2019 Mid-Winter Conference

Crystal Gateway Marriott | Arlington, Virginia | February 24–27, 2019
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Commanders & Adjutants Association Registration 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Arlington Registration Desk

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Commanders & Adjutants Association Registration 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Arlington Registration Desk

DAV Headquarters Office 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Alexandria

Commanders & Adjutants Association Business Session 9 a.m.–Noon
Salon 3–4

Welcome Remarks
• Cynthia Madison, President, Commanders & Adjutants Association
• Dennis R. Nixon, National Commander
• James Byrne, Acting Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs
• J. Marc Burgess, National Adjutant
• Ellen L. Timmerman, Auxiliary National Commander

Benefits Protection Team Workshop 1–3 p.m.
Salon 3–4

• Joy Ilem, National Legislative Director
• Adrian Atizado, Deputy National Legislative Director
• Shurhonda Love, Assistant National Legislative Director
• Shane Liemlmann, Assistant National Legislative Director
• Jeremy Villanueva, Associate National Legislative Director
• Peter Dickinson, Senior Executive Advisor

With more than 100 new members elected to the 116th Congress, effective meetings with your elected representatives are critical to maintain public support for veterans benefits. Please join us for an update on DAV’s 2019 legislative priorities, emerging issues and tips on how to build a strong grassroots Benefits Protection Team in your state in support of DAV’s legislative goals.

Membership Workshop 3:15–4:15 p.m.
Salon 3–4

National Membership Director Doug Wells will discuss DAV’s recruitment initiatives, and share other exciting and important information regarding membership.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25

DAV Headquarters Office 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Alexandria
VA Health Fair  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Salon 5

Service Workshop  
9-10:15 a.m.  
Salon 3–4

- Jim Marszalek, National Service Director
- Chad Moos, Deputy National Service Director
- Scott Hope, Deputy National Service Director for Training
- Scott Trimarchi, Assistant National Service Director
- Justin Hart, Assistant National Service Director
- Steve Wolf, Assistant National Service Director
- Jon Retzer, Assistant National Service Director
- LeRoy Acosta, Assistant National Service Director

This workshop will include a presentation on Appeals Modernization by Chair of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals Cheryl Mason.

Voluntary Services Workshop  
10:30–11:30 a.m.  
Salon 3–4

- John Kleindienst, National Voluntary Services Director
- Ron Minter, Assistant National Voluntary Services Director
- Sabrina Clark, Director Voluntary Services, VHA

Receive an update on the current status of volunteerforveterans.org as well as an overview of VAVS. This will include an update from Sabrina Clark, Director Voluntary Services VHA.

Inspector General Workshop  
12:45–1:45 p.m.  
Salon 3–4

- Ed Hartman, Inspector General

This workshop will focus on protecting DAV assets at the chapter and department level and the importance of completing timely and accurate Annual Financial Reports.

Employment Workshop  
2–3 p.m.  
Salon 3–4

- Jeff Hall, National Employment Director
- Rob Lougee, Assistant National Employment Director

This workshop will provide an overview of our employment program.

Communications Seminar  
3:15–4:15 p.m.  
Salon 3–4

- Dan Clare, National Communications Director
- Ashleigh Byrnes, Deputy National Communications Director

The Information Age is changing every aspect of our lives. It’s also changing the way we reach veterans and promote DAV’s strategic objectives. Join DAV’s appointed communicators to discuss how you can leverage the media and other communications channels to carry out our mission.

Outreach 101  
4:30–5:30 p.m.  
Salon 3–4

- Mary Dever, Assistant National Communications Director

This workshop offers a focused approach to working with local media to amplify DAV’s message and raise awareness of programs and services.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

DAV Headquarters Office 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Alexandria

National Service Foundation 9 a.m.
Salon 5–6

Charitable Service Trust (immediately following NSF Meeting)
Salon 5–6

Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial Foundation (immediately following CST Meeting)
Salon 5–6

Presentation of DAV 2019 Legislative Program
Please arrive no earlier than 1 p.m.

National Commander’s Reception 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Salon 3–4

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

DAV Headquarters Office 8 a.m.–Noon
Alexandria

National Executive Committee 9 a.m.
Salon 3–4

Board of Directors (immediately following NEC Meeting)
Salon 3–4

COMMANDERS & ADJUTANTS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2018–2019

President  Cynthia Madison
Vice-President  John Donovan
Secretary  Rita Aberegg
Treasurer  David L. Tannenbaum
Chaplain  John King
Past President  Danny Oliver

Executive Committee  Brian Wilner
Kirk Johnson
William Robinson
Craig Vance
Brigitte Marker
Burl Jimmerson
TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 26  2 P.M.

Presentation of the DAV Legislative Program
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room SD-G50*

National Commander Dennis R. Nixon's presentation to the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees

*Please arrive no earlier than 1 p.m.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Overnight guests at the Crystal Gateway Marriott receive these negotiated perks:

1. At check-in, $5 voucher per room to use at any of the Marriott food and beverage outlets

2. Free high-speed internet in guest rooms. When accessing the internet, activate the high-speed option, accept the terms, and the charge(s) will be removed from the room folio each evening.

3. DAV guests receive a 40% discount over the hotel’s current self-parking rate. These charges should be adjusted daily on the room folio.
Commander’s Testimony

- The Dirksen Senate Office Building is at the corner of First St. and Constitution Ave.
- Meeting room SD–G50 is near the rear entrance, located at 101 C St. NE, Dirksen Bldg.
- Please do not arrive any earlier than 1 p.m.

Traveling by Metro Subway System

- Exit the metro at Capitol South or Union Station
- Crystal City Metro station is the nearest stop to the hotel. All Metro Stations/Trains wheelchair accessible.
Traveling by Taxi/Uber/Lyft
- Drop off point is **101 C St. NE, Dirksen Bldg.**
- Give the above address to your driver as the drop-off point for the Commander’s Testimony.
- **Uber** or **Lyft** from App, select UBER WAV, LYFT WAV or TAXI WAV **Red Top Cab**, call 703-522-3333, **Yellow Cab**, call 202-544-1212. If you call one taxi cab company and their wheelchair taxis are busy, that Company will transfer your trip request to another company.

In Case of Medical Emergency
- Dial “0” or “9–922” on the hotel phone.
- Individuals seeking treatment at the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center during normal working hours, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., should contact VA Medical Center, 50 Irving Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 202-745-8000.
MISSION STATEMENT

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America’s injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

This mission is carried forward by:

• Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government;

• Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically;

• Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government;

• Extending DAV’s mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level departments and local chapters; and

• Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.