

These State Departments
 have achieved 2013-
 2014 membership quota!

Congratulations to all!

- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Utah
- Washington

3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076

May 2014

Membership By Linda Stake, National Membership Chairman

Members, "Thank you!" DAV Auxiliary has reached National Membership Quota. Our organization is successful because of each and every one of you. Your recruiting efforts have been phenomenal this year.

Twenty states and many, many units have reached quota as of April 30, 2014. We have until June 30, 2014 for all of the other States and Units to reach quota. Everyone, please, continue to "Reach for those Stars."

State Adjutants, I am appealing to you. Please look at your State's *Population Summary* and find each unit in your State that has not reached quota. Call that Unit Adjutant and see if she/he will contact members and ask for recruiting help. With a little personal effort from us, a lot can be gained for the organization.

Quota Deadline is June 30, 2014, for the 2013-2014 membership year – however, membership recruiting is ongoing and never ending. Without membership, the DAV Auxiliary would not exist. I am so very proud of our DAV Auxiliary members. Thank you, everyone, for all you do to help our disabled veterans and their families.

Mae Holmes By LeeAnn Karg, National Mae Holmes Chairman

By now you should all have made quota and are working on your year-end reports to submit to National. I am looking forward to reading about all that you have done. Working to assist our Disabled Veterans and their families is the greatest gift we can give them. It is what you and I are all about. We do it better than any other organization and we cannot STOP! I know that many of you are tired and feel like giving up, but please don't. Our veterans and their families need all of us to keep working to

improve legislation; make them feel that they are special and that we have not forgotten them.

New veterans are coming home each and every day and we must support them and make them feel that what they did is appreciated and that we will help them in any way that we can. It is what the Auxiliary does and we do it pretty darn good. Step up and support your DAV Chapters, your Auxiliary units and most of all our veterans and their families. Run for an office in your Auxiliary, volunteer to help your chapter

with their projects, come up with some projects of your own. If we could just step back in time for a moment and remember the time when spouses and families pulled together to help out a family in need or had them over for supper, or just dropped by to say hello. Bring back that kind of Americanism that seems to be lost in all the idealisms of today.

Be an American and follow your heart. Support the Disabled American Veterans and the Auxiliary. God Bless you all!

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VAVS By Ann Glende, National VAVS Representative

As we have been reviewing many of the reports that are coming in, there is one trend we are noticing... volunteer numbers are down. It seems daily we are losing volunteers, and together we need to work together and gain new ones. There are some fun suggestions to getting volunteers that we've gotten from others, and they're as follows:

- Invite members of the Auxiliary to attend a volunteer-needed event "risk free." Encourage them to come and see what volunteering is like and how big of a difference it can make.
- Encourage Auxiliary members to sign up as volunteers at the local VA on an as-needed basis, but remind them regularly of volunteer opportunities. Start a reminder email program with upcoming dates and times of events and that their assistance is needed.
- Encourage Auxiliary members to bring a friend or family member. This is a great way to spread the word about the DAV Auxiliary and also get others involved. Imagine how many people we could get to volunteer if we each just brought a friend. Consider it your new "buddy system!"
- Explain the brand of the DAV Auxiliary. Tell them we're about having fun and making a difference. Show them things we've done and encourage them to bring suggestions. Don't turn something down just because it's new! That is how we grow and learn!

There is so much that can be done at your local VA Medical Centers to aide in Veterans' needs. A great example is a hygiene product campaign. Encourage other Veteran service organizations to join in and see what organization can achieve the most hygiene items. These items can include, but are not limited to, shampoo, conditioner, female hygiene products, body wash, toothpaste and toothbrushes. These items can be donated to hospice patients, nursing home patients, and everything in between. You'd be surprised how much these items make a difference!

My deputy and I just returned from the annual NAC (National Advisory Committee) Meeting in Cary, North Carolina. It was an informative experience and we enjoyed meeting with other Veteran service organization representatives and VA staff. We look forward to sharing the information with all of you! In the meantime, keep recruiting, volunteering and making a difference!!!

2014 National Convention

Bally's Las Vegas Hotel ~ Las Vegas, Nevada
800.634.3434 ~ Room Rates \$112

There are a few agenda changes from previous years that will provide more opportunities for our attendees to attend informative DAV seminars.

Tentative Agenda

- August 7—Registration
- August 7—Auxiliary NEC Meeting
- August 8—National District Meetings (morning)
- August 9—Joint Opening Session (morning)
- August 9—Auxiliary Opening Business session (afternoon)*
- August 9—National Commander's Reception
- August 10—Memorial Service
- August 10—Auxiliary Convention Committee Meetings*
- August 11—Auxiliary Business Session
- August 11—Forget-Me-Not Luncheon
- August 12—Final Auxiliary Business Session
- August 12—Introduction of Natl. Officers & Dinner

*Indicates agenda change from previous years.

990-N ePostcard

IRS regulations require that DAV Auxiliary units and state departments must file the annual 990-N ePostcard. Again, this is an IRS **ANNUAL** requirement.

Some units have wrongly assumed that a single filing fulfills their obligation only to receive notification of the revocation of their non-profit status.

Failure to file for three consecutive years results in the revocation of the unit's tax exempt status. The reinstatement process is very involved and costly to the units.

Please comply with the IRS filing requirement and send a copy of the confirmation to state and national headquarters to remain in compliance with the national bylaws.

Always contact national headquarters if you have any questions or need assistance.

Q & A Tidbits

Q—If the Unit Commander is absent, who conducts the unit meeting?

A—In the absence of the Commander, the Senior Vice Commander and the Junior Vice Commander shall act for the Commander in order of their rank. National bylaws page U-6. No other officer/member may conduct a unit meeting.

Q—How many members need to be present to conduct a unit meeting?

A— Five senior members shall constitute a quorum. One member present shall be the Unit Commander or a Unit Vice Commander. National bylaws page U-9.

Q—On the population summary, what do the letters “R” and “B” indicate?

A—These codes originated many years ago and we are not exactly sure why those letters were used. The best way to explain is: “R” = Reached last year’s total membership, but have not yet achieved current year quota. “B” = Beat (achieved) the current membership year quota!

Q—One of our unit members has not paid annual dues for three years. Do they pay for the current year plus their delinquent years?

A—Since our membership system does not accept payment for past years, we would accept payment for the current membership year.

Legislative By Frances Costa, National Legislative Chairman

I have begun receiving End of Year Reports. Thank you to the members who participate in this effort of support for our veterans.

With so many younger veterans returning now a bill that caught my attention was H.R.357 Bill Tuition Fairness Act that would ensure that GI Bill users aren’t faced with out-of-pocket education costs based on assignment in service or if they settle in a state where they can’t immediately claim residency after leaving service. This bill would direct VA to approve for participation in VA education-benefits programs only those public institutions of higher education that charge veterans no more than in-state tuition and fees. The Senate version of this bill would extend the waiver to dependents of veterans too.

Another issue we may want to look at is the situation with the Postal Service which was privatized supposedly to become solvent but as we see, that is not the case. All recent developments within the Postal Service affect many veterans in disregard to the Postal Act 2006. Hundreds of thousands of jobs for veterans is being affected.

Many states have excellent Veterans Benefits packages, for example, my state of Massachusetts recently passed VALOR Act II which enhances the Commonwealth’s commitment to veterans by increasing property tax relief and enhancing employment, educational, and healthcare support services. It also establishes a home modification program for veterans to help them stay in their homes and function independently. These are only a few of the aspects covered under this piece of legislation. Look into your state legislation for veterans and see if there is something you can do to assist in improving veterans’ benefits.

Again, I urge our Auxiliary members to sign up for the Commanders Action Network. It is very simple and it does not require much effort on your part to follow up on the pieces of legislation that we are asked to be proactive on. DAV will send you an email and the letters are set up for you, and you only have to put in your personal information so that the letters are sent to your specific Senators and Congressmen. You can also write your own letters and follow up with personal phone calls to their local and Washington offices if you wish and you are encouraged to do so.

Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.

~Warren Buffett

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April Water Globe Recipients

Patricia Davis, Wisconsin #19
Jewel Kimmerly, Ohio #71

Sign up 15 new paid senior members and receive your own personalized "You're a Star" Water Globe!

Sign up five new paid senior members and receive a Reach For The Stars lapel pin!



DAV AUXILIARY

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United in Service

Check List Following Unit Elections

- ✓ Officers installation by a proper installing officer.
- ✓ Former officers turn over all unit property to the newly elected/appointed officers.
- ✓ Complete and submit Officer Report form to state and national headquarters.
- ✓ Submit Financial Report form along with all supporting documentation to state and national headquarters.
- ✓ Complete the annual IRS Form 990-N electronic postcard. Send copy of filing confirmation to national headquarters and state headquarters.

New Auxiliary Units

Bremerton #5
Bremerton Washington
Chartered April 2, 2014

Lafayette #2
Broussard, Louisiana
Chartered April 24, 2014

[Check out our Blog!](#)

Reminders

- **Indebted Units**—If your unit is receiving an Indebtedness Statement, this means the unit's membership distribution has not satisfied the \$25 national mandate. Indebted Units will not permitted to vote at state and national conventions.
- **State Standing Rules**—May only be changed at a State Convention. Each change must be presented to the convention body and voted on by the convention delegates at the first business session.
- **Unit Standing Rules/Changes**—must be approved by the unit body at a regular business meeting.
- **Officer and Financial Reports** are available online at www.davauxiliary.org under the *Membership/Resources* tabs.
- **Sponsors**—Take credit for recruiting new senior members by inserting your membership number on the membership application in the "Sponsor's Code Number" section. The number must be on the application in order to receive credit.
- **National Fall Conference**—Mark your calendars for the 2014 National Fall Conference to be held September 25–27, 2014, in Lexington, KY, at the Lexington Downtown Hilton Hotel. Plans are in the works to make this a very educational and memorable experience.