Transportation Network and Columbia Trust Grant Application was submitted for an Explorer 4WD, in Sisseton. We have not received a response to date.

4. DAV AND AUXILIARY 2024 ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF SD CONVENTION:

Chapter 11 and Unit 11 are hosting the *2024 DAV Department and Auxiliary State Convention, April 26th -27th, 2024.*

A block of rooms has been secured at the Lodge at Deadwood, 100 Pine Crest Lane, Deadwood, SD 57732 – 877-393-5634. **A cutoff date has been set for March 31st, 2024. Registration Form is attached.**

Raffle sales started December 1st, 2023. Chapters have all received their initial order of raffle tickets.

Department of South Dakota Annual Convention action items from the Chapters; Auxiliary Units; and Members:

- Jan 1st - Level I and Level II training for nominees identified. West River CSO/DSO Training will be provided at the Lodge on April 24th and 25th, 2024. Additional CSO/DSO training will be conducted East River on May 23rd and May 24th. Chapter 1,3, 11, 13 received at DAV HQ

- Jan 5th - Award recommendations
 - Department – 20 awards were processed - Attached
 - National – 2 awards were processed
- Feb 11th - Listing of deceased members for Convention Memorial Service – All Received except Chapter 19
- 24th February
 - Department Officer proposals and Chapter endorsements
 - Commander - Christine Speirs (CH 3) /Mark Wolf (CH 13)/ Tim Walsh (CH 1)
 - Sr. Vice Commander - Tim Walsh (CH 1) / Kim Hubers (CH1)
 - 1st Jr. Vice Commander - Kim Hubers (CH 1)
 - 2nd Jr. Vice Commander - Matt Kistler (CH 1)
 - Judge Advocate / Inspector - Bob Hill (CH 22)
 - Chaplain (appointed) Gaylord Helmbrecht (CH 1)
 - Adjutant (appointed) Marty Pennock (CH 1)
 - DEC Primary CH 1 Dave Van Dine
 - DEC Alt CH 1 Marty Pennock

Constitution and Bylaws change proposals – No changes received by any Chapters
 Resolution proposals – 58 Resolutions received by CH1 and 1 received by CH 19
 Fund raising project proposals – 6 received by CH 1 and 22 received by CH 11

27 February Invitations Sent – Guest List Attached

- *15 March* Advertisements for booklet be turned in
- *27 March* DEC Pierre
- *31 March*: Chapter convention delegates listing
- *15th April*: Committee Chairpersons and Department Officers Reports for Convention Delegate Packages. To be emailed or mailed to DAV Headquarters

5. 2024 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE: *MARCH 7TH – MARCH 10TH, 2024.* All travel to this event, minus the Department Commander, will be the responsibility of individual Chapters or National DAV.

- Crystal Gateway Marriott
 1700 Richmond Highway (formerly Jefferson Davis Hwy)
 Arlington, VA 22202
 Telephone: 1.800.266.9432 or 1.703.920.3230
 Group Name: Disabled American Veterans
 \$249 Single/Double
- Agenda available online at DAV.org - Attached

To date, the following have notified DAV Department of SD that they are attending the conference.

Commander Christine Speirs, Adjutant Marty Pennock, Sr. Vice Commander Mark Wolf, 1st Jr. Vice Commander Tim Walsh, 2nd Jr. Vice Commander Kim Hubers, Past Department Commander Dan Francis, Judge Advocate/Inspector Bob Hill, and Arthur H. Muchow Chapter No. 1 Sr. Vice Commander Jack Hanson.

2023 Legislative Victories and 2024 Critical Policy Goals Attached

6. 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION: *AUGUST 3- August 6, 2024*

All travel to this event will be the responsibility of individual Chapters.

Letter of request of support from James Proconier - 4th National Jr. Vice Commander



Phoenix Convention Center
100 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

[Hyatt Regency Phoenix](#)

122 N Second Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
\$154 Single/Double
Phone: (602) 252-1234
Group Name: Disabled American Veterans
Group Code: G-DAV1

[Sheraton Grand Phoenix](#)

340 North 3rd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
\$149 Single/Double
Phone: (866) 837-4213
Group Name: Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
Group Code: Di5123; Group Mini Code DV0

Wheelchair Accessible Rooms: The ADA rooms at the Hyatt are full. To reserve an ADA room at the Sheraton Grand Phoenix, use this link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50722512>

Additional Hotel:

We have a small room block at a Hampton Inn that is three walking blocks from the convention center, in case you prefer this brand at a lesser rate. Transportation will not be provided between this hotel and the event and the climate in Phoenix in August is excessive.

[Hampton Inn & Suites Phoenix Downtown](#)

77 East Polk Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
\$119 Single/ Double for king bedrooms and Triple/ Quad Occupancy for two queen bed rooms
Phone: (602) 710-1240
Group Name: Disabled American Veterans
Group Code: DAV

7.OTHER INFORMATION:

- DAV Auxiliary Newsletter
- DAV National Adjutant Barry Jesinoski Memorandum January 30th, 2024
- Here is Better – Special Documentary Screening for DAV Members – March 15th, 2024
- Salute to Our Heroes – March 21st, 2024
- National Vietnam War Veterans Day – March 29th, 2024
- Melissa Stockwell – The Power of Choice – April 5th, 2024
- February 28, 2024, SDDVA Legislative Update
- DAV, PVA, and VFW release Independent Budget recommendations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and call on Congress to fully support our Nation’s Veterans
- Rounds, King Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Fast-Track Combat Veterans’ Access to Health Care Benefits
- H.R. 5890, the Review Every Veterans Claim Act February 23, 2024
- H.R. 2413, the Dental Care Act for Veterans Act, February 21, 2024
- S. 3452, the Fred Hamilton Veterans’ Lost Records Act. January 30, 2024
- S., 3526, the Lactation Spaces for Veterans Moms Act
- S. 3341, the Advancing VA’s Emerging Response top (AVERT) Crises Act of 2023
- HR. 1815 / S. 495, the Expanding Veterans’ Option for Long Term Care Act, January 9th, 2024
- H.R. 6331 / S. 2465, the DOULA for Veterans Affairs Act of 2023. January 4, 2024
- Scam Alert: Veterans’ Disability Benefits Targeted Through Fraud Schemes
- Largest-Ever Expansion of Veteran Health Care – March 5, 2024
- Veteran Advance Care Planning Clinic – 2nd Wednesday of the Month
- NAIV Charter Ceremony
- SDDVA Now Accepting Nominations for Fallen Hero Bridge Dedications
- 2024 National Veterans Day Poster Contest Open for Submission
- Just Because it’s Time to Dance – April 19th, 2024
- State of South Dakota Governor’s Budget FY 2025 – Department of Veterans’ Affairs
- South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Report 2023
- The Independent Budget FY 2025 and 2026 Dept of VA

8. DAV DEPARTMENT BULLETIN DEADLINE: *April 2024 BULLETIN: Submittal deadline: March 10th.* Email all reports, photos, stories to: adj@davsd.org.

ALL Department Officers, ALL Chapters Commander , the Auxiliary State Commander and Auxiliary Units who wish to place an article in DAV Department of South Dakota Quarterly Bulletin will submit them by the deadline date – stated below. The DAV Department Officers WILL BE RESPONSIBLE for submitting their own articles.

9. DAV DEPARTMENT OF SD QUARTERLY BULLETIN & MONTHLY REPORT:

If any of the DAV and Auxiliary members would like to receive the DAV Department Quarterly Bulletin and Monthly Report, please send your e-mail address to DAV Headquarters:

NAME: _____
 PHONE: _____
 E-MAIL: _____

You can either mail or e-mail the information to:
 DAV Headquarters, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57105
 E-mail: admin@davsd.org