Committee Reports



Fall Conference 2024

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Disabled American Veterans(DAV)

Department of Virginia

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Department Website: [www.virginiadav.org](http://www.virginiadav.org)

October 10, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Department Fall Conference

FROM: Rita Aberegg, Audit Chairman

Subject: Report of the Audit Committee

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th, 2024.

The Audit Committee has not met since the Fall Conference of 2022. Stephen Perkins has reviewed all vouchers since then and the Audit Committee will not meet to review those that have been submitted while we are at the Annual Convention.

The Audit Committee members consist of Rita Aberegg (7), Stephen Perkins (23), Cecil Edwards (60), Ervin Basdon (15), and Sharon Dorsey Monroe (2).

The Audit Committee will meet 15 November 2024 in Roanoke to perform the Annual Department Audit. The Line Officers have been assigned the job of reviewing all Chapter Annual Financial Reports (AFR) under their purview. Any discrepancies will be shared with the Department Adjutant and Treasurer, and chapters will be notified. Those chapters failing to provide an AFR will be asked to provide one as soon as possible.

I have assisted one chapter with their AFR since it must be filed online. If any chapter has problems, please let me know and I’ll do my best to help you file.

I look forward to meeting with as many comrades as I can, and if you have any questions about your Chapter financial issues, you can reach me at [ms\_dav@cox.net](mailto:ms_dav@cox.net), or 540-538-9956.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Aberegg

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October 10, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Department Fall Conference

FROM: Wendell Patrick, Awards Committee Chair

Subject: Report on the Awards Committee

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th, 2024.

The Awards Committee for the 2024 Department Fall Conference consisted of the following members: Edward Ortiz (Chapter 15), Mark Durland (Chapter 30), Michelle Bickley (Chapter 33), Charles Morris (Chapter 34), and Wendell Patrick (Chapter 20) Chair. The committee established communication through emails, phone calls, and Zoom meetings. We met on Zoom twice in August and three times in September with September 26th being the day for awards voting. The committee stayed on task to meet deadlines and submit information to the Department Adjutant/Executive Officer.

Upon completion of the committee’s selections, the following nominations will be presented at the Department Fall Conference:

NSO Recruiter of the Year (2 nominees)

Member Recruiter of the Year

Highest Chapter numerical increase of New Members beyond Goal

Highest Chapter Percentage of New Members Under Goal

Under 500 Members Overall Membership Goal

Under 500 Members Overall Percentage increase under goal

Outstanding Chapter of the Year

Outstanding Community Service by a Member

Outstanding Volunteer Service Award

Outstanding Chapter Service Officer Award

The committee looks forward to presenting a seminar in the Spring concerning Award submissions. Committee members will be available to answer questions.

Respectfully,

Wendell Patrick, Awards Committee Chair

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September 29, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FOR: 2024 Fall Conference

FROM: David Cuff, Chair, Finance Committee

Subject: Report of the Finance Committee

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th, 204

The Finance Committee will meet virtually with Mr. Steve Mazer, Financial Advisor and Ms. Carrie Olsen Wealth Management Associate for the review the Department Investments during the Fall Conference.

Considering the instability of the economy and market the department investments have been negatively impacted. Department funds will continue to be invested in diversified funds with low to medium risk per the budget guidelines. It is important to be patient and not overreact. Looking at the stock market historically there will be an adjustment down the road.

Department Adjutant/Treasurer Cox advised me that the Annual Audit will be conducted at the department headquarters on November 15th. The CPA requested an extension due to the backlog of work at his office. The Annual Financial Report will be completed and sent to National Headquarters mid-November and IRS 990 will be completed and mailed prior to the cutoff date.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cuff

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October 10, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Fall Department Convention

FROM: Shamala B. Capizzi, BPTL committee chair

Subject: Report of the Department BPTL committee

This report is for the period from June 10, 2024, through October 10, 2024.

Greetings,

Committee report will discuss the BPTL committee chair overview of activities and/or events.

On August 2, 2024 - completed DAV BPT/Legislative seminar which was hosted by DAV National Legislative department.

On August 27, 2024 - received DAV resolutions final disposition from National Legislative department.

On September 5 - 7, 2024 – attended VA Women Veterans Summit promoted and signed up three veterans for CAN.

On September 23, 2024 – attended Virginia Women Veterans roundtable; hosted by State Senator Jennifer Carroll Foy.

Respectfully submitted

Shamala B. Capizzi

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MEMORANDUM

FOR: Department 2024 Fall Conference

FROM: Dr. MaLinda Washington, Committee Chair

Subject: Report of the Membership Committee

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th, 2024.

The Membership Committee is comprised of five appointed members. Department 2nd Jr. Vice Commander Marcia Stewart serves as the Committee Ex-Officio and MaLinda Washington was elected by the appointed Membership Committee as Chair. The members appointed for the year 2024-2025 are as follows:

M. Tyrelle Felder Chapter 33

Edward Ortiz Chapter 15

Rhonda Rawson Chapter 30 James Stevens Chapter 27 MaLinda Washington Chapter 17

Per the Bylaws of the Membership Committee: **“Para 11.1 Shall establish a Department Membership Program to be carried out in addition to any ongoing Chapter or National membership program and provide during each Conference and Convention a report indicating the results of the Department Membership Recruitment Program.” “Para 11.2 Shall be responsible for assisting in the formation of new Chapters in the Department of Virginia, utilizing guidelines set forth in the National Bylaws, and shall make recommendations to the DEC for approval of new Chapters.**

The Committee met with the Department 2nd Jr. Vice Commander Marcia Stewart to discuss and establish the Department Membership goals for 2024 – 2025.

**Established Department Membership Goals for 2024-2025:**

* 100% Attainment of Department Membership Goal
* 10% of Part-Life converted to Full-Life
* 100% Goal attainment for Department
* VA Win for March Madness/March Madness Event
* Statewide Membership same day Drive
* CSO Statewide/Hampton Roads Day
* Day before Conference/Convention Day

The Membership Committee meeting is held once a month for one hour using the zoom platform. The Committee met to discuss strategies to accomplish the established goals.

The Membership Committee worked with the Chapters to develop and implement strategic plans to have a successful year. The Committee is working hard to ensure there is excellent communication and teamwork with achieving the 2024-2025 goals. Committee members provided support and attended Chapter events to help them meet their goals.

**Committee Membership Meetings:**

* June 24, 2024
* June 25, 2024
* July 1, 2024
* July 29, 2024
* August 22, 2024
* September 26, 2024

The Membership Committee hosted the following events to help achieve goal attainment.

**List of Past Events:**

* July 19, 2024 – Chapter 28 Claims Support Clinic. The event was supported by the Membership Committee to help provide claim support and membership enrollment.
* July 27, 2024 – Veterans Fair sponsored by Ken James and the Loudoun Community Veteran Engagement Board (LCCVEB). The event was held at the Northern Virginia Community College in Sterling, VA. The event was used for recruitment and to discuss the possibility of opening a Chapter in the area. Ed Ortiz, Chapter 15 was the Committee Representative for this event. The Department Commander Rich Lehmann was in attendance.
* July 30, 2024 – Texas RoadHouse Dine to Donate Membership Drive and Fundraiser held at Texas RoadHouse in Glen Allen, VA. The event was a test site to determine if the Membership Committee could use it as a Statewide Membership and Fundraiser Same Day Drive. MaLinda Washington, Chapter 17 was the Committee Representative for this event. The event was a success with eight chapters participating and the Department Commander, Department Sr. Vice Commander, and the Department 2nd Jr. Vice Commander were in attendance.
* September 7, 2024 – Chapters 24, 30, and 33 hosted a Claims Support Clinic at Piedmont VA Community College, Charlottesville, VA. The event was supported by the Membership Committee to help provide claim support and membership enrollment. Tyrelle Felder, Chapter 33 was the Committee Representative for this event.
* September 22, 2024 – Seas the Day a Veteran Family Resource Fair hosted by West Point Society of Monticello. Chapter 33 supported the event to discuss claim support and membership enrollment.
* September 23, 2024 – Texas RoadHouse Dine to Donate. The Membership Committee held its **Statewide Membership and Fundraiser Same Day Drive**. The event was very successful for all 11 Chapters that participated. This event served to meet one of the Department goals to have a Statewide Membership and Fundraiser Same Day Drive. It provided the opportunity for chapters to fundraiser as well. The 11 Chapters that participated were: 2,7,9,17,20,21,27,28,33,34 and 50.
* October 5, 2024 – **Membership Committee CSO Hampton Roads Day**. True Vine Church of Jesus, 201 Pear Avenue, Newport News, VA. The Membership Committee partnered with True Vine Church of Jesus to support Veterans obtain claim support and membership enrollment. This event served to meet one of the Department goals. There were five CSOs present. Valerie Gray, Chapter 21; T.C. Lasker, Chapter 34, Shay Odean, Chapter 13, M. Tyrelle Felder, Chapter 33 and MaLinda Washington, Chapter 17. The team was able to recruit 7 Part Life Members and 1 Full Life Member. There were 21 people in attendance.

The Membership Committee discussed the Monthly Department Goal Activity Report. The Membership Committee reviewed the report for July 1, 2024 and the Department needed 1217 members to meet the total goal for the year. The Committee Chair reviewed the October 7, 2024 report and the Department needed 955 members to meet the total goal for the year. There were 262 members recruited for the period July 2024 to October 2024. The Department needs 955 members to meet goal for 2024-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. MaLinda Washington

Membership Committee Chair

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October 10, 2024

MEMORANDUM

FOR: Department Fall Conference

FROM: Raul M. Muntean Chair, DAV Department of Virginia Emergency Relief Committee

Michele Hinton Chair, DAV Department of Virginia Homeless Committee

Subject: Report of the Emergency Relief and Homeless Committee

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th, 2024.

Warmest Greetings, Department CMDR Richard Lehmann, Respectable DSD Cynthia Bailey, Respectable Department Adjutant Lisa Gregory, Respectable Department of Virginia Executive Officers, and Fellow Comrades.

Acknowledgments:

To date, 2024 has been filled with the privilege of servitude in the lives of our fellow veterans in need who have been seeking financial assistance from the DAV. As we have seen a significant increase in requests for emergency relief and homelessness assistance, we want to express our deepest gratitude for everyone’s hard work and support. Thank you to our Respectable Department Emergency Relief Committee, our Homeless Committee, and all of our Virginia DAV Chapters that have assisted veterans and worked tirelessly with the Department toward helping our fellow comrades in need.

A special thank you and acknowledgment to our Roanoke office and LVAP Coordinator,

Comrade Debbie Wood also handles the department’s answering service. Comrade Debbie Wood tirelessly ensured that our veterans in need connected with the Department regardless of the time of day, resulting in the direct prevention of homelessness and emergency relief assistance for several veterans throughout Virginia.

Progress:

Since June 2024, with the Support and Guidance of our Department DSD Cynthia Bailey, the Emergency Relief & Homeless Committees have worked hand in hand with numerous chapters and provided the following financial assistance to veterans in need:

$16,658.62 in financial assistance from the Department ER & Homeless Committee with an additional $6,650.00 from various DAV Chapters towards the cases submitted to the Department, totaling $23,308.62 of financial assistance overseen by the Department within this reporting period.

During this reporting period, the ER & Homeless Committee has responded to inquiries from several chapters and Department Officers concerning the ER Procedures and Constitution & Bylaws (C&B) and their applicability to the various circumstances presented. In addition, the ER Chair conducted live ER training with its Respectable Committee Members on call with veterans and held additional ER training with several DAV Chapters.

Goals

1. Continue to provide recommendations to the Department and work on Standard Written Guidelines for Emergency Relief and the Homeless program so that we can efficiently, in good stewardship, serve more veterans by strengthening our DAV Virginia Department and our Chapters.

2. In keeping with our DAV Mission Statement and with gratitude for the honorable servitude of our fellow veterans, it is our Goal to personally connect with every veteran who requests assistance from the DAV Department of Virginia, regardless of whether we can assist. We want to thank every veteran for their servitude, point them to additional DAV Services, and refer them to outside resources as needed. In providing assistance, we also want veterans to have the opportunity to join the DAV by connecting them with local chapters.

3. (I see you, and you matter)

With the increase in Veterans’ Suicide, the DAV ER, Homeless Team, and local Chapters have an opportunity to connect with veterans during their time of financial crisis, and we must let veterans know they have value beyond their circumstances and that veterans matter and are not ignored by our society.

Emergency Relief Committee email: [**ER.VirginiaDAV@gmail.com**](mailto:er.virginiadav@gmail.com?subject=email%20via%20the%20dept.%20website)

Homeless Committee email: [**HomelessVet.VirginiaDav@gmail.com**](mailto:HomelessVet.VirginiaDav@gmail.com?subject=email%20via%20the%20dept.%20website)

Respectfully submitted,

Raul M. Muntean Chair,

DAV Department of Virginia Emergency Relief Committee

Michele Hinton Chair,

DAV Department of Virginia Homeless Committee

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MEMORANDUM

FOR: 2024 Annual Department Convention

FROM: Valerie Gray, Chair

Subject: Report of the Women Veterans Committee (WVC)

This report is for the period June 10th through October 10th 2024.

Committee Meeting:

September 16, 2024 – Chapters in attendance: 7, 20, 21. 22, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34

We spoke about how we need to increase the number of women within DAV. Jennifer Robinson Curry advised that we need to change the Mindset of Women. We recognized that it was National Hispanic Heritage Month - Sep 15 - Oct 15. We also spoke about the Veteran Cookout for Chapter 34 and the Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser.

Ethel Smith researched retreat locations for Women's Committee. We are looking at doing a women's retreat sometime maybe next August or September, and we're going to send something out to have people vote on the date that they think is best. We're looking at two retreat centers: the Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond and the Christian Retreat Center in Toano. We're looking to have guest speakers as well as other things that we think women will enjoy. We will come up with an agenda and get that out to you once we decide where we're going to have it.

The following events were attended by the committee members:

July 19th - Chapter 28 –- NSO Visit – Helped with claims and spoke to women about the committee – Valerie Gray

September 14th - Chapter 27 - Vet Fest Portsmouth, VA - Valerie Gray – spoke to women about the committee

September 21st - Chapter 34 - Veteran Cookout in Toano - Upper County Park – Valerie Gray & Ethel Smith – Spoke about the Women’s Committee.

September 23rd - Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser – Valerie Gray & Ethel Smith – Spoke about the Women’s Committee

Golden Corral – Valerie Gray & Ethel Smith – Spoke about the Women’s Committee

October 5th - Disability Claims Outreach and Membership Event – Newport News, VA – Valerie Gray – Recruited three members – two were female

New Kent Crab Festival – October 5th - Ethel Smith – Spoke about the Women’s Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Gray, Chairperson  
Women Veterans Committee