



## AMVETS National Ladies Auxiliary

**“We waited together...  
Now let's work together”**

January 11, 2018

TO: National Officers, PNP's, Department Presidents, Secretaries and NEC's  
FROM: Carol King, National Executive Director  
SUBJECT: FIRST CALL - 2018 Spring NEC Meeting Information

Please read the following email received from AMVETS National Executive Director Joe Chenelly about the Silver Helmet Gala and other pertinent NEC information:

**Good morning leaders:**

I hope you are having an outstanding start to the new year.

We are preparing for the [Spring NEC](#) and [Silver Helmet Gala](#), which will once again be at the Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria, VA. The Silver Helmet Gala will be Friday night, March 9. The NEC meeting will be the morning of March 10. Reservations need to be made by the end of this month at <http://bit.ly/AMVETSspring2018> or by calling (703) 845-1010.

I don't know how long the Silver Helmet dinner has been losing money, but it is getting worse. Costs of food, facility, awards and associated expenses continue to rise. AMVETS has been subsidizing each tickets for at least the past few years. That means the more who attend directly equates to more it costs the organization. That is bad business and unsustainable. For that reason we need to charge what the dinner actually costs. General tickets are \$95 this year. We have been negotiating with the hotel and other vendors to get that down and to offer a discounted price for you. NEC members and Department officers may purchase tickets for \$65, with a max of two per member. If you already bought a ticket at \$95, please contact me. I can address any questions you may have on this.

I assure you we are in no way profiting on this event. We still won't break even. We are working to secure sponsors for this event to offset that, but at this point we do not have the numbers some want.

You can access the special NEC discount at the following special link, which we ask that you do not share, or by entering NEC2018 in the promotion code field. Either I or Ali Quinn, our special projects coordinator at HQ, can help you if you need assistance or have questions. Ali is at [aguinn@amvets.org](mailto:aguinn@amvets.org).

The special discount is at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/silver-helmet-gala-tickets-40743875027?discount=NEC2018>. I've attached an order form to this email in case you'd rather order by mail.

I will send another email soon as we await confirmation from Congress on when the Commander's testimony will be. We plan to have some big announcements at the testimony and a very important bill we will be pushing.

Thank you all for your continued support,  
Joe

[Joe Chenelly](#)

[AMVETS](#) National Executive Director

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At this time, I am working to finalize the Auxiliary agenda and it will be sent out shortly as well as being posted on our website.

**REMINDER - NEC Reports are due to National Headquarters by February 1, 2018. If at all possible, please email your report in WORD format to [cking@amvets.org](mailto:cking@amvets.org).**

If you have any questions, please contact Auxiliary National Headquarters.

Thank you!