



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

MEMBERSHIP DEPT. • P.O. Box 145550 • CINCINNATI, OH 45250-5550 • PHONE (859) 441-7300 • FAX (859) 442-2088 • www.dav.org

MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

August 31, 2009

DIVISION	COMMANDER	DEPARTMENT	% OF GOAL
I	Leo Ortiz	New York	98.84
II	Don Osborn	Colorado	99.13
III	Holly Hoppe	Wisconsin	98.38
IV	Dave Thornburg	Iowa	99.00
V	Robert W. Hill	South Dakota	99.69

Leading by Example

If you want a hint on success in recruiting, you might as well ask someone whose recent successes have caught the nation's attention.

Commander Bob Brandt of Chapter 32 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was recently named the DAV's Recruiter of the Year after signing 131 eligible veterans to the DAV.

One might say, on different levels, that Commander Brandt has an unfair advantage. After all, he dedicates some 40 hours a week to his chapter as an unpaid volunteer. A former Navy Corpsman, in addition to commanding his chapter he serves as one of his Department's most renowned service officers.

Many of his recruits come from his service work and many more come from referrals. Above and beyond focusing on recruiting alone, Commander Brandt takes an active role in proliferating the DAV brand in his community.

His chapter is the biggest in the department, and it is growing constantly because the DAV is a known quantity – largely thanks to Commander Brandt's constant involvement.

His energy and dedication have created momentum. By providing such high quality service work and constantly finding opportunities to be in the public eye, he has become a subject matter expertly sought by Guard and Reserve units to provide pre- and post-deployment transition assistance work.

If there's one lesson we can take away from this stellar veteran, it's that success breeds success. In every area that he works, he is building momentum that improves the DAV's reputation and his recruitment opportunities. Kudos to you, Commander Brandt, and to all the hard working recruiters who did so much to help us sustain our force last year.

LEADERSHIP 101: THE MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER

Delegates at the 88th DAV National Convention were moved by the speech of Commander-Elect Roberto “Bobby” Barrera. His message, which is available on www.dav.org, encouraged veterans to unite and stand up for veterans. It offered key hints at the DAV’s new plan to revamp the claims process to better serve veterans and their families.

This inspiring speech should be shared by all who have served and sacrificed for our country. He spoke from the heart about the day four decades ago in Vietnam when he was pulled from the fiery wreckage of a bombed personnel carrier to face a life of disfigurement and daunting disability.

He credited his fellow Marines who saved his life, his wife and family who stood by him, the team of healthcare professionals who helped him adjust and overcome obstacles he faced as a result of his injuries, and the sense of community he felt since joining the DAV.

He mentioned membership specifically:

“Membership strength must always be a priority. And you and I have an obligation to convince those who remain part-life members and those with a trial membership to become full-paid life members.

“We must also reach out to the remaining two million disabled veterans who are eligible for membership and educate them about the DAV.

“I truly believe they will want to join us when they learn more about who we are and what we do.

“You and I need to tell them about the free claims assistance and counseling for disabled veterans and their families provided by our professional National Service Officers.

“We are the ones to let them know that active duty military men and women have a friend in DAV Transition Service Officers, who can offer assistance and counseling before soldiers transition back into the civilian world.

“We must tell them about the thousands of DAV and Auxiliary volunteers who give so freely of their time and compassion to help make life better for hospitalized veterans and outpatients at VA medical facilities.

“We must make them aware how our nationwide Transportation Network was created to provide free rides for sick and disabled veterans to and from VA facilities for needed medical care.

“It’s our job to make sure they understand our legislative goals; that our National Legislative Department advocates in support of federal legislation to improve and protect programs and services for disabled veterans, their families and survivors.

"We are ambassadors for the DAV. It is up to us to inspire others with the important work of the DAV; to demonstrate what a privilege it is to build better lives for America's disabled veteran and their families."

DAV PARTNERS WITH HISTORY CHANNEL'S 'TAKE A VETERAN TO SCHOOL'

Disabled American Veterans is proud to partner with HISTORY Channel on a campaign to pay tribute to the servicemen and women of America. In November, HISTORY will debut a groundbreaking miniseries, ***WWII in HD***, the first WWII documentary in full, immersive HD color. Culled from 3,000 hours of lost color footage, *WWII in HD* features the epic accounts of ten real soldiers who experienced this defining conflict.

In addition to shedding new light on the experiences of our brave World War II veterans, the premiere of *WWII in HD* will shine a light on **Take a Veteran to School**, HISTORY's pro-social initiative to honor veterans of all wars by connecting them with schools and communities across the country.

To learn how you can participate in Take a Veteran to School, please visit: www.Veterans.com <<http://www.Veterans.com>> . And please be sure to tune in to *WWII in HD* this November, only on HISTORY.

RECRUITMENT AWARD PROGRAM

During the national convention in Denver, several delegates noted their confusion regarding the Recruitment Award Program.

As many of you are aware, these stars represent the number of prospects a recruiter turned into members in a given year.

The primary source of confusion seems to surround the color of the stars. The stars are not related to recruiting points – they are related to the number of members recruited.

The Recruitment Award Program runs July 1 through June 30 each year. The colored stars correlate with the following number of members recruited:

Bronze Star.....	5-9 members
Silver Star.....	10-24 members
Gold Star.....	25-49 members

These honors are not to be confused with the Francis J. Beaton Award. This specially designed pin is awarded to those who have signed 50 to 99 new members during the membership year. The National Commander's Membership Team Plaque is offered for those who recruit 100 or more new members during the membership year.

Anyone who receives the team plaque for three (3) consecutive years is automatically enrolled in the DAV Membership Hall of Fame. A member who receives this honor receives a special Hall of Fame Pin with three diamonds noting this special accomplishment.

MEMBER BENEFIT: APPLE COMPUTERS

With so many of our children and grandchildren heading off to school, it's good to know that your membership in the DAV entitles you to discounts through the Apple Computer Member Purchase Program. Receive up to 10% off on all Apple products, including the powerful and versatile PowerBook; the super fast Power Mac G5; the latest iBook and iMac; the world-famous iPod; and Apple software.

You save on these award-winning products, and become eligible for special quarterly promotions and free standard shipping on all orders over \$50.

Go to <http://www.apple.com/eppstore/DAV> to browse Apple's online store to see what products are available or dial toll-free: 1-800-MY-APPLE (692-7753).

OLD DOMINION WELCOMES NEW CHAPTER

Congratulations to the members of Chapter 60 in Moneta, Virginia, upon the inception of your new chapter. We wish you the best of luck as you enter this new age. Know that 1.2 million fellow disabled veterans and their families are pulling for you as you reach out to serve and advocate on our behalf in your community.

VETERAN SCAM ALERT

The Department of Veterans Affairs is warning veterans about a telephone scam. Veterans have reported that they are receiving calls from people claiming to be from the VA pharmacy. Some callers identifying themselves as working for the "Patient Care Group" claim that they are helping administer VA prescriptions. The callers are telling veterans that VA's billing procedure for prescriptions has changed and that the veteran needs to provide a credit card number for payment before the pharmacy will fill their medication requests. This is false. VA does not call veterans asking to disclose personal financial information over the phone. VA has not changed its processes for dispensing prescription medicines.

All billing for any VA treatment and/or prescriptions is done through the MCCR Section of the VA. Only a VA Agent Cashier is authorized to accept credit card payments.

IN CLOSING

"What is behind us is history; what is ahead of us is hope. I personally believe anything is possible when we join together for the common good."

-- DAV National Commander Roberto 'Bobby' Barrera



ANTHONY L. BASKERVILLE
National Membership Director



MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

As of 08/31/2009

Present Standing	State	Life Member Population	Life Goal	% of Goal	Goal Variance
Division I - Over 35,000 Members					
1	NEW YORK	46,372	46,915	98.84%	-543
2	CALIFORNIA	65,694	66,586	98.66%	-892
3	PENNSYLVANIA	31,931	32,492	98.27%	-561
4	OHIO	29,774	30,454	97.77%	-680
5	FLORIDA	53,371	54,683	97.60%	-1,312
6	VIRGINIA	22,621	23,350	96.88%	-729
7	NORTH CAROLINA	28,611	29,567	96.77%	-956
8	TEXAS	51,280	53,006	96.74%	-1,726
Division Totals		329,654	337,053	97.80%	-7,399
Division II - 18,000 To 34,999 Members					
1	COLORADO	16,152	16,293	99.13%	-141
2	MINNESOTA	15,704	15,851	99.07%	-147
3	MASSACHUSETTS	29,176	29,514	98.85%	-338
4	NEW JERSEY	17,801	18,070	98.51%	-269
5	KENTUCKY	16,802	17,092	98.30%	-290
6	MICHIGAN	23,928	24,404	98.05%	-476
7	WASHINGTON	17,048	17,398	97.99%	-350
8	MISSOURI	15,203	15,555	97.74%	-352
9	OKLAHOMA	15,166	15,566	97.43%	-400
10	ILLINOIS	16,260	16,695	97.39%	-435
11	ARIZONA	15,920	16,432	96.88%	-512
12	TENNESSEE	13,682	14,144	96.73%	-462
13	ALABAMA	14,129	14,725	95.95%	-596
14	GEORGIA	15,400	16,158	95.31%	-758
Division Totals		242,371	247,897	97.77%	-5,526
Division III - 10,000 To 17,999 Members					
1	WISCONSIN	14,521	14,760	98.38%	-239
2	NEW MEXICO	9,310	9,498	98.02%	-188
3	INDIANA	13,819	14,139	97.74%	-320
4	LOUISIANA	8,392	8,595	97.64%	-203
5	MARYLAND	12,865	13,203	97.44%	-338
6	ARKANSAS	10,746	11,028	97.44%	-282
7	OREGON	7,583	7,794	97.29%	-211
8	SOUTH CAROLINA	11,814	12,286	96.16%	-472
Division Totals		89,050	91,303	97.53%	-2,253



MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS

As of 08/31/2009

Present Standing	State	Life Member Population	Life Goal	% of Goal	Goal Variance
Division IV - 5,000 To 9,999 Members					
1	IOWA	6,504	6,570	99.00%	-66
2	HAWAII	4,486	4,556	98.46%	-70
3	RHODE ISLAND	4,653	4,729	98.39%	-76
4	CONNECTICUT	7,836	7,970	98.32%	-134
5	NEW HAMPSHIRE	4,946	5,037	98.19%	-91
6	KANSAS	6,447	6,574	98.07%	-127
7	NEBRASKA	5,786	5,903	98.02%	-117
8	NEVADA	5,092	5,195	98.02%	-103
9	MISSISSIPPI	5,581	5,700	97.91%	-119
10	MAINE	6,665	6,811	97.86%	-146
11	UTAH	4,349	4,445	97.84%	-96
12	WEST VIRGINIA	7,639	7,828	97.59%	-189
13	IDAHO	4,288	4,434	96.71%	-146
14	PUERTO RICO	6,732	7,002	96.14%	-270
Division Totals		81,004	82,754	97.89%	-1,750
Division V - Less than 5,000 Members					
1	SOUTH DAKOTA	4,196	4,209	99.69%	-13
2	WYOMING	1,595	1,623	98.27%	-28
3	MONTANA	3,593	3,667	97.98%	-74
4	NORTH DAKOTA	4,090	4,191	97.59%	-101
5	DELAWARE	2,053	2,104	97.58%	-51
6	ALASKA	2,371	2,433	97.45%	-62
7	D C	1,830	1,878	97.44%	-48
8	VERMONT	2,318	2,385	97.19%	-67
Division Totals		22,046	22,490	98.03%	-444
National Totals		821,231	838,193	97.98%	-16,962