



“Tomorrow, is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one.”
 ~Brad Paisley

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DAV Auxiliary
 Headquarters News

3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076

January 2015

Pat Kemper Appointed DAV Auxiliary National Adjutant

By Pat Kemper

Not a day passes without the realization of how blessed I am to have the opportunity to become acquainted with so many truly remarkable people, specifically members of DAV and DAV Auxiliary. To me, membership in the Auxiliary calls to mind a profound sense of patriotism and an unwavering commitment to helping our nation’s veterans and their families. I am proud to be a member of DAV Auxiliary.

In her tenure as National Adjutant, Judy Hezlep leaves a legacy of compassion and unquestionable dedication to an organization she loves. To her, business is business, but she has always possessed the ability to lighten the mood with her quick wit and affable personality. Speaking on behalf of the office staff, we will certainly miss her.

As I step into the role of National Adjutant, I do so appreciatively and ever so humbly. Impressive achievements have been accomplished through the years, but the need for our organization is as great now as it was in 1922, if not greater. We must evolve with the changing times and serve the needs of those who need our help. Fortunately for the organization, our members can and will continue to do whatever they can to achieve the goals to get the job done.

Most of us are aware of the effects of service to country, the life-altering sacrifices, and the family units that are forever changed. That alone is what must drive our members to continue their work to make a difference in those lives. We need to be the voice for families – those who provide round-the-clock care to their injured heroes; the families dealing with personality changes due to PTSD; the children who instinctively know their lives are different from their friends. I know we can bring joy to those homes and replace the aching silence with smiles and laughter.

To succeed in reaching our goals, we need to build an active membership. There are people out there who don’t feel they can make a difference, but we need to remind them they can. Ordinary people can and do achieve extraordinary results. DAV and DAV Auxiliary should be a family effort. Everybody can participate in one way or another. Youth involvement is essential as we strive to instill values of patriotism, community service, and volunteerism in our future leaders.

I look toward the future with great optimism and hope as DAV and DAV Auxiliary continue working together in the spirit of service and compassion for those who served. And, I thank National Commander LeeAnn Karg for this amazing opportunity.

National Constitution Change Ratified

Ratification of the 2014 national convention delegate-approved national constitution change has been achieved. The change affects Page N-1, Article III—ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP, (New) Section 1. Remaining sections to be renumbered accordingly.

Section 1: Any person who is eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans is also eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Ann Glende Appointed Assistant National Adjutant

National Commander LeeAnn Karg has appointed Ann Glende as Assistant National Adjutant, effective January 1, 2015. Ann joined the national headquarters office staff in March 2014, but she has been an active member for 26 years with her first introduction to the organization as a junior member. During her tenure with the Auxiliary, she has achieved such positions as 12th District National Executive Committee Member, Wisconsin State Auxiliary Commander, currently Wisconsin State Auxiliary Treasurer, several elected and appointed state offices and chairmanships as well as a number of unit positions. On the national level, she also served as Junior Activities Chairman and VAVS Representative. She has dedicated her life to helping others, specifically veterans and their families. We wish her much success in her new appointment.

Ohio Auxiliary Members in Action!



DAV Auxiliary Members from Wesley F. Burt Unit 120, Ohio, spent an afternoon playing Bingo with the residents at the Ohio Veterans

Home in Georgetown, Ohio. Along with their smiling faces and cheerful personalities, the members also brought gifts, cash prizes, and cake for the residents.

“We really had a great time,” said Auxiliary Member Steve Howell. “The residents were very appreciative...more importantly, it was very apparent that they loved the attention of spending one-on-one time with them.”

This is another great way DAV Auxiliary members can make a difference in the communities they serve. ***Thank you Unit 120 members for your dedication!***

Does your Auxiliary unit have a project or story they would like to share? E-mail us at dava@dav.org or mail your stories to our national headquarters office.

VAVS

by **Patty Davis, National Representative**
Rose Williams, National Deputy Representative

Did you know that VAVS Representatives and Deputies have to be recertified every two years? This happens in the odd-numbered years, which means State Commanders elected at this year's state conventions will be recommending representatives to serve a two-year term. They are then certified through national headquarters and will receive a form to recommend up to three deputies to work with them. This form is then returned to national headquarters for certification.

When selecting a representative and deputy, it is important to remind them that one requirement is to attend the quarterly VAVS meetings. It is important to have representation at the meetings so the DAV Auxiliary has a voice and vote. VAMC Program Managers take attendance at the meetings, and are informed of any changes to certifications by national headquarters.

Lastly, if the VAVS Representatives in your state have yet to complete an Annual Joint Review (AJR) with the VA Medical Center Program Managers, please remind them to do so. These reviews are done on a yearly basis to discuss goals and objectives for the coming year. It also helps representatives and deputies in determining what projects to do in the future. Stay happy!

With Sincere Appreciation by Judy Hezlep, Past National Adjutant

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the many years of friendship that I have received during my employment with the DAV Auxiliary. One of the hardest decisions I have ever made was to retire from the DAV Auxiliary. It has been such a part of my life for almost 46 years and I have loved it. I have such a strong dedication to the organization and what it stands for. There have been many changes over the years, but one thing that will never change is the purpose for which we were formed. This will continue under the leadership of my good friend and the new National Adjutant Pat Kemper. Knowing she will take this new position has made the retirement easier. Our commitment to the veteran and their family will continue. I thank all of you for your support, dedication, friendship and love. Thanks for the many retirement cards and letters. I appreciate it very much and will continue to support the DAV and DAV Auxiliary as a “Retiree.” Thanks for the memories!

Americanism by Ellen Timmerman, National Americanism Chairman

January 1	New Year's Day
January 20	Inauguration Day (Every four years)
3rd Monday in	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
February 22	Washington's Birthday
3rd Monday in February	President's Day

HAPPY NEW YEAR! The past couple of months we've had some great opportunities to show our Americanism. Flying our flag on the recognized flag-flying days such as Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Pearl Harbor Day, Christmas Day and, of course, New Years. The most important way to show our Americanism, though, was to vote and I hope everyone took the time to do that.

I love to see the American Flag being flown. When I drive into town, I have such a beautiful view of a large American Flag being flown with the Rocky Mountains as the back drop

and I'm still in awe every time I see it. I am so grateful for the company that has taken the time to place the flag in this position. I would like to remind everyone to take the time to thank the businesses that fly our flag because they are showing their "Americanism" and their love of this country.

These are the days that are recognized as "flag flying" days, but I believe that every day is a perfect day to fly the American Flag. **GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!**

Community Service

by Dorothy Reese, National Community Service Chairman

Did you do something special for your community for Thanksgiving? Did you prepare extra food to take to someone in need or was housebound? Did you run errands for groceries or prescriptions, take someone who does not drive to a medical appointment or to the hair salon?

The holidays are now past us, and we all start fresh with New Year's resolutions. Perhaps you can start by purchasing some little gifts and giving them to those in need. What a blessing you will get from seeing the expression on their faces that someone cared enough to think of them. The fact that you do one caring thing for one person will put joy in your heart. As the New Year moves on, you will want to do it again and again, and you'll be hooked on community service!

Remember that we will soon be filling out our annual reports, and if you haven't started keeping track, do it now so that at the last minute your adjutant won't have to dig through everything to fill out the reports.

Mae Holmes

by Linda Stake, National Mae Holmes Chairman

Happy 2015 Everyone! We have wound up our 2014 activities and will begin recording all of our 2015 hours, miles, and money spent for different programs. When we think of Mae Holmes, we must think of our membership program.

There are only three months left to reach membership quota for state and national competition – January, February, and March. Remember, **quota must be met by April 1, 2015, to qualify for the Mae Holmes Award.**

Unit adjutants, if your unit has not reached quota, please check and see how many members are needed and let your members know. Then, all members can work really hard and reach that magic number by April 1. By reaching quota, it is possible for your unit to be the best in the state and nation. Happy recruiting!



National Commander LeeAnn Karg to Lay Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns

National Commander LeeAnn Karg will represent the DAV Auxiliary in a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at 10:15 a.m.

If you are planning to attend the DAV Legislative Mid-Winter Conference or will be in the area on that date, you are welcome to attend.

www.davauxiliary.org



New Auxiliary Unit
James E. Peters #57
Abingdon, VA
Chartered
December 11, 2014

Earn a gift certificate
for the DAV Store!



Sign up 20 new paid senior members and receive a \$30 gift certificate for merchandise from the DAV Store!



Earn a "Together as One" Lapel Pin!

Sign up five new paid senior members and receive a "Together as One" lapel pin.

Making a difference in the lives of disabled veterans and their families.

DAV AUXILIARY

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DAV and Auxiliary, Together As One

Reminders:

- **990-N:** Each year a 990-N e-Postcard (or long-form 990 for gross receipts over \$50,000) should be completed. The IRS will send an email to the user notifying them of an accepted or rejected postcard. The acceptance should be sent to state and national headquarters and a copy should also be retained for the unit files. If the postcard has been rejected, please contact national headquarters for further assistance.
- **Applications:** When sending in membership applications, please print clearly and legibly. Include a date of birth and indicate a unit preference.
- **Membership Cards:** If a member receives a membership card with incorrect information, please have them contact national headquarters. A new card can will be issued and mailed to the member.
- **Distribution:** If your unit's membership distribution has not satisfied the \$25 national mandate, an indebtedness statement will be included with the January month-end mailing. It is suggested that the unit submit a check to cover the outstanding indebtedness so the unit is cleared for voting at state and national conventions.

Important Notice -

A California-based organization has contacted DAV Auxiliary units that have lost their tax-exempt status claiming to have been commissioned by national headquarters to assist with the reinstatement process. This company is a fee-based, creditable company, a member of the Better Business Bureau, and focuses on non-profit organizations who are in tax-exemption revocation processes.

However, this company has **not** been contracted by DAV Auxiliary national headquarters, and is **not** working on our behalf to assist units as they are claiming. **When a unit's tax-exempt status has been revoked, national headquarters staff will work directly with unit officers to assist with the process of becoming reinstated.**

The company in question has been notified to halt all communication with DAV Auxiliary units. Had a concerned member not called our office for verification, we would not have known about this matter. Should your unit be contacted by any business/organization claiming to represent the national organization, please collect their information then contact national headquarters immediately.

If in doubt, contact us at 877.426.2838 Option 5.