



**FULFILLING OUR PROMISES**  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Disabled American Veterans, Department of Ohio  
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May, 2014

**FROM THE DESK OF DENNY HANNEMAN**

Thank you to all who attended Mary Lou Miller's and my Testimonial Dinner in March. I want to thank Bill Caine, the Executive Committee, and someone who talked like Ray Hutchinson, but was dressed like a lady! I enjoyed their ROAST and other things!!! Thank you to my wife, Darlene, Findlay Inn and everyone who attended the dinner and program. Thank you for your support and friendship. Thank you for your thoughtful comments and gifts. They are sincerely appreciated.

Darlene and I also attended National Commander Joe Johnston's Testimonial dinner in Cincinnati on April 12<sup>th</sup>. A good time was had by everyone that attended the party and thank you to Joe and Vicky for a wonderful event along with Department of Ohio DAV employees.

It is our duty to observe Memorial Day. This day was originally Decoration Day. It is a day of remembrance for those who died in our Nation's service. Whether you participate in parades, visit the cemeteries, and place a flag or flowers on the graves of our fallen comrades or do something else, please remember these fellow veterans. On May 26, 2014 Memorial Day at 3:00 P.M. pause, for the National Moment of Remembrance and think about the true meaning of Memorial Day.

Sandusky Veterans Home is a well-run, friendly place that houses over 600 Veterans. Darlene and I attended a D.A.V. visit day on 4-23-2014 along with other guests from D.A.V. Department of Ohio and D.A.V.A. Department of Ohio. We really enjoyed the tour and met wonderful people.

We also attended a D.A.V. visit day at the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus, Ohio. We have great people who are taking care of our Ohio Veterans.

The Eighth District held their Meeting on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at Barnesville Chapter #121, Barnesville, Ohio. I enjoyed meeting everyone from the Eighth District and Commander Wolf lead a good meeting. The June Convention will be here before we know it. The 93<sup>rd</sup> Department Convention will be held June 26-29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in the Crowne Plaza in Dublin, Ohio. I hope to see you there and please bring along a Chapter member.

D.A.V. Team Ohio

Dennis Hanneman  
Department Commander of Ohio, DAV

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Nat'l. Hdqrs., DAV	(877) 426-2838
NSO Office, Cleveland	(216) 522-3507
NSO Office, Cincinnati	(513) 684-2676
Washington Office, DAV	(202) 554-3501
Cincinnati HSC, Tom Kirstein	(513) 475-6443
Dayton HSC, Leland Sink	(937) 268-6511 Ext. 2962
Dayton HSC,	(937) 268-6511
Patricia Alteslane	Ext. 2962
Wade Park HSC,	(216) 791-3800
Walter Dryja	Ext. 3395
Chillicothe HSC	(740) 773-1141 Ext. 7916
Columbus Clinic,	(614) 257-5487
Henry Snodgrass	
Parma Clinic,	(216) 739-7000
Richard Healy	Ext. 2405

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 2-3, 2014	Forget-Me-Not Drive, Union County Chapter #55, Marysville, Ohio.
May 2-3, 2014	Forget-Me-Not, H.B. "Doc" Riley Chapter #51, Ironton, Ohio.
May 16-19, 2014	Forget-Me-Not Drive, Northern Hills Chapter #115, 6 Kroger Location, Cincinnati, Ohio.
May 17, 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Run for the River, Lake County Chapter #42, Stage begins at 9:00 a.m. at Western Reserve Harley Davidson/Honda, 8567 Tyler Blvd., Mentor, Ohio.
May 18, 2014	7 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting, Alliance Chapter #50, Meeting at 2 p.m., lunch to follow, Alliance, Ohio.
May 23-24, 2014	Forget-Me-Not, Wal-Mart, Buchlers, Geyers Market, Perkins, Lynway, Whitebarn, Home Hardway, Ashland, Ohio.
May 24, 2014	Forget-Me-Not Drive, Wayne County Chapter #44, Buchler's Orrville, Wooster, Ohio.
June 7-8, 2014	Forget-Me-Not, Wal-Mart, Van Wert, Ohio.
June 26-29, 2014	Department of Ohio Convention, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
July 7, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Dovel Myers Chapter #141, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 108 Liberty Ave., Gallipolis, Ohio.
July 8, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Conrath-Bean Chapter #37, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 355 E. State St., Athens, Ohio.
July 9, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Adams County Chapter #71, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 3389 Cross Rd., Winchester, Ohio.
July 10, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Lloyd C. Ludwick Chapter #123, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 575 Harry Sauner Rd., Hillsboro, Ohio.
July 11, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Northern Hills Chapter #115, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 8750 Colerain Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.
July 14, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Bob Swanson Chapter #39, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1230 Lake Ave., Ashtabula, Ohio.
July 15, 2014	Mobile Service Office, John W. Covert Chapter #47, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 718 Broadway, E. Liverpool, Ohio.
July 16, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Massillon Chapter #38, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 821 Erie St., South, Massillon, Ohio.
July 17, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Montfaucon Chapter #27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 2802 Airport Highway, Toledo, Ohio.
July 18, 2014	Mobile Service Office, Louis Paul Proy Chapter #20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 205 W. 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lorain, Ohio.
August 23, 2014	Forget-Me-Not Drive, Auglaize County Chapter #73, Wapakoneta Wal-Mart, Wapakoneta Community Market, Wapakoneta, Ohio.
August 9-14, 2014	National Convention, Ballys, Las Vegas, NV
September 21, 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> District Meeting, Lake County Chapter #42, Lunch at 1:00 p.m., meeting at 2 p.m., 8720 Twinbrook Rd., Mentor, Ohio.
October 10-12, 2014	Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
November 8, 2014	Forget-Me-Not Drive, Wayne County Chapter #55, Buchler's Milltown, Wooster, Ohio.
February 22-24, 2015	Mid-Winter Conference, Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA
June 18-21, 2015	Department of Ohio Convention, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
August 8-11, 2015	National Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Denver, CO
October 16-18, 2015	Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
June 23-26, 2016	Department of Ohio Convention, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.
October 14-16, 2016	Fall Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.

## **NOTES FROM THE STATE ADJUTANT WILL DAVIS**

### **A Tribute to Those Who Served and Died**

In time of War, they heeded the call  
They took up arms "Freedom for All".  
They went to serve in a far away land  
In battles they fought, they took a stand.

In honor of country, their duty they performed  
For those who died, our Country sadly mourned.  
There were many who fell and gave their lives  
Leaving behind children, mothers, fathers and wives.

They fought the fight to "Let Freedom Ring"  
In honor of that, their praises we sing  
To those who died, we salute you all  
And give our thanks for heeding the call.

*This poem was found on the Military Poems Page. It was submitted by Donna Dwyer, Oklahoma.*

### **Memorial Day**

Memorial Day is a day that we honor the more than 1 million men and women who lost their lives defending America in wars from the Revolution to the global war on terrorism. Let us all participate in the "National Moment of Remembrance" (at 3:00 p.m. pause and think about the true meaning of this day). Let us renew our pledge to aid the families of our fallen soldiers.

Arlington National Cemetery will observe its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 13. The ceremony will begin with a wreath-laying at the gravesite of Army Pvt. William Christman, the first military burial at Arlington, and conclude with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns on June 15.

*"And they for who their country die shall fill an honored grave, for glory lights the soldier's tomb, and beauty weeps the brave", by American poet Joseph Rodman Drake.*

### **Hearings**

During the past several months the DAV has testified before a joint session of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees concerning DAV's legislative agenda for the year: testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity concerning maximizing the effectiveness of Veterans Rehabilitation and Employment Service, submitted testimony for the record to the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees concerning the fiscal year 2015 budget, and submitted testimony for the record to the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity on nine pending bills. DAV also submitted testimony for the record to the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs on 10 pending bills and testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health on 10 pending bills. The DAV testimony can be read in full on the [website](#).

Make appointments, phone call, or e-mail your elected officials to let the voice of the DAV be heard. Talking points on the important issues to the DAV are available at <http://www.dav.org/learn-more/news/2012/dav-releases-mid-winter-talking-points/>. All of us must do our part to let our elected officials know about our

support for legislation that helps empower wounded, ill and injured veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. Are your Chapter and Auxiliary active members of the DAV's grassroots Commander's Action Network (DAV CAN)? Communicate the DAV's issues to your elected officials through the DAV CAN.

### **POW/MIA Awareness Plate**

SB254 would create the POW/MIA Awareness plate. The bill has had two committee hearings .

### **Homestead Exemption**

HB 85 would enhance the homestead exemption for military veterans who are 100 percent disabled from a service connected disability. It was passed unanimously by the house.

### **Health Identification Cards**

The VA is issuing a more secure Veteran Health Identification Card. It will display the emblem of the veteran's branch of service and provide a feature to help the visually impaired veterans. The card will also print the VA phone numbers and emergency care instructions on it. The card is not required to receive VA health care, but enrolled veterans are encouraged to get a VHIC. For more information visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic) or visit your local VA health care facility.

### **Adaptive Housing**

Veterans and active-duty military personnel with service-connected amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) are now presumed medically eligible for grants up to almost \$68,000 to adapt their homes. The goal of the program is to provide a barrier-free living environment .

### **Homeless Aid Grants**

The number of homeless veterans has decreased by 24 percent in the last several years. This decline keeps the VA on track to meet the goal of eradicating homelessness by 2015. "No one who served our country should be huddled under a bridge, in shelters or camped out in the woods, and I applaud the government's efforts, as well as our Departments, Chapters and individual members who work so hard to end this national tragedy" , states National Adjutant Marc Burgess.

Lutheran Social Services has designed some programs to help homeless and unemployed veterans transition to homelessness and to employment. Lutheran Social Services has worked with County Veteran Service Offices to transport veterans to VA medical facilities.

Nonprofit organizations that serve very-low-income veteran families will receive up to \$600 million in grants through the VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program. More information about the program can be found at [www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp).

Home Depot Foundation is on a mission to ensure every veteran has a safe place to call home. Your Chapter can help. **Identify** a disabled veteran whose home needs sprucing up. **Contact** your local Home Depot. Home Depot will contact the veteran, survey the home, and provide the Chapter with a price quote. **Complete** the "Partner Request" and "Grant Request" forms provided by Home Depot. **Sign and return** the grant agreement after the application is approved. **Finalize** the work schedule and contact the Team Depot captain. For more information, [www.homedepotfoundation.org](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org) or contact National Director of Voluntary Services Ron Minter at [rminter@dav.org](mailto:rminter@dav.org).

### **Disability Claims**

VA has reduced the number of pending disability compensation claims by approximately 44 percent while improving the accuracy of the decisions being made on disability claims. VA claims processors continue to prioritize disability claims for homeless veterans, those experiencing financial hardship, terminally ill, former Prisoners Of War, Medal of Honor recipients, and veterans filing Fully Developed Claims.

### **Social Security Administration**

SSA launched a new disability process to expedite disability claims filed by veterans with a VA disability compensation rating of 100 percent Permanent & Total (P&T). Social Security will treat these veterans' applications as high priority and issue expedited decisions. Veterans must tell SS they have a VA disability compensation rating of 100 percent P & T and show proof of their disability rating with their VA Notification Letter. Veterans must meet strict eligibility requirements for a disability allowance. Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors) for more information.

### **Sexual Assault Prevention Training**

The number of sexual assaults reported in the military has risen more than 50 percent in the last year. As part of the efforts to eliminate the crime, the DOD announced improvements to sexual assault prevention and response training for all members of the armed forces and civilian employees. Visit <http://www.sapr.mil/> for more information.

### **American Veterans Disabled For Life Memorial**

The dedication ceremony is October 5, 2014 located at 150 Washington Ave. S.W., Washington D.C. If you are planning to attend, you must have a ticket and a government issued photo ID. There is a complimentary shuttle bus to and from the ceremony available at the Renaissance Hotel. For more information on how to obtain a ticket call Sherry at the office.

### **First Honor Ride Ohio**

This is an event that honors America's healing heroes who are working their way back to health and wellness. This is the first annual honor ride in the Columbus, Ohio area. It is an inspiring event where riders cycle alongside America's healing heroes while raising funds and awareness for [Ride 2 Recovery](http://ride2recovery.com). For more information regarding the event, as either a rider or a volunteer, call 1-818-888-7091 ext. 106 or [honorriderinfo@ride2recovery.com](mailto:honorriderinfo@ride2recovery.com)

### **Medicine**

"When a soldier is shot on the battlefield, the emergency treatment can seem as brutal as the injury itself. A medic must pack gauze directly into the wound cavity, sometimes as deep as five inches into the body, to stop bleeding from the artery. It's an agonizing process that doesn't always work", reported by *Popular Science*. RevMedx asked the FDA to approve XStat – "a modified syringe that injects specially coated sponges into wounds." These microsponges expand to fill the cavity and stop the bleeding. They are coated with a blood-clotting antimicrobial substance and marked with X shapes to help doctors see them on X-ray images to ensure that they are not left in the wound after triage treatment.

### **Old Prescription Drugs**

The Ohio Attorney General's Office partnered with the Ohio Department of Health and the Drug Free Action Alliance to provide free collection bins to local law enforcement agencies in Ohio. For locations visit

<http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/individuals-and-Families/Victims/Drug-Dirversion/Prescription-Drug-Drop-Boxes>.

## **Ohio Veterans Home**

Mission Statement-The Mission of the Ohio Veterans Home is to provide a safe, healthful environment for eligible Ohio veterans under the authority of Chapter 5907 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Veterans Home is dedicated to "Serving Those Who Served" with a safe living environment for residents so that they can achieve their highest level of functional ability. Long term, around the clock medical and nursing care is available. Together with recreational, social and spiritual services to promote the resident's right to experience life to the fullest degree, regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, or income.

For those wartime Veterans with a 70 percent or greater service connected disability rating, there will be no out of pocket costs as long as he or she is in the Ohio Veterans Homes. This benefit has no means test or income limitation. Ohio has State Veterans Homes located in Sandusky and Georgetown. For more information visit: [www.ohioveteranshome.gov](http://www.ohioveteranshome.gov)

Thank you Assistant Hospital Chairman PDC David May for making the Ohio Veterans Home-Sandusky tour a success.

All Chapters should have had their elections and installations by now, please send your completed report to the office.

Remember to have your Forget-Me-Not drive and what a better time/event to sign up a new DAV member. I hope to see each Chapter represented at the Department of Ohio Convention, June 26-29, 2014. It will be held at the Crown Plaza, Dublin, Ohio.

God Bless America, God Bless Our Troops, and May God Bless the DAV.

### **NATIONAL COMMANDER JOSEPH JOHNSTON'S TESTIMONIAL SPEECH**

As I stand before you this evening, I am humbled, privileged and honored to know each of you in this room. As a child and then moving through adulthood, I constantly believed that god had a purpose for my life, and that I was destined, by him to do significant things.

When I became active in the DAV, I thought that I had found that purpose and did strive "to be all I could be" in that regard.

Now, I am proud to say, that I serve all of you to the best of my abilities, and that it is---my great honor to have been so chosen by you to this position of service.

It was in that capacity, and by knowing each of you, that I came to understand my real purpose in life and god's intent for me as a person.

It was, and is my foremost duty to be a good family man to my wife and children in whatever ways I can do so.

It is also my responsibility to do whatever I can for every member of the DAV and their families.

Even one success makes it all worthwhile. And finally, to help all our brother and sisters in arms and their families.

I have pondered why I was drawn to the DAV when I could have become active in any of the other veterans service organizations to which I belong and came to the following conclusions.

The DAV is about social interaction like the rest of the VSOs , but our real success and difference that we make day to day is in our service to veterans and their families.

It does not matter whether you are talking about our staff, our volunteers or our members---there is a heartfelt sense of duty to our veterans. It is shared by all those associated with us. The DAV stands for what is right in this world. To us words like honor, duty, patriotism, commitment, courage, valor, integrity and reverence are not merely words. Rather, they are feelings that we hold in our very souls and in our hearts and in our minds, about what is great and good in America.

It is why a guy who served only as a private in the military spends thousands of hours of his own time, without pay, transporting veterans to their VA appointments. It is a sense of belonging, of serving, of doing what is "right" in every sense of the word. There is indeed something for all of us to do, and it has been my privilege to attempt to make the DAV a better organization of service to veterans and their families.

However, whatever success I have enjoyed has not been according to my efforts, but rather, are attributable to you, my friends in this room, and others like you scattered across this great nation.

When i served in the military there were many times when the incidents i was experiencing, could have meant life or death, from one second to the next. And, in those instances, time also seemed to go into slow motion, my senses were alive to the utmost, and in that same split second, I knew that everything was okay, that i was saved by the grace of god. I feel that same way about the DAV and all of you in this room.

For example, every time I meet or speak to Marc Burgess, I feel confident, assured and know that he is making decisions that have our very best interests at heart. He is a yeoman and he is a friend to us all and the DAV. There is no better example of commitment to our cause.

Likewise, our progressive line officers, who are a fantastic group in every way, give of themselves, in whatever ways they are needed. Ron Hope exemplies this ideal and represents what is best in a member of DAV. As a former NSO and supervisor, he served veterans each and every day of his career with passion and caring which is unsurpassed. He has my unequivocal vote to be my replacement in August and i know that all of you feel the same way about him as well.

Do you know why the DAV is so effective? I can tell you the answer to that question. In wartime we stand shoulder to shoulder and protect one another. When a fellow warrior is wounded we do everything we can to help him or her immediately. Certainly then, our legislative goals also require us to stand shoulder to shoulder again and our service to our wounded and ill veterans is ingrained in our very souls. We don't leave our wounded behind! My home state of Ohio is like that. They have retaught me the meaning of commitment and service, many of whom are in this room. Thank you all for allowing me to be a part of you and to know you. And just like those buckeyes on your table, these guys are hard on the outside and soft in the center.

Vicki and I have enjoyed our visits with you this year and will continue to serve the DAV in the future. I hope to see you all at our national convention in Las Vegas. May God Bless and keep you, till we meet again!



Paul Frederick of Cincinnati meets DAV member Orie Frazer at last month's testimonial dinner honoring Ohio's own DAV National Commander Joe Johnston. Having led DAV in 1957, Paul is our organization's oldest Past National Commanders. Orie, a veteran from Maryland, received praises during the testimonial for her great personal generosity to DAV.