

DAV Auxiliary Headquarters News



3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076 | December 2017



December American Flag flying Holidays

December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day
December 25 - Christmas Day

"The American flag represents
all of us and all the values we
hold sacred."

~ Adrian Cronauer

Inside this issue:

Short Financial Forms	1
IRS Reporting Period	1
Hospital (Non-VA)	2
Junior Activities	2
National Convention	2
Legislative	3
A Great Day for Ice Cream	3
PNC Dorothy Van Hoy	4
Mae Holmes	4

Annual Financial Reports

In the October mailing, each unit and state Adjutant not currently operating on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year received information on completing a short-year financial report from the close of their 2017 fiscal year through June 30, 2017. All units and state departments that were not operating on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year prior to this are required to fill out the form, and have it audited even if there was no activity. These reports are due to national headquarters no later than December 31, 2017.

For example, if your unit's fiscal year ended March 30, 2017, a short-year financial report will need to be completed for April 1, 2017, through June 30, 2017. Moving forward, the unit reporting period will be July 1 through June 30, and the next annual financial report that the unit will submit will be for the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. This annual financial report will be due by September 30, 2018.

Units and state departments who do not submit the short-year financial report by December 31, 2017, will risk having their unit or state delegates register as a guest with no voice/vote at the state and national convention. Don't disappoint your members—complete the form as soon as possible!

If you have any questions regarding this process please contact national headquarters. Thank you for prompt attention to this matter.

IRS Reporting Period

We have received notification that all DAV Auxiliary units and state departments are now on a July 1 to June 30 reporting year for completing the appropriate 990 form as warranted by income (we are still awaiting determination if a short-year 990 submission will be necessary for units and state departments.)

What does that mean? Effective immediately, units and state departments will complete the appropriate 990 form (990-N, 990-EZ, etc.) after July 1 of each year. Those completing the 990-N will be required to have it submitted and accepted by the IRS no later than the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of the tax year, or November 15. Units or state departments that do not complete the 990-N e-Postcard by November 15 will be considered late, and while still accepted by the IRS, will not count as being completed. Units and state departments who do not file an on-time 990-N e-Postcard for three consecutive years will risk losing their tax-exempt status.

As a reminder, the 990-N e-Postcard can only be completed online by visiting the IRS website. If your unit is unable to complete the postcard, please contact national headquarters and a staff member will complete the form on the unit or state departments behalf. Do not throw away your tax-exempt status. It is costly and time consuming having it reinstated.

Hospital (Non-VA) by Linda Bailey, National Hospital Chairman



I hope everyone that attended Fall Conference enjoyed the hospital skit. Remember, “there is NO place like home.” We, as DAV Auxiliary members, can assist veterans in local nursing homes, local hospitals, and state veterans homes if you do not have a VA Medical Center close to you. Stop by these facilities and talk to the activities director. Ask if there are veterans in the facility, and if so, do they have a needs list that your unit can assist with.

Let’s have a recap of the DAV Auxiliary Hospital Program (Non-VA Work):

- Count the number of visits to veterans
- Count the number of hours you spent performing volunteer services in the facilities
- Count the number of miles traveled to and from the facilities
- Keep track of the cost assessed at actual value for all items/activities at the facilities

When completing your hospital report only include non-VA Hospital work. The volunteer work you do for the veterans will bless you as much as the veterans.

Junior Activities by Kimberly Stake, National Junior Activities Chairman

Have your junior members filled out their 2018 calendars? Now is a great time to plan activities for the whole year. Let your juniors brainstorm and come up with the ideas of their own and plan the year’s activities. You may be surprised at all the neat things they will plan.

Our DAV Auxiliary Junior members have “big hearts”! They love, share and care about our veterans. With the holidays right around the corner, juniors can “share the love” with our hospitalized and nursing home veterans. They can take holiday cards to veterans and show their love and appreciation. Juniors can make their own or buy them. They can take extra cards to the nursing homes and help the veterans address and mail holiday cards to someone special.



Since we appreciate everything our juniors do, let’s show them how much we appreciate them. There is a web page dedicated to junior activities with a variety of ways to show our appreciation. Visit <http://www.davauxiliary.org/membership/JuniorMembers.aspx>, and you can find information on junior charters, programs, templates, and much more.

Thank you, juniors, for your “big hearts” and for the love you give to our veterans!

2018 National Convention

It’s not too early to start making plans for the 2018 National Convention, July 14—17, in Reno, Nevada. The convention will be hosted at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, 2500 East Second Street, Reno, Nevada, 89595. Rooms can be reserved by calling 1-800-648-5080, and requesting the DAV group rate. GSR basic single/double rooms are \$84 per night, plus applicable taxes, and single/double Summit rooms are \$104 per night, plus applicable taxes. It is recommended that you book rooms early.

The Auxiliary National Executive Committee meeting will be on Thursday, July 12, and Districts will meet on Friday, July 13. The convention will begin with the Joint Opening Session on Saturday, July 14, and will conclude on Tuesday, July 17.

We are excited to have a new program lined up for junior members in attendance. Any junior attending will receive a t-shirt, but they **must be pre-registered** to receive one. Stay tuned to upcoming Headquarters News publications to learn more about what we have planned, and to find out how to pre-register junior members so that they receive a t-shirt!

The Grand Sierra Resort offers a variety of kid-friendly activities, including a pool, a 40,000 square foot family-friendly entertainment center with a video arcade and laser tag, four go-kart tracks, a mini golf course, bowling, and a movie theatre featuring the most popular Hollywood films. All of these activities are on-site, making it convenient for families to have fun without leaving the resort!

Legislative by Lynn Helms Prosser, National Legislative Chairman

Most of you are busy decorating, shopping, and baking for Christmas celebrations. I personally wish you a happy, safe, and joyous time with your family and friends. We also need to remember and pray for our brave men and women standing watch over our country, many in foreign lands, keeping us safe. We also must continue to monitor our legislators as they make crucial decisions that affect our military, our veterans and their families.

We must focus on the future of veterans' health care and benefits. Our voices must be heard by our lawmakers throughout our country, and let them know that we are holding them accountable and demand their support. It is important that we stay united and strong, and continue our nationwide grass-roots movement to make positive legislative changes in Washington.

There are many critical issues facing our veterans, and among those key issues are the need for major improvement concerning benefits and services for caregivers and women veterans. The Caregivers' Act must be expanded and improved to include veterans and their caregivers of all eras. Our legislators must support pending bills that would close identified benefit and service gaps for our female service members. Women veterans deserve improved health care, disability compensation, employment, and housing. No soldier should be left behind!

I ask that all members join and sign up supportive family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers for the Commander's Action Network. Visit www.dav.org/can and click "Sign Up to Receive Alerts". Chapter and Unit members can do a joint "sign-up" campaign at monthly meetings, through newsletters and social media. Let your voices be heard! Our present and future veterans depend on us.

A "special" thank you to all volunteers that helped with my legislative DAV-CAN sign-up campaign during the DAVA Fall Conference in Lexington, KY. Excellent job! We made over 200 contacts, of which many were already active, while also signing up over 60 new members. I am so thankful to everyone for their participation.

Thank all of you for remembering the "reason for the season" by helping our needy, injured, ill and homeless veterans and their families. From my home to yours, may God bless you, our troops, especially those serving in harm's way, our veterans, and may God keep us "America Strong".

A Great Day for Ice Cream

Norristown unit #25 in Norristown, Pennsylvania, had a busy year keeping veterans in their community active and entertained. From sing-alongs with accompaniment of pianos and piccolos, to fall festivals and Christmas parties, veterans had a chance to enjoy a little bit of happiness—something that they truly deserved!

It was on a particular sunny and warm day that the veterans got the biggest surprise. While gathered after visits to beauty shops and having breakfast, around the corner came a familiar sight and jingle—the Mr. Softee ice cream truck, a childhood memory for them that brought a host of smiles. One by one, they requested the treat of their choice and the driver filled a range of orders from ice cream cups and cones to banana splits. "And as the jingle played until all was consumed, lips wiped, and napkins were disposed of, all was right with the world, just for now, just for that moment in time," said Pat Appel, unit Commander. The Auxiliary unit sponsored the Mr. Softee truck, and assisted with serving and clean-up.

These activities show just how important the DAV Auxiliary is to veterans in the community. Whether serving at a VA Medical Center, Veteran Home, nursing home, or directly in their home, the time spent means so much to those who served our country.

A special thank you to Norristown unit #25, Pennsylvania, for submitting their story. We encourage other units to send photos and stories to us at dava@dav.org. It could be used in a future Headquarters News or E-Newsletter publication!



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

DAV AUXILIARY

Craig Johniken,
National Commander

3725 Alexandra Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Patricia Kemper,
National Adjutant

Phone: 877.426.2838
Fax: 859.442.2095
E-mail: dava@dav.org
www.davauxiliary.org



“You’ve Got a Friend”

Follow us on Social Media
for news and information
on the DAV Auxiliary.



Quota Achieved!

Congratulations to the
following State Depart-
ments for making
2017-2018 Quota!

Nevada
Vermont



DAV Auxiliary National
Headquarters office will
be closed December 25
and 26, in observance of
Christmas, and January
1, in observance of New
Year’s Day. Thank you.

Past National Commander—Dorothy Van Hoy



DAV Auxiliary Past National Commander Dorothy Van Hoy passed away November 17, 2017. She was elected to the organization’s highest office at the 1973 national convention in Miami, Florida. A life member of the Ernestine Schumann Heink Unit #2 in Kansas City, Missouri, Dorothy continued to serve the organization in many capacities on both the local unit and state levels.

A life-long advocate for veterans and their families, she became a staunch supporter of the Veterans Voices Writing Project, at one time serving as a National Board Member. Her husband, Allen, a veteran of World War II who served in the U.S. Army in the South Pacific, preceded her in death. After his passing, her passion for service to veterans continued as she supported not only the DAV Auxiliary, but other veterans’ service organizations as well.

Dorothy will be remembered for her love of the DAV Auxiliary’s mission and her dedication to improving the lives of veterans and their families.

Mae Holmes Outstanding Unit by Ellen Timmerman, Natl. Mae Holmes Chm.

This is the time of year that we are all so very busy with family and the holidays that it is easy to lose track of all the things we do to help veterans and their families. I know we give freely and happily to veterans and their families, but just take a moment to jot down on a calendar or a notepad everything you do for veterans, as well as everything you do to help your community.

I want to wish all of our members a very wonderful holiday season and to encourage you to keep up all the good work you do.

God bless each of you for all that you do to help Veterans and their families.

*To our Veterans, Active Military, and DAVA Members:
May your hearts and homes be filled with warmth and happiness. In your thoughts and prayers, remember those who are unable to join their family celebrations this year. To those who celebrate the holiday season, we wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah, and a Joyous Kwanzaa Celebration from National Commander Craig Johniken, National Adjutant Pat Kemper, and the DAV Auxiliary staff. Peace to all.*