

Headquarters News



DAV Auxiliary



3725 ALEXANDRIA PIKE • COLD SPRING, KENTUCKY 41076

MEMBERSHIP

By Susan Henry, National Membership Chairman

April 1 is fast approaching! Please get your memberships to National Headquarters by March 25 to insure there is time to get them processed into the system before the Mae Holmes quota deadline.

Although April 1 plays an important role for membership, remember that the membership year does NOT end until June 30. We need to keep signing up new members all year long.

A quota member is a member signed up during the months of April, May or June for which they get membership for the remainder of this year (08-09) as well as the entire next year (09-10) for the unit's standard annual dues amount.

HOW HAS the WEATHER BEEN IN YOUR AREA???

The weather must have been bad in Colorado, Idaho and North Dakota this winter as they have made quota! Also, Puerto Rico has a tropical rain forest, so it has rained enough that they have also made quota.

CONGRATULATIONS!

There must have *only* been scattered showers across the country this winter as we are still only at 96.15% of quota nationally. Did you know that just getting renewals for the 1 & 2 year delinquents would account for 89% of the remaining members needed to make National quota. Every time it rains (or snows

or ices), contact those delinquent members. Your unit may want to assist members with dues if possible.

Membership is of utmost importance as our National Headquarters is dependent on the membership distribution for its operating expenses. As you know, over the past few years, the amount of per capita distributed to National, States, and Units has decreased per member. To avoid this occurring again, we need more members!

Let's make the weather report be: **It's raining members!**

Mae Holmes Report

By Kay Egan, National Mae Holmes Chairman

Now is the time to start getting ready for your submission of the Mae Holmes 2008-2009 report for judging. First of all, get those new memberships into headquarters. Quota must be made by April 1, 2009 to be eligible for judging. That means that they should be processed by Headquarters by that date. It does NOT mean that they should be sent in by that date. Please send them in by mid-March, if possible. There is no exact date to mail them to guarantee processing by April 1, 2009, but use your own judgment in considering mail delivery and processing time.

Make sure that everything at the top of the report form is filled out completely. We keep saying this year after year, but reports come into headquarters without the appropriate information filled out.

Please follow directions on the report itself. They are pretty much self explanatory and most of the work you will have to do is just copying figures from all the other reports. However, the Community Service, Hospital, and VAVS reports ask for an itemization for expenditures totaling \$1000.00 or more on the other side of the form. If your unit has accomplished this, please attach a copy of the form to your Mae Holmes report. When you make this copy to be attached, PLEASE copy both sides and attach them firmly to the report. Loose sheets of paper tend to get lost in all the paper shuffling that goes on between your desk, thru your State Adjutant's, various chairmen and my desk.

If you still have questions, e-mail me for an answer. My address is KayEgan@msn.com.

Good luck to you. This is a prestigious award and I wish all of you well.

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Legislative Bulletin

By Patrice Rapisand, Legislative Chairman

I recently discovered a short history about Women of World War II—these women now face their seventies, eighties, and some even their nineties. The experiences they, and many of you, lived through during World War II gave them an opportunity to test themselves at a young age. Surely, this left them with positive attitudes towards life. One story I particularly enjoyed was “*What did you do in the war, Grandmother?*” I would like to share this story—I know many of you will relate.

“I met my husband working at Gibson’s. He had a construction job building an airbase. When Pearl Harbor broke out, we got married. All the fellows had gone into the service. His brothers were all gone. All the men were leaving. My husband had a deferment because his job was considered important to the defense, and we had a nine-month-old son. But he wanted to go so badly that he quit his job. They turned his name into the draft board and he went into the service very happily.

He was shipped out to Okinawa. He was a Seabee and worked in the construction battalion, which builds bases. The Seabees would go ahead of the Marines to make the landing and do all that. He went from one island to the other across the Pacific.

After my husband went into the Seabee’s, I quit my job at Gibson’s and went to work in a woolen mill, which before the war was just a normal routine job. When the war started they needed wool very badly so this was considered a service job. In other words, it was important.

The wool would come in just like they sheered it off the sheep. It was dirty. They would put it in a carding machine, which made a big ball like rope or twine. They would be put in big barrels. I got paid \$27 a week. The soldiers needed woolen blankets. Since all the wool was used for defense, they called it a defense contract. If the factory fulfilled its contract and did good work, it had an “E” for excellence. The Mill had an “E”. We were very proud of it, because it meant we were doing our part. At the mill, the government used to send out Purple Heart soldiers to talk to us and tell us that we couldn’t take time off and pushed patriotism on us.

After the war things changed because women found out they could go out and they could survive. They could really do it on their own. That’s when I think women’s lib really started. So the whole world had changed. Everybody’s more aware of everything. We were sheltered up until 1941. I think it made us more aware. It made me mature. When my husband went in the service, I often used to think if anything happened to him, our baby was my complete responsibility. At 21 that was quite an awesome thing to think that you had a small human life you were responsible for.”

I know many of you were in the same situation as this *Grandmother* was—and when your husband came home, you joined the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary to further support them. I salute you!

SHUTTERBUGS UNITE!!!

Commander Sandy’s scrapbook has many pages waiting for your photos of her at your state, unit and area events as well as any photos you have of her at National Convention and National Fall Conference. When she visits your state, area or unit please be a shutterbug and snap a photo or two of her and send them to me.

We want her to have many great memories of her year as our National Commander and her scrapbook can provide many of those memories for her. Please send your photos to me at 415 S Henry, Apt 10, Pierre, SD, 57501.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE NOW AND ALWAYS

NATIONAL HISTORY CHAIRMAN
JUDY PERRY



National Convention Registration

The 2009 National Convention in Denver, Colorado, is fast approaching and many of you are making your plans to attend. Below you will find a tentative schedule which will help as you make your travel arrangements.

There will be a few changes for the Auxiliary this year that should speed up the registration process. ***The first change is that we will no longer furnish delegates and alternates with the traditional white or pink credential slip,*** as these are being replaced with a bar-coded letter that will be mailed directly to

them by National Headquarters.

Next month we will be sending the yellow delegate listing to each unit and state department. Elect your delegates and alternates accordingly, indicate their names on the yellow form and return to national headquarters. As the convention date approaches, a letter will be mailed to each delegate and alternate. ***This bar-coded letter will be your personal registration form.***

Present the letter to the DAV Auxiliary staff upon your arrival at which time

the bar code will be scanned to enable a speedier registration procedure. In addition, we also plan to stage a staff-assisted computerized registration kiosk where members using a credit card can scan their letters and register for the convention.

We look forward to this change and hope to make the entire registration process as time efficient for our delegates, members, and guests as possible.

See you in Denver!

Tentative National Convention Agenda

Before making your travel plans, review the tentative agenda and make note of the dates of the various meetings and functions. Keep in mind while the joint opening session is the *official* starting date of the national convention, the national NEC meeting is held in the evening of August 20 and national district meetings convene on the morning of August 21. This tentative agenda is being posted for the convenience of delegates, members, and guests who plan to attend the national convention in Denver, Colorado.

- August 20—Registration begins
- August 20—Auxiliary NEC Meeting
- August 21—National District Meetings
- August 22—Joint Opening Session
- August 22—Convention Committee Meetings
- August 22—DAV National Comdr. Reception
- August 23—Auxiliary Business Session
- August 23—Fun Night
- August 24—Auxiliary Business Session
- August 24—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
- August 25—Final Aux. Business Session
- August 25—Intro. of National Officers & Dinner

Sheraton Hotel Denver

1550 Court Place
Denver, CO 80202
Telephone: 303.893.3333
\$119.00 Single/Double



DAV AUXILIARY

Sandra Dobmeier,
National Commander

Judith Hezlep,
National Adjutant

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Phone: 859.441.7300
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: davamail@dav.org

Making a Difference, Now and Always

Reminders

- Free life membership pins are sent to members who begin their life membership and pay it in full within one membership year (July 1 through June 30). Now is the time to remind fellow members of this important deadline.
- 2009-2010 dues reminders will soon be sent to all annual senior members.
- Dues reminders are not sent to Junior members due to cost of material and postage. We ask the units to review their membership lists and contact the sponsors of these important members to urge them to renew. Junior dues are \$3.00 per membership year.
- Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders and Adjutants have the capability of generating unit reports on line. Visit www.davmembers.org; log in using your membership number and password. Then select *Request for Information*; sub-selection *Reports*; feel free to scroll through the reports available to you and experiment with various parameters. Make sure your computer is set to allow pop-ups from the DAV website. Contact national headquarters if you have any questions.
- Many units will be holding their annual elections soon. As a word of caution, review your membership roster to assure that those who vote and those who are elected are members in good standing. We don't want to embarrass a newly elected officer with the news that he/she cannot hold the office to which they were elected because they may have been remiss in paying their dues.
- In accordance with the bylaws, all senior members must receive written notification of nomination and election of officers no less than ten days prior to said nomination and election.
- Nomination and election must be held for each office. Election of an entire slate of officers with one sweeping vote is against the bylaws and weakens the integrity of the election process. If in doubt, contact a state officer or national headquarters.

Share the News!

The Headquarters News can be found on the DAV.org website. Click on the Auxiliary link, then select the News and Events tab.

Subscriptions are also available for an annual cost of \$10.

Communication is our key to success. Spread the word and share the news!