

MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

May 31, 2009

DIVISION	COMMANDER	DEPARTMENT	% OF GOAL
I	Francis Yestramski	Massachusetts	100.98
II	Dean R. Ascheman	Minnesota	102.63
III	Al Grimmer	Louisiana	102.14
IV	James Robbins	Rhode Island	102.97
V	Gary A. Lucas	Wyoming	100.84



On a wall at DAV National Headquarters hangs a strange looking graph that, from a distance, looks something like the Brooklyn Bridge.

The primary towers that support this “bridge” shoot horizontally above the timeline numbers 1912 to 1926 and from 1943 to 1952. Upon closer inspection, the towering points on this chart represent the generations most responsible for the current success of the DAV. These horizontal lines account for the number of current members born in a particular year.

The first swell represents member's ages 83 to 97 – members of The Greatest Generation. The second swell represents the vast majority of surviving members – those aged 57 to 66 who served before, during and immediately proceeding the Vietnam War era.

For each year, two different lines stand side by side. One represents the number of our members as of May 22, 2007, the other represents the number of members as of May 6, 2009. This is where the numbers are particularly telling.

In contrasting lines we see an unmistakable trend. The numbers of World War II era veterans who were with us last spring have declined significantly. No longer are there 40,000 members from a particular year. Sadly, we can only anticipate more losses in this category in the years ahead.

At the same time, in the course of a year, starting with the “Baby Boomers,” data shows that the DAV is growing in the number of veterans joining. Fortunately, this trend continues through to our youngest members, the youngest of which were born in 1988.

The trends in the numbers are easy to see. The number of members of each age group reflects the history of our nation and organization. They are particularly high for men and women who came of age during a period when our nation held a draft.

The numbers ebb for members born during years when we were not at war and resurge noticeably for conflicts like Korea and the Persian Gulf War. The numbers show an uptick for veterans born in the early to late 1970s – members who may have served in the modern era and during Desert Storm.

The greatest lesson the graph teaches us is that our demographics are undeniably changing and will continue to change. Our challenge is to look for leaders among our new members and to recruit people from underserved generations to ensure a continuum of service and advocacy looking ahead.

CONVENTION RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Every summer, thousands of DAV delegates to the National Convention converge in a major U.S. city to elect national officers and help shape our future direction. Members who attend inevitably return home with information and ideas that bring new energy and unite our efforts to build better lives for our nation’s disabled veterans and their families.

Many convention attendees also make the annual trek because it’s good old-fashioned fun! It’s enjoyable to be around fellow veterans and reunite with old friends at a dynamic event in a great American city. Sitting pretty in Colorado’s Rocky Mountains with plenty of authentic Western charm, the Mile-High City’s cultural attractions are center stage with world-class dining, trendy nightclubs, galleries and museums.

The Sheraton Denver Hotel is conveniently located on the 16th Street Pedestrian Mall in the heart of downtown, which is a city walkers dream come true. The Mall is a 1.6 mile-long outdoor promenade that makes everything easy to reach with *free* shuttle bus service. For people watching, dining and nightlife, the downtown district is a lively, pedestrian-friendly area day or night.

So round up some family and friends and head for the Rockies! We need you up there to lend your voice to our cause and get the latest scoop on veterans’ issues and DAV programs and services. And if you need another reason to hit the road in August consider that the Lt. Dan Band is BACK! Friend and fellow patriot Gary Sinise and his all-star band will be rocking the house and shaking any remaining snow off the mountains.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling **1-303-893-3333**, or by logging on to our Web site at www.dav.org. You can locate the convention information by clicking on the *News and Events* icon, Special Events, and following the links for Upcoming Events and the 2009 National Convention. If you have any questions, please call National Headquarters and ask for Michael J. Walsh, Voluntary Services Director, and Convention Coordinator, at (859) 442-2065 or direct inquiries by e-mail to membershipinfo@dav.org.

FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL 'MARCH' ON WASHINGTON FOR DISABLED VETS

The DAV is organizing a march on Washington to raise public awareness and let lawmakers know voters care about veterans. But you won't need to travel to participate and have your voice heard.

This march is going to be completely online, the first-ever Virtual March on Washington for Veterans. The DAV is working to ensure this will be the easiest and most convenient way ever to *stand up for veterans*. Together, we will generate greater public awareness and support for strengthening federal policies that provide health care and other earned benefits to disabled veterans.

To sign up to participate in the Sept. 15 virtual march, simply visit www.dav.org/VirtualMarch and enter your e-mail address and ZIP code at the top of the page. Your ZIP code is needed so lawmakers know which constituents care about the needs of veterans and their families. DAV will send you an e-mail the night before the "march" as a reminder. DAV will not share your e-mail address with or sell it to anyone, nor will DAV use it to solicit donations.

On Sept. 15, the official day of the march, there will be video messages posted from a variety of veterans, family members, veterans' advocates and lawmakers. There will be opportunities to chat with those leading efforts to better the lives of veterans. And there will be easy-to-use tools for you to directly contact your representatives in Washington, D.C. If you cannot visit the site the day of the march, don't worry; it will all remain online.

Remember, after you sign up, please help encourage others to do the same. Post links on your social networks, send e-mails, blog about it and tell everyone you know.

RECRUIT RIGHT

For recruiters to get the recognition they've earned, it's crucial that the Membership Department receives complete information on all applicants. Full dates of birth, dates of service, and complete information for applications is necessary. Recruiters need to ensure that every piece of information required in the application is provided in full.

Ironically for recruiters, one of the most common gaps in the information provided on applicants is the sponsor code that gives the recruiter credit for their efforts. By ensuring that the Membership Department gets all the required information, you expedite your applicant's membership and ensure you get the credit for your efforts!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

In the past, DAV has been able to provide access to electric scooters for use by our members during the National Convention. Last year, the provider of this service began charging a nominal fee for the use of scooters. For a variety of reasons they are unable to continue this service.

We have been working over the past few months to find a replacement supplier; however our efforts thus far, have not been successful. We are therefore unable to provide this service at this time to those attending the National Convention in Denver, Colorado. Should the situation change and we can provide the service we will inform everyone as soon as possible.

We have listed a few of the suppliers in the Denver area who may be able to provide this service to our members on an individual basis. Rates vary according to the supplier, type and brand of scooter. In addition, you should be specific as to the dates you request the use of the rental scooter. DAV is unable to assume any responsibility for equipment rental, its availability, costs, service, or quality or function of the equipment.

Wheelers Accessible Van Rentals	(303) 884-9784
Invacare	(800) 333-6900 x1823
Electric Mobility	(800) 878-3855
Colorado Lifestyle Medical	(303) 988-4875
The Scooter Store	(888) 258-7528
USA Mobility Inc.	(720) 250-9634

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and sincerely hope this unfortunate situation does not prevent your attendance at this year's event.



ANTHONY L. BASKERVILLE
National Membership Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: National Officers, National Executive Committee, Department and Chapters
FROM: Arthur H. Wilson, National Adjutant
SUBJ: DAV National Convention
DATE: June 18, 2009

Mere weeks from today, we will be hosting our 88th DAV National Convention. This exciting event, held August 22-25, 2009, at the Sheraton Hotel Denver, 1550 Court Place, Denver, Colorado, is our foremost opportunity to gather as veterans and help determine the future of our organization.

The supreme power of DAV is vested in its membership who meet at national convention through converging from each state department and its chapters. With our young men and women still serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and a new Presidential Administration confronting a global recession, our business in Colorado is of critical importance. Without the strong influence of DAV, the attention of Congress could be drawn away from veterans' issues. While there is much- deserved attention for the men and women fighting the war on terrorism, our government must never forget those who protected our nation's liberty in past wars.

Beyond discussing and acting upon current issues, enlightenment from educational opportunities, and the chance to meet up with and make new friends, our convention promises to offer delegates and guests a wide variety of entertaining things to see and experience.

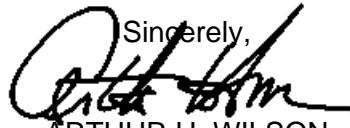
The Sheraton Denver Hotel is located on the 16th Street Pedestrian Mall in the heart of downtown Denver. An outdoor all-season heated swimming pool, sauna, and state-of-the-art fitness center will keep you active. Shopping, fine dining and a wide variety of activities to suit any interest are just a short walk away.

Hotel reservations can be made at a discounted rate by dialing (303) 893-3333 or by linking through the special events section of www.dav.org. Room availability is limited, so reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

I also encourage you to contact your chapter and get properly signed convention credentials so you can be a voting delegate. This simple step ensures a smooth registration process. While you're at it, encourage a handful of your fellow members to join you.

If you have any questions, please call National Headquarters and ask for Michael J. Walsh, our convention coordinator, at (859) 442-2065, or you may direct inquiries by e-mail to membershipinfo@davmail.org.

Thank you for your time and see you in the Rockies!


Sincerely,
ARTHUR H. WILSON
National Adjutant



MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

As of 05/31/2009

Present Standing	State	Life Member Population	Life Goal	% of Goal	Goal Variance
Division I - Over 35,000 Members					
1	MASSACHUSETTS	31,140	30,837	100.98%	303
2	CALIFORNIA	70,349	69,679	100.96%	670
3	FLORIDA	57,150	56,919	100.41%	231
4	NEW YORK	49,784	49,606	100.36%	178
5	VIRGINIA	23,516	23,433	100.35%	83
6	TEXAS	55,449	55,293	100.28%	156
7	PENNSYLVANIA	34,334	34,263	100.21%	71
8	OHIO	32,315	32,301	100.04%	14
9	MICHIGAN	25,853	25,854	100.00%	-1
10	NORTH CAROLINA	29,990	30,040	99.83%	-50
Division Totals		409,880	408,225	100.41%	1,655
Division II - 18,000 To 34,999 Members					
1	MINNESOTA	16,901	16,468	102.63%	433
2	COLORADO	16,779	16,461	101.93%	318
3	OKLAHOMA	15,950	15,786	101.04%	164
4	KENTUCKY	17,928	17,774	100.87%	154
5	WASHINGTON	17,994	17,843	100.85%	151
6	MARYLAND	13,567	13,468	100.74%	99
7	NEW JERSEY	19,038	18,904	100.71%	134
8	MISSOURI	16,168	16,074	100.58%	94
9	WISCONSIN	15,266	15,183	100.55%	83
10	INDIANA	14,683	14,639	100.30%	44
11	TENNESSEE	14,338	14,299	100.27%	39
12	SOUTH CAROLINA	12,822	12,823	99.99%	-1
13	ARIZONA	16,736	16,742	99.96%	-6
14	ILLINOIS	17,394	17,461	99.62%	-67
15	ALABAMA	14,854	14,935	99.46%	-81
16	GEORGIA	16,218	16,438	98.66%	-220
Division Totals		256,636	255,298	100.52%	1,338
Division III - 10,000 To 17,999 Members					
1	LOUISIANA	8,967	8,779	102.14%	188
2	CONNECTICUT	8,305	8,205	101.22%	100
3	NEW MEXICO	9,925	9,864	100.62%	61
4	ARKANSAS	11,408	11,387	100.18%	21
5	PUERTO RICO	6,992	6,995	99.96%	-3
6	OREGON	8,028	8,069	99.49%	-41
7	WEST VIRGINIA	8,119	8,163	99.46%	-44
Division Totals		61,744	61,462	100.46%	282



MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

As of 05/31/2009

Present Standing	State	Life Member Population	Life Goal	% of Goal	Goal Variance
Division IV - 5,000 To 9,999 Members					
1	RHODE ISLAND	4,890	4,749	102.97%	141
2	UTAH	4,650	4,553	102.13%	97
3	SOUTH DAKOTA	4,419	4,351	101.56%	68
4	NEVADA	5,374	5,297	101.45%	77
5	HAWAII	4,701	4,638	101.36%	63
6	NORTH DAKOTA	4,199	4,143	101.35%	56
7	IOWA	6,943	6,885	100.84%	58
8	NEW HAMPSHIRE	5,342	5,300	100.79%	42
9	MONTANA	3,881	3,864	100.44%	17
10	NEBRASKA	6,167	6,141	100.42%	26
11	MAINE	6,920	6,895	100.36%	25
12	IDAHO	4,495	4,483	100.27%	12
13	KANSAS	6,833	6,837	99.94%	-4
14	MISSISSIPPI	6,011	6,020	99.85%	-9
Division Totals		74,825	74,156	100.90%	669
Division V - Less than 5,000 Members					
1	WYOMING	1,678	1,664	100.84%	14
2	D C	1,970	1,972	99.90%	-2
3	DELAWARE	2,181	2,188	99.68%	-7
4	ALASKA	2,424	2,432	99.67%	-8
5	VERMONT	2,451	2,464	99.47%	-13
Division Totals		10,704	10,720	99.85%	-16
National Totals		873,195	867,118	100.70%	6,077