

DAV Auxiliary Newsletter



860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018

July 2025

Membership by Kathleen Wenthe, National Membership Chairman

What an incredible finish we had with membership as of June 30th! I can't thank each of you enough for your continued push to recruit new members across the country. Many state departments made quota this year thanks to your determination and drive.

Congratulations to each unit and state department that achieved quota this year! Your efforts did not go unnoticed, I assure you.

A winner has been drawn for the Ft. Myers Beach, FL vacation trip and we'd like to congratulate Edyth Bradford! (I am still offering to bring those steaks for the grill, LOL)

Two members who paid \$50 down have also been drawn to have their life membership paid in full. How amazing is that? Congratulations Denise Jackson and Ashley Akaragwe!

We welcome each and every member that has been recruited this year. Whether you are a DAV Chapter member supporting your Unit by becoming a member or a new member willing to be as active as you can be, we thank you!

Now, let's chat. We pushed hard and got some serious new membership in the Auxiliary, but guess what time it is? That's right, it's time to start all over again and begin recruiting new members for the 2025-2026 year!

Your new quota is based on the June 30th membership, so take a look at the new population summary as soon as you can. It will tell you how many members you need to recruit to make the new year's quota. If you are unsure of what you are looking for, send an email up to National, and they will be happy to explain it to you.

Basically, it breaks down like this: The 2025-2026 membership quota is based on the previous year's (2024-2025) membership after removing deceased, transferred out, and canceled members. The quota is set in the following manner: Units having **less than 50 members** are increased by one. (Example: A unit having 28 members would have a quota of 29 members.) Units with **50 or more members** would increase one for every 25 members or major fraction thereof. (Example: A unit having 75 members would have a quota of 78 members.)

Let's start this new fiscal year off with a bang and see who the first state will be to make quota! Let's get out there and keep recruiting those who want to make a difference in the lives of Veterans and their families!

Legislative by Terry Grabowski, National Legislative Chairman

The Commanders Action Network (CAN) needs your help more than ever. There are many bills coming up that are critical and need your attention and support. Keep in mind that you do not have to belong to DAV or DAV Auxiliary to participate in CAN. Get your neighbors and friends to join. The more we get to join, the more it can help our mission. If you need help joining please reach out to me.

The following bills need your support!

- H.R. 865, the Service-Disabled Veteran Opportunities in Small Business Act
- S. 702, the Veterans Mental Health and Addiction Therapy Quality of Care Act
- H.R. 2605/S. 1441, the Service Dogs Assisting Veterans Act
- H.R. 1242, the Hire Veterans Act
- H.R. 1970, the Providing Veterans Essential Medication Act

This bill they are asking you to **oppose**:

- **H.R. 3132, the CHOICE for Veterans Act**

DEADLINE IS NOW: The deadline to purchase tickets for the "Legacy of Service—the Forget-Me-Not National Commanders Testimonial Luncheon" honoring National Commander Christopher Easley is **Friday, July 18, 2025**. No tickets will be sold on site! The luncheon is \$65 per person, and tickets can be purchased by calling our office at 833.368.1220. If sending a check to national headquarters, we **must** receive it by the deadline. See you in Las Vegas!

Community Service by Jane Casher, National Community Service Chairman

Summer is upon us, and it represents sunshine, good company, and the sizzle of the grill. It highlights the simple pleasures of good weather, good food and spending time with loved ones. There will be county and state fairs advertising their magnificent events. This is the perfect time to engage your DAV Auxiliary members to set up an exhibit and display the programs that the DAV and DAV Auxiliary have to offer. You could also sign up a few new members. Do not forget to wear your Auxiliary apparel.

As the National Chairman for Community Service, I would love to see photographs of your Unit participating in their creative events. I will be organizing and assembling an album to be displayed at the 2025 National Convention in Las Vegas. If your Auxiliary Unit would like to submit a photo, please mail it to Jane Casher, 166 Portobello Rd, Radcliff, Kentucky 40160, or bring your photo to National Convention. The photo should have a short narrative of the event. Make sure you have permission from the parent or legal guardian of Juniors that are in the photograph. No names, please, just your Unit number, and one photo per event. This is strictly voluntary, and the photo will be used for the album only and become the property of the National DAV Auxiliary. I look forward to assembling this Special Project.

The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members. The DAV Auxiliary Community is truly making a difference. Please record all your hours, miles, and donations for next year's report. I had the privilege to view the Community Service reports and I was awestruck. The many acts of kindness the Auxiliary members do for the Veterans and their families brought tears to my eyes. Some examples are members providing transportation for Veterans to and from doctor appointments, caring for Veterans that are ill, shopping for Veterans, providing gifts to both Veterans and spouses, holding the hand of a Veteran while in the hospital or providing hygiene items to the homeless Veterans. I am so proud to be a member of the greatest organization out there, **the DAV Auxiliary**.

Mae Holmes Outstanding Unit by Melissa Pierce, National Chairman

Wow – it's been another great year with the DAV Auxiliary! It's awesome to see all the work our units have been doing to fulfill the DAV Auxiliary mission of helping veterans and their families.

Our units have held membership drives that have increased our numbers. Membership is important not only to sustain our organization, but to give us a stronger voice when we are advocating for our veterans.

We have shown our American pride from coast to coast. We participated in parades, helped place flags, attended ceremonies and more. Showing pride in our country is easy and it's something we all do almost every day. Be proud and show it!

We have made an impact legislatively. Our members are active in DAV CAN (Commanders Action Network) and have sent thousands of emails to their representatives. As much as we have done, we can do more. Encourage your members, family, strangers, to sign up for DAV CAN and advocate for our veterans!

Our future, our juniors, are also proving that they are vital members of our organization. They are assisting with meetings. They are out doing fundraising. They are assisting with Forget-Me-Not drives. They are participating in parades. They are placing flags on veteran graves. Keep them active. Keep them involved. Keep them!

We are supporting our VA's. Whether volunteering or donating funds and supplies. We are showing that we are an asset to our VA's and the veterans they serve. If you haven't reached out to your VA to see how you can volunteer or support them, please do!

We are excelling in community support for our veterans and their families. We are helping with yard work. We are driving veterans to the store, on errands, doctor appointments and more. We are giving haircuts. We are assisting with home repairs. We help with food drives and food pantries. We are showing the veterans in our communities that we are there and that we will do everything we can to support them!

DAV Auxiliary you are proving that you support the Auxiliary mission of helping veterans and their families. You are proving that you will stand up for our veterans. You are proving that you will show up for our veterans. Continue showing up! Continue standing out! Because we are the greatest and I can't wait to see what the future holds for us!