DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF DAV NEW JERSEY



The 2026–2027 Department administration.

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Department leadership with state veterans officials at our state convention in Wildwood — building the relationships that move the needle for New Jersey veterans.

Welcome to the October 2026 edition of the Department of New Jersey newsletter. Inside you will find messages from your department officers, news from across the state, important VA and legislative updates, and a calendar of upcoming events. As always, thank you for everything you do for New Jersey's veterans and their families.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Diana Czerepuszko



Department leadership at the Bringing Veterans Home event, War Memorial, Trenton.

At our September 19 DEC meeting, the Adjutant and I set two grassroots priorities for this year, and I want every member to know them: veteran transportation, and bringing more female veterans into DAV while addressing their specific needs. Everything we do this year should move one of those two needles.

This summer took me to National Headquarters in June for commander and adjutant training, and to the National Convention in Orlando in August. On July 29, Governor Sherrill and Commissioner Solomeno invited me to the “Bringing Veterans Home” milestone event — more than 2,800 veterans have been moved into permanent housing since 2025. On August 26, I sat with Congressman Kean and VA Secretary Collins at a veterans roundtable, where DAV put one problem on the table plainly: inadequate transportation in New Jersey is blocking veterans from the care they earned.

The Adjutant and I have also launched what we are calling battlefield circulation — the commander and adjutant coming out from behind the desk and crisscrossing the state, visiting chapters one by one. We kicked off at Chapter 66 in Hamilton, then Chapter 41. We will be coming to you.

I will convene the convention committee within the month to review Wildwood and plan what is next. Thank you for a strong start to the year.

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Recent Activities



The 2026–2027 Department administration.



Governor Mikie Sherrill at the Bringing Veterans Home event, War Memorial, Trenton.

- **State Convention — Wildwood:** Department leadership met with members from across New Jersey and with the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs to set priorities for the year ahead.

Female Veteran Committee kickoff — HELD Wednesday, October 7: Women veterans from across New Jersey launched the Department's Female Veteran Committee at Department Headquarters in Trenton. See the full report below.

- **Transportation survey:** Chapters across the state are reporting their vehicles and volunteer drivers so the Department can map how veterans get to their appointments — and where the gaps are.
- **Veteran Appreciation Dinner:** Wednesday, October 14, 3:00–6:00 PM. Join us as we honor those who served.
- **DSO/CSO training:** Monthly CMS refresher training for Department and Chapter Service Officers, Tuesday, October 20 at 2:30 PM via Microsoft Teams.
- **Department social media:** Follow @davnewjersey on Instagram and find the Department of New Jersey on LinkedIn for news, photos, and updates between newsletters.

FEMALE VETERAN COMMITTEE

Kickoff Meeting — October 7, 2026, Department Headquarters, Trenton

On Wednesday, October 7, the Department launched its Female Veteran Committee — one of the Department's two priority service programs for 2026–2027. Women veterans from across New Jersey sat down together, north to south, and spoke honestly about what they face, what they need, and what has to change.

Attending were Department Commander Diana Czerepuszko, Senior Vice Commander Valerie Crute, 1st Junior Vice Commander Minnie Austin, Women Veterans Representative (South) Jennifer Alvarado, committee member Iris, and Department Adjutant Joshua Jude, who facilitated.

Key outcomes: the committee agreed to expand regional coverage beyond North/Central/South with distinct Northwest and Cape May County areas; adopted a structured interview process for all appointed positions (including female representative per chapter); and set in motion an educational video project featuring New Jersey women veterans telling their stories in their own words.

The committee also advanced plans for a Women Veterans Stand Down at the Department Convention — a room loaded with resources, placed in the main arena — and took up the question of how the Department ensures women are treated with dignity and respect at the chapter level, including a proposed chapter audit framework.

The culture-change message is simple: you don't clean a dirty cup by arguing with the dirty water. You keep pouring in clean water until the dirty water is gone. That post is now live on the Department's Instagram (@davnewjersey) and Facebook page.

> ***"You don't clean a dirty cup by arguing with the dirty water. You keep pouring in clean water until the dirty water is gone."***

What's next: the Adjutant has circulated the meeting minutes and all action documents to the committee; nominations are open for female representative per chapter (send them to adjutant@davnj.org); and the committee will establish a standing monthly meeting. To every woman who served: you are seen, you are heard, and you have a seat at this table.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

From the Department Executive Committee

The Department Executive Committee (DEC) is the governing body of the Department between state conventions. It carries out the policies adopted by the convention delegates and oversees the Department's business year-round. Between meetings, the DEC may act through the Adjutant by

correspondence or electronic ballot, and minutes of DEC meetings are mailed and emailed to every chapter, officer, and DEC member.

Recent department business:

- **2025–2026 Annual Financial Report:** The Department's AFR was submitted to DAV National on September 27, 2026.
- **State convention:** Delegates convened in Wildwood, setting the Department's direction for the coming year.

Female Veteran Committee: Kicked off with its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, October 7 at Department Headquarters in Trenton. See the full report below.

- **Next DEC meeting — Saturday, November 21, 2026:** 9:30 AM EST at Department Headquarters, 171 Jersey St., Bldg. #5, Trenton. Chapter credentials close at 9:15. Agenda: Mid-Winter preparation and audit review.
- **2026–2027 DEC Saturday schedule:** September 19, 2026 (held); November 21, 2026; January 16, 2027 (legislative updates); March 20, 2027 (scholarship selections). All sessions at 9:30 AM at Dept HQ. Full calendar: davnj.org/calendar.

Treasurer's report accepted: Total department capital $317,636.03 as reported September 19, 2026.

2026–2027 budget passed: Projected income $253,350, expenses $233,050, net income $20,300. New $20,000 corporate sponsorship line; mileage reimbursement at the IRS $0.76/mile effective June 1, 2026.

Your 2026–2027 Department line officers (per davnj.org): Commander Diana Czerepuszko; Senior Vice Commander Valerie Crute; 1st Junior Vice Commander Minnie Austin; 2nd Junior Vice Commander Wilfred Selby; 3rd Junior Vice Commander Debbie Hamilton-Clax; Benefits Protection Team Leader Jeremy Baratta; Treasurer Ramon Nelson; Chaplain Anthony Stradford (Assistant: Larry Austin); Judge Advocate George Schnepf; Adjutant Joshua Jude; Sergeant-at-Arms Michael Palutis; Officer of the Day Isaac McDonald.

DEPARTMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Valerie Crute

As your Senior Vice Commander, I also lead our LVAP volunteer-hours program, and I have numbers to be proud of: 360 volunteers across 11 chapters contributed 29,852 hours. Every one of those hours tells Congress and our donors what DAV New Jersey is worth.

Here is my ask: collect hours at every chapter meeting. Have everybody simply say what they did. Then submit through the new online system on davnj.org — it goes to me and to National at the same time — or email VAVS@dav.org and copy me at SRVICENJ@davnj.org.

I serve as a chapter service officer at the East Orange VA every Wednesday from 9 AM to 1 PM, and I welcome trainees — come get mentorship and practice time. This is how we build the next generation of service officers.

One more note close to my heart: I recently spoke with Miss Phyllis Jones, an ambassador for the Military Women's Memorial at Arlington. Women veterans' stories can be registered on the memorial's website, and we are working to bring her to our June convention women's meeting. Our sisters' service deserves its memorial.

DEPARTMENT 1ST JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Minnie Austin

Membership is my charge, and I will give it to you straight: we stand at 15,889 members against a goal of 16,166. We need 277 more. Hear me: we shall not fail. We shall reach 277.

> ***"We shall not fail. We shall reach 277."***

Here is how. Plan something for March, Women's History Month, celebrating the women of your chapter — and make sure women are represented in your chapter's life, not just its roster. Recruit younger members; they are our future officers. And do the old-fashioned things: pick up the phone, send a card with your meeting date. Personal contact still works.

I will be reaching out to every commander personally to ask two questions: what is your mission, and what is your goal? Have your answers ready.

In my town I serve as deputy mayor of Veterans Affairs, so here is my challenge to every chapter: challenge your mayor to appoint a deputy mayor for Veterans Affairs. One appointment in every town would change the landscape for veterans across this state.

And to our women veterans: you are a vital and growing part of this Department. As the Northern District women veterans representative, I am here to make sure your voices shape what we do. Join us at the Female Veteran Committee kickoff on October 7 — all are welcome.

DEPARTMENT 2ND JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Wilfred Selby

Transportation is my mission, and I will be blunt: the East Orange VA transportation network is in total disrepair, with no one in charge right now. I have spent weeks walking that hospital trying to find who is responsible. Our veterans cannot get to their appointments, and that is unacceptable.

I am in weekly contact with Shelby Dishman at DAV National, who connected me with hospital leadership — meetings are coming within weeks. Here is what I need from chapters: only about three chapters have vans that I know of. If your chapter has a van, give me that information so we can coordinate rides geographically.

Two rules every chapter must know. First: veterans must request rides at least two weeks before their appointments — we cannot do Monday-for-Tuesday. Second: DAV vans may only go to VA or approved community-care appointments. For private doctors, point veterans to their town's transportation or the NJ FamilyCare transportation benefit.

Good news on the horizon: it was too late for a 2026 National van, but Ms. Dishman has put New Jersey on the early list for 2027 — among the first ten to receive one.

A reminder that goes with every mile driven: please report your volunteer hours. Every hour you log, including travel time to and from events, shows Congress, watchdog groups, and donors the true scale of what DAV volunteers do. Hours spent answering a veteran's call about a claim, writing an email about service connection, or researching a medical study that supports a claim all count. Ten hours per day is the maximum you may claim.

Thank you to every driver and every volunteer keeping this mission rolling. You are the wheels of this Department — literally.

DEPARTMENT 3RD JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Debbie Hamilton-Clax

Hello, fellow members. I serve as your 3rd Junior Vice Commander and as Scholarship Chair for the Northern District — covering Sussex, Passaic, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Warren, and Bergen counties — under our Charles Kosmutza Scholarship Division.

Every year, our scholarships help deserving students connected to our veteran community pursue their education. But scholarships only work if chapters promote them. If you know a student who should apply, point them to Department Headquarters. The Spring DEC session on March 20 will include initial scholarship selections, so now is the time to get applications moving.

Membership and scholarships grow the same way: one relationship at a time. Thank you for everything you do for New Jersey's veterans.

My focus is our service officers — the men and women who sit across from veterans and turn their service into the benefits they earned. At East Orange, our team saw 17 veterans in June, 14 in July, and 15 in August. Every one of those is a veteran who got help.

Let me recognize someone: our Senior Vice Commander came straight from the airport to the hospital to take claims. That is what service looks like, and the room gave her the applause she deserved.

My ask is simple: if your chapter runs a claims clinic, I want your numbers reported. What gets counted gets supported. On scholarships: the committee will be named by November 1, applications should reach schools before Christmas break, and initial selections happen at the March 20 DEC session. If you know a student connected to a DAV member in good standing, point them to Headquarters now.

CHIEF INSPECTOR

Jeremy Baratta



Chief Inspector Jeremy Baratta being sworn in as Deputy NEC.

As your Benefits Protection Team Leader — my second year as your department inspector — my mission is to have DAV New Jersey standing at a bill signing ceremony before next convention. Our strategy is low-hanging fruit: bills that cost the state next to nothing. Free tolls for DAV vans. Free tolls for 100% permanent-and-total veterans. State-paid gas for our vans, through Turnpike Authority and DOT budgets rather than the state balance sheet. I will bring one or two bills to the DEC for a vote in November.

Inspection season is here. Chapters due this cycle: 2, 3, 14, 15, 22, 29, 41, 64, 66, and 74. I will be cataloging vans during inspections to support our transportation coordinator.

Two asks. Commanders: tell your appointed chapter benefits-protection leader that they were appointed — too many don't know. And respond to the BPTL scheduling poll; our July and August meetings drew fewer than ten people, and I want to see that room full.

On the national side, I was elected Alternate National Executive Committeeman for District 4 and appointed to the National credentials committee. New Jersey has a seat at the table — I intend to use it.

Here is what every chapter should be telling veterans: DAV's accredited Service Officers will prepare and file your claim for free, period. If someone contacts you offering to boost your rating for a fee, or asking for a percentage of your back pay, walk away — and tell us who they are. Unaccredited actors cannot legally represent you before the VA, and the good ones — our CSOs and DSOs — never charge.

If your chapter wants a benefits-protection briefing at a meeting, or if a veteran you know has been approached by a paid claim company, contact Department Headquarters. Protecting our veterans' benefits is protecting our veterans.

DEPARTMENT TREASURER

Ramon Nelson

Your Department's finances are sound. As of my September report: checking $19,859.49; money market $39,651.30; scholarship fund $12,985.83; transportation fund $2,704.48; and two certificates of deposit at 4% — $158,158.11 and $84,276.82. Total capital: $317,636.03. The DEC accepted the report.

The DEC also passed our 2026–2027 budget: projected income of $253,350 against expenses of $233,050, for a projected net income of $20,300 — up from $4,900 last year. New this year is a $20,000 corporate sponsorship line, fundraising from National of $120,000, and a reduced $60,000 draw from reserves. Mileage reimbursement rises to the IRS rate of $0.76 per mile effective June 1, 2026.

As committed at the meeting, I will circulate a comparison of the approved budget against last year's, with a written narrative explaining the changes. Every dollar is accounted for, and every dollar serves veterans.

Fellow members, thank you to every chapter treasurer and adjutant who worked through this year's Annual Financial Report filings. Clean, on-time financials are the foundation this Department stands on — they protect our nonprofit standing, keep us in good graces with National, and prove to every donor and watchdog that DAV New Jersey handles its money with honor.

A few reminders as we move through the fall: keep your chapter's bank signature cards current with your newly elected officers; number your checks consecutively and never sign a blank check; and reconcile your accounts every month, not just at filing time. If your chapter is working through its filing or has questions about the numbers, reach out to Department Headquarters early — we would far rather help you get it right than watch a deadline pass.

Thank you for the trust you place in this office. Every dollar is accounted for, and every dollar serves veterans.

DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE

George Schnepf

A few points of law for chapter officers. First, on chapter constitutions: keep them brief. As the National Judge Advocate puts it, “the less you put in there, the better off you are.” Use the fillable model constitution on dav.org. And know this: meeting-attendance quotas as a condition for running for chapter office will be rejected by National — only a membership card is required.

Second, I am drafting resolutions to National addressing shelter laws that exclude dependents — a problem that leaves homeless women veterans with children without options. This is the kind of issue DAV exists to fix.

Third, a transportation rule worth repeating: DAV trust and network vehicles may only be used for VA or approved community-care appointments. Plan accordingly.

Finally, mark Monday, October 26: a Woodbridge nonprofit is kicking off free veteran transportation — DD214 required. Contact Headquarters for details.

Second: the bylaws are not suggestions. Meeting notice requirements, quorum rules, and proper handling of motions exist to protect every member's voice — especially when a vote is contentious. If your chapter faces a disciplinary question, remember that suspensions and removals follow the procedures in Article 16 of the National Constitution and Bylaws, including written notice and the member's right to be heard. Shortcuts in discipline cases have a way of becoming much larger problems.

If you are unsure whether a chapter action complies with the governing documents, ask before you act. My door is open to every chapter officer in the state.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

Anthony Stradford

Brethren, it was my honor to open and close our September DEC meeting in prayer, as I do each time we gather to do the Department's business.

As we move through this fall season, I ask you to keep in your hearts the veterans facing illness, the families carrying the weight of caregiving, and our Gold Star families, whose sacrifice is beyond measure. If you know a member who is struggling, do not wait — reach out, sit with them, and let them know their DAV family stands beside them.

May you stay safe and well in the weeks ahead, and know that my prayers are with each of you.

As October arrives, my prayers are with each of you and your families. This is a season of remembrance and gratitude — for the harvest, for our loved ones, and for the freedoms secured by those who served.

Please keep in your thoughts the veterans facing illness, the families carrying the weight of caregiving, and our Gold Star families, whose sacrifice is beyond measure. If you know a member who is struggling, do not wait — reach out, sit with them, and let them know their DAV family stands beside them.

I look forward to joining many of you at upcoming events this fall. May you stay safe, stay well, and know that you are always in my prayers.

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

Joshua Jude

My doctrine for this year is simple: access delayed is access denied. That drives our two-pronged transportation strategy — the traditional volunteer network plus independent chapter solutions, because veterans need rides to groceries and the barber as well as to the VA.

> ***"Access delayed is access denied."***

The Commander and I have begun battlefield circulation — visiting chapters one by one, starting with Chapter 66 in Hamilton and then Chapter 41, where we discussed the Major Richard Star Act. We are coming to you.

Two tools every member should know: the LVAP form on davnj.org, which I have been demoing live at chapters — your membership number, name, email, and monthly activity go straight to our LVAP chair and National; and the DAV CAN button on our homepage, where two clicks send a prefilled email to your legislator.

On corporate sponsorships: we have secured our first — a $2,500 check from Johnson & Johnson — and Novo Nordisk is donating rollator walkers. Our goal is $20,000 a year. If your employer gives, talk to me.

A final word on the September 30 AFR deadline: the Department enforced it with zero tolerance, as promised. Thank you to the chapters that filed complete and on time.

- **Annual Financial Reports.** Thank you to every chapter adjutant and treasurer who filed a complete, on-time report. If your chapter is still working through its filing, Headquarters is here to help — reach out early rather than late.

As always, my door is open. Call Headquarters at (609) 396-2885 or email adjutant@davnj.org.

VA & NATIONAL NEWS

VA breaks record: more than 3 million disability claims processed

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced it processed more than 3 million disability claims in fiscal year 2026, surpassing the previous record. The department said it awarded more than $207 billion in compensation and pension benefits to veterans and survivors. The claims backlog has fallen by more than 70%, and the average time to complete a disability claim decision has dropped from about 20 weeks to about 11 weeks.

Watchdog: VA wrongly shelved 35,100 pieces of veterans' mail

The VA Office of Inspector General concluded that Veterans Benefits Administration staff wrongly stamped roughly 35,100 mail packets “unidentifiable” between July 2018 and March 2025, even though the packets carried enough information — names, Social Security numbers, file numbers — to route them to a specific claim. The mislabeling left veterans underpaid by at least a combined $822,000, a figure the inspector general called a floor rather than a ceiling. The OIG issued four recommendations, all directed at the Veterans Benefits Administration.

2027 disability pay: COLA could be the biggest in 3 years

Current forecasts project a 2027 cost-of-living adjustment of between 3.2% and 3.6% — the largest increase in three years. The bill that would raise veterans' disability compensation for 2027 (H.R. 8552 in the House, with a Senate companion) had not cleared either chamber at the time of reporting, though the increase is written to take effect December 1, 2026. The final COLA will not be known until the September CPI-W figures are released.

VA eases claims for veterans whose records burned in the 1973 fire

Veterans whose service records were damaged or destroyed in the July 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center near St. Louis now have an easier path to file claims. The VA says that if a veteran has already submitted the required forms, claims processors will not ask again unless the records center specifically needs new information. The fire affected about 16 million records, including Army veterans discharged between 1912 and 1960 and Air Force veterans discharged between 1947 and 1964.

PENDING VETERANS LEGISLATION

The following bills are before Congress and would affect veterans if enacted:

- **H.R. 210 —** Would expand VA dental care eligibility for veterans enrolled in VA health care, phased in over four years.
- **H.R. 659, Veterans Law Judge Experience Act —** Would deepen VA-law experience requirements for judges deciding veterans' appeals.
- **H.R. 1578 —** Would ensure unrepresented claimants are told upfront that free accredited help is available when filing initial claims.
- **H.R. 2302 —** Would help the Board of Veterans' Appeals hire and retain experienced attorneys to reduce the appeals backlog.
- **H.R. 3833, Veterans' Caregiver Appeals Modernization Act —** Would clarify appeal rights for family caregivers denied or removed from the VA caregiver program.
- **H.R. 6047 —** Would add $833.33 per month for severely disabled veterans receiving Aid and Attendance, plus a larger COLA for DIC recipients.
- **H.R. 10463 —** Would provide concurrent receipt of disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with combat-related disabilities.

VOLUNTEER HOURS (LVAP)

A reminder that a maximum of 10 hours per day can be claimed, including travel time to and from events. Please report all of your volunteer hours — time on the phone with veterans, emails about claims, event setup, driving, and research that supports a claim all count. DAV reports these hours to Congress, watchdog groups, members, and donors; every hour strengthens our voice. Chapter totals will be published in this newsletter monthly going forward.

Chapter	YTD Hours	Volunteers
W Hudson S Bergen #25	2,099.00	49
Cape May County #44	1,006.00	35
Argonne #18	878.00	9
Ft Monmouth Mem #29	756.00	32
Woodbridge Mem #56	694.00	10
Steven Villo Mem #70	477.00	40
Argonne #1 of Northern NJ	467.50	14
Glassboro #80	222.00	6
John E Brion #81	108.00	1
Belleville Nutley #22	82.00	10
Atlantic City-Absecon #10	56.50	6
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	**7,206.00**	**215**

Source: DAV National LVAP Statistics Report, NJ Department, execution date September 23, 2026. YTD = membership year to date.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 2026 — Veteran Events Across New Jersey

- Oct 1 (held) — DAV Chapter 58 Doughnut Social, 9:30 AM, Vineland Veterans Home.
- Oct 2 (held) — “Coffee with a Vet,” 9–11 AM, Semper Marine Detachment 205, Vineland.
- Oct 3 (held) — VFW Post 2906 Veterans Festival Weekend, doors 1 PM.
- Oct 3 (held) — DAV Chapter 32 tag sale, 9 AM–4 PM, 8 Veterans Plaza, Bergenfield.
- Oct 6 (held) — Burlington County Veterans Expo, 5–8 PM, Rowan College at Burlington County, Mount Laurel.
- Oct 7 — Poetry Workshop for Veterans, 1:30–2:30 PM, NJ Reentry Corp., Carteret (also Oct 28).
- Oct 7 — Female Veteran Committee kickoff meeting (held), 10 AM, Department HQ, Trenton.
- Oct 8 — Hunterdon County 3rd Annual Veterans Resource Fair, 11 AM–3 PM, Razberry’s Banquet Center, Frenchtown.
- Oct 8 — DAV National Legislative Briefing (virtual), 2 PM ET, Microsoft Teams.
- Oct 9 — Open Mic Night Supporting Veterans, 7–11 PM, American Legion Post 452, Mullica Hill.
- Oct 10 — DAV Chapter 66 Auxiliary 2nd Annual Veterans Appreciation Event, 11 AM–4 PM, Hammonton Lake Park.
- Oct 10 — Post 289 Riders End of Season Party, American Legion Post 289.
- Oct 11 — “1 Soldier 1 Dog 1 Team” Fundraiser, 12–4 PM, American Legion Post 434, Manalapan.
- Oct 11 — Northern NJ Veterans Memorial Cemetery Ride, KSU 11:30 AM, American Legion Post 132, Franklin.
- Oct 12 — DAV Chapter 58 Breakfast Get-Together, 10:30 AM, Golden Palace, Vineland.
- Oct 13 — United States Navy Birthday.
- Oct 14 — Veterans on the Green golf outing, 7:30 AM–3 PM, Galloping Hill Golf Course, Kenilworth.
- Oct 14 — Veteran Appreciation Dinner, 3–6 PM, VFW Post 3020, Delran.
- Oct 16 — DAV NJ Department Convention Committee Meeting (virtual), 1–2 PM, Zoom.
- Oct 17 — American Legion DEC Meeting / Picture Day, 8:30 AM, Post 129, Toms River.
- Oct 17 — American Legion Auxiliary Post 186 Meet & Greet, Hammonton area.
- Oct 17 — Veterans Car Show & Cornhole Tournament, Glasstown Brewery, Millville.
- Oct 18 — Rutherford American Legion Benefit Concert, Post 109, Rutherford.
- Oct 20 — DSO/CSO CMS Refresher Training (virtual), 2:30 PM.
- Oct 20–22 — DMAVA Veterans Outreach Kiosks, Jersey Gardens Mall.
- Oct 21 — Veteran Business Referral Network, 8–10 AM, Holiday Inn, Cherry Hill.
- Oct 22 — DAV Chapter 58 Monthly Meeting, 7 PM, Vineland Veterans Home.
- Oct 24 — Post 109 Annual Pig Roast, American Legion Post 109, Rutherford.
- Oct 26 — Free veteran-transportation nonprofit kickoff (Monday evening), Woodbridge — DD214 required.
- Oct 28 — Mobile Stand Down, 10 AM–2 PM, Vineland Walmart parking lot.

- Oct 28 — Veterans Job Fair & Resource Event, 10 AM, Gloucester County Library, Mullica Hill.
- Oct 29 — DAV Chapter 58 Marine Dinner, 5 PM, Marine Detachment 205, Vineland.
- Oct 31 — Halloween.
- Fridays & Saturdays in October — Veterans Nights at Coombs Barnyard, 7 PM, Elmer.

WOMEN VETERAN EVENTS

October 2026

• Oct 5–Dec 14 — Women Veterans Bootcamp (South Jersey), The Hopkins House, Haddon Township — fitness & camaraderie, free.

• Oct 16 — Operation Sisterhood: Crafts & Comradery, 6:30–8:30 PM, YWCA Northern NJ, Clifton — free monthly gathering (3rd Fridays thru Feb 2027). Contact: Liliana Rosario, lrosario@ywcannj.org, 201-345-1881.

• Oct 30 — Women Veterans Wellness Retreat, 9 AM–1:30 PM, Cooper University Hospital, Camden — “Heal. Connect. Empower.” Keynote: Samantha Juan, 2026 DAV Disabled Veteran of the Year.

• Oct 31 — Operation Sisterhood Healing Hike, 10:30 AM, Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, Englewood — free outdoor hike.

• Date TBA — South Jersey Women Veterans: “Where Do I Fit Now?” — watch for the announcement.

• Nov 12 (save the date) — “Give Back: Coffee with Veterans” honoring female veterans, 2–3 PM, Westwood.

Know of a veteran event we missed? Email adjutant@davnj.org and we’ll add it to next month’s calendar.

Disabled American Veterans • Department of New Jersey
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