



New membership applications and brochures are available by contacting National Headquarters at 877.426.2838, option 5. There is no charge for these items.



**Life Membership Amounts:**

| <u>Age</u>       | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|---------------|
| 80 and over      | Free          |
| 71 through 79    | \$140         |
| 61 through 70    | \$180         |
| 46 through 60    | \$200         |
| 31 through 45    | \$230         |
| Birth through 30 | \$250         |



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# DAV Auxiliary Headquarters News

3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076

August/September 2015

## Linda Stake Elected National Commander



Linda Stake of Heber Springs, Arkansas, was elected to the office of National Commander at the DAV Auxiliary's 93rd National Convention in Denver, Colorado. Membership eligibility is through her husband, Charles, a night-vision goggles instructor and flight engineer aboard the UH-60 Blackhawk, injured during Operation Desert Storm.

Witnessing firsthand the struggles and roadblocks experienced by veterans to receive proper and prompt medical care, Linda soon realized the importance of veterans' advocacy not just for her husband, but for all veterans. Her compassionate nature coupled with a strong determination for doing what is right has impacted many veteran families not just in her community, but across the nation. This passion has been deeply instilled in her three daughters and all family members as they have become staunch veteran supporters.

Linda served as State Commander for the DAV Auxiliary State Department of Arkansas in 2003, and was appointed State Adjutant in 2005, a position that she currently holds. Nationally, Linda served as the 21st District NEC, and began her journey to the organization's highest office in 2010-2011 having been elected as National 4<sup>th</sup> Junior Vice Commander then advancing through each Vice Commander position.

A graduate of Arkansas State University, Linda holds a dual degree—a Bachelor of Science in Business Education and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. Her graduate hours toward a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) were from Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri. She was a teacher for 21 years in Missouri, and a 14-year business owner in Heber Springs, Arkansas.

Commander Stake has chosen a fitting theme "DAV & DAV Auxiliary—Partners Pulling Together." There is no better manner to accomplish our goals than by pulling together with the parent organization and each other. We can and will continue to grow and achieve our mission of service in helping Veterans and their families.

### 2015-2016 National Officers

Announcing the newly elected national officers:

- Senior Vice Commander & Mae Holmes Chm.—Frances Costa, Massachusetts
- 1st Jr. Vice Commander & Membership Chm.—Craig Johniken, Texas
- 2nd Jr. Vice Commander & Legislative Chm.—Ellen Timmerman, New Mexico
- 3rd Jr. Vice Commander & Americanism Chm.—Diane Franz, Florida
- 4th Jr. Vice Commander & Community Service Chm.—Lynn Prosser, South Carolina
- National Judge Advocate—Donna Adams, Arizona

## National Fall Conference

There is limited hotel room availability for the 2015 National Fall Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, October 1-3. Rates start at \$125 per night plus applicable taxes, and reservations can be made by calling the Galt House Hotel at 502.589.5200.

Try to arrive early for the Health Fair on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Let's show our true colors and wear our red, white, and blue to the first conference session on Thursday evening. Whether it's a small lapel pin or an all out Uncle Sam outfit, let's make a patriotic statement! We look forward to seeing you in Louisville!

## National Chairmen and Appointees

National Commander Linda Stake made the following appointments with the approval of the National Executive Committee:

National Chaplain—Aura-Lee Nicodemus, New Hampshire  
 History Chairman—Joyce Humes, Texas  
 Hospital Chairman—Terry Grabowski, New York  
 Interim Constitution & Bylaws Committee—Christina Fairin, Chairman, Oregon;  
 Delores Roussey, Florida; Judy Steinhouse, North Dakota  
 Junior Activities—Darlene Spence, Texas  
 Sgt. At Arms—Karla Schwartz, Indiana  
 VAVS Representative—Nancy Mooney, Massachusetts  
 VAVS Deputy Representative—Elizabeth Eldridge, Massachusetts  
 VAVS Deputy Representative—Ann Glende, Kentucky  
 National Adjutant—Pat Kemper, Kentucky  
 National Assistant Adjutant—Bunny Clos, Kentucky

## Americanism by Ellen Timmerman, National American Chairman

I decided to start my last article on Americanism like I started my first one because it is important that we remember what Americanism is.

I want to remind everyone how important it is that we practice Americanism every day. If you listen to what is on social media very few people believe in or practice Americanism, but I know this isn't true. I've watched very young children stand at attention when our National Anthem is played or the American flag passes by. I've watched people of all ages stand together to honor our flag and our veterans.

I'm proud to be an American, I'm proud to fly our flag, and I am so proud of all of our Veterans for giving me the right to do this.

**GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!**

## Amer-i-can-ism

*noun* \ə-'mer-ə-kə-,ni-zəm, -'mər-, -'me-rə-\ : a word or meaning that is common in U.S. English but is not common in the kinds of English spoken outside the U.S.

1: a characteristic feature of [American](#) English especially as contrasted with British English

2: attachment or allegiance to the traditions, interests, or ideals of the United States

3a : a custom or trait peculiar to [America](#)

*b* : the political principles and practices essential to American culture

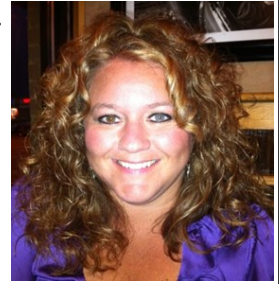
(from *the Auxiliary Manual*)

## Bunny Clos Appointed Assistant National Adjutant

National Commander Linda Stake, with the approval of the National Executive Committee, has appointed Bunny Clos to the position of Assistant National Adjutant. A DAV Auxiliary employee since 1998, Bunny is an asset to the organization and very knowledgeable in all facets of the office workings.

Bunny is a member of Northern Kentucky DAV Auxiliary Unit #19, and resides in Alexandria, Kentucky, with her husband, Brian, and twins, Taylor and Tanner, who are avid basketball players. Parenting active teenagers keeps her schedule full with maneuvering through the complexities of basketball practice and games, golfing, and other extracurricular activities. Her son, Ted, is a registered nurse with a September 2015 wedding date quickly approaching.

We congratulate Bunny on her appointment and wish her great success.



## Mae Holmes by Frances J. Costa, National Mae Holmes Chairman

Hello Everyone! With my new position as National Senior vice Commander, I am also responsible for being the Mae Holmes chairman. I would like to thank you all for your continued support and want you to know that I am just a phone call or email away if you have any questions regarding Mae Holmes. I promise to get you the answer if I don't readily have it.

Now that summer is winding down our unit meetings and activities begin. Being as the Mae Holmes report is a culmination of what your unit does for the year, I would like to encourage unit committee chairmen, adjutants, and commanders to make it easier on yourself when filling out the end of year reports by keeping track of all of your various activities monthly or at each unit meeting. Some units still meet monthly and that is great, but when you meet only four times a year it is difficult to keep track of all the hours, miles, dollars spent, and who did what, where, and when which is required on the end of year reports. If your chairman keeps a running tally listing names and amounts donated or spent it will help when adding everything up at the end of year. It could be beneficial for each chairman to keep a copy of the report at each meeting listing the names of volunteers, what was done and or how much was spent. Remember itemizing means listing each item and amounts for each and must balance to meet your totals reported.

You must keep track of it all because on the Mae Holmes, you must attach copies of other reports that total \$1,000.00 or more. Please have your units be cautious about attaching these copies (**preferably you** should staple them) so that they do not get separated. Also on the Mae Holmes report you must submit **three (3)** copies to your state adjutant (where all others require 2). The purpose of this is so that a copy will be sent by your state adjutant not only to the national chairmen but also a copy goes to your district National Executive Committee member. Many times if they are not attached, pages get lost or do not get forwarded on by the state adjutant to your department judging committees and therefore you may not get the credit that is due your unit because attachments were missing. Our State Adjutants have a large responsibility and it should not be left to them to make additional copies which could also account for missing attachments.

There has been an eligibility requirement change for units to qualify for consideration of the Mae Holmes Award. **There is no longer a membership quota requirement.** In past years, many worthy units have been eliminated from award consideration based on the April 1 membership quota requirement which is oftentimes unattainable and deflating to the members who put forth exceptional effort in the various programs of our organization. Now, more than ever, units should fill out the Mae Holmes report and take pride in their overall achievements.

In keeping with Commander Linda Stake's theme for the year "DAV and DAV Auxiliary - Partners Pulling Together" we need also to pull together within our units and chapters with all of our programs.

[www.davauxiliary.org](http://www.davauxiliary.org)



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*DAV and DAV Auxiliary—Partners Pulling Together*

“We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together.”  
~ Bill Richardson

### New Auxiliary Units

Prince Williams #15  
Manassas, VA  
Chartered July 28, 2015

Asheboro #38  
Asheboro, NC  
Chartered July 28, 2015

Canandaigua #4  
Canandaigua, NY  
Chartered July 29, 2015

Lumberton #7  
Lumberton, NC  
Chartered July 29, 2015

Clark County #13  
Springfield, OH  
Chartered July 29, 2015

Anniston-Oxford #98  
Anniston, AL  
Chartered August 21, 2015

Wayne County Mem. #14  
Honesdale, PA  
Chartered August 25, 2015

Congratulations and  
welcome!

## Reminders ~

- ◆ **Bylaw Books**—The updated national constitution and bylaw books are not yet available. We hope to have them available for the Fall Conference.
- ◆ It is recommended that Units establish some form of **Standing Rules** to cover instances that may arise such as paying registration and/or banquet expenses at state or national functions, ordering flowers/ making donations in the event of the death of a member, services for a departed member, ordering membership pins for new members, ordering past commander pins, etc. Standing rules will differ from unit to unit due to the unique nature of individual units, but standing rules may never conflict with the national constitution and bylaws. Unit standing rules may be amended at any regular business meeting by a majority vote of members present.
- ◆ **990-N e-Postcard**— In accordance with the IRS Provisions Act of 2006, all units and state departments (with gross receipts of less than \$50,000) must file a 990-N e-Postcard. This is an electronic postcard and can only be filed online. The IRS requires filing the 990-N e-Postcard within five months and fifteen days following the close of their accounting period. Units and state departments failing to file the electronic postcard could be in jeopardy of losing their non-profit status. Once the IRS has accepted the yearly filing, state and national headquarters are required to receive a copy per the national constitution and bylaws. Contact national headquarters if you need assistance.
- ◆ Remember, it is the **Adjutant's** responsibility to share all mail. It is not the Adjutant's personal mail.

### Convention Donations

Thank you to the State Departments, Units, and Members who made donations to the DAV Auxiliary programs during National Convention.

The collection amounts were as follows:

Scholarship: \$3,525  
Camp Corral: \$1,100

Service Support: \$2,617  
General Fund: \$351.75

Winter Sports Clinic: \$744.96