



November 2008

STATE ADOPT-A-SERVICE OFFICER CHAIRMAN

Barbara Smeal

If your unit has adopted the DSOs (Department Service Officers) and NSOs (National Service Officers) for the 2008-2009 membership year...THANK YOU! Keep up the good work for the end of the year will be coming up soon and there is different occasions and you don't want to forget their birthdays, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, etc. They love getting what you send. Try and meet with them at conferences and conventions. To see their smiles and give them hugs for what they do for us and our veterans and their families. DSOs: *RD Young (Durham VAMC - 3500 Old Greensboro Road #18 – Chapel Hill, NC 27516); Eric Dillingham (Asheville VAMC - 1100 Tunnel Road #B402-C – Asheville, NC 28805); DSO Mickey Drye (Salisbury VAMC - 1601 Brenner Ave. Bldg 6, Room 1004 – Salisbury, NV 28146).* NSOs: *Ron Hope, Jim Schultz, Robert Howell, Pace Ashworth, Charles Ryder (Disabled American Veterans – VARO - 251 North Main Street #550 – Winston Salem, NC 27106).*

STATE HISTORY CHAIRMAN

Ginger Bish

I recently volunteered for the History Committee which had no chairperson and am at somewhat of a disadvantage having entered the position late. Ergo, I am totally dependent upon your contributions. I would like to prepare a nice memory book for Commander Linda Kafka with the possibility of sending it to National if it is of sufficient quality to do so. This is not my area of expertise, but I will do my best to represent the DAV Auxiliary, Department of North Carolina in this endeavor. Your assistance is desperately needed. Please send photos, news articles and memorabilia which could be utilized in the book. With each submission (particularly photos,) please attach a piece of paper identifying the event, the date, location and individuals in the picture, as well as their titles. A brief suggested caption would be helpful. Printed articles should always include the name and date of the publication. Thank you for your service to veterans and their families. (672 Seagle Road – Marion, NC 28752).

STATE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Dorothy Russell of Unit #61 was appointed and approved by the State Executive Committee to the position of State Junior Vice Commander and State Membership Chairman after the resignation of Debrah Ryan.

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Russell

Thanks to everyone for thinking of me as State Junior Vice Commander. With everyone's help, I will do the best I can to help increase our membership. Everyone should be working hard to get new members. Thanks to Carolyn Irby and Trudy Huffman for having faith in me. Remember to love. Love our veterans every day, not just on holidays. At the State Fall Conference, the unit who has the highest membership increase OVER quota will receive a \$25 prize and the individual that signs up the most members between now and conference will receive \$25. Thanks again for your trust in me and I hope to see you at conference.

I hope that everyone had a great time at fall conference. I was glad to recognize Units #34, 48, 59, and 83, and unit #95 for meeting quota. They received a certificate and a prize. Unit #48 also won \$25. The person that signed up the most members was Melba Sayers, she also won \$25. Remember a minimum of \$40.00 will begin a new life membership, and payments of the balance can be made within three full membership years. The fees are on the back of the application. The Auxiliary does not have any type of discount on life memberships. National Headquarters has an incentive membership for 2008-2009 for NEW ANNUAL SENIOR MEMBERS. NEW ANNUAL SENIOR MEMBERS can be signed up for \$15.00 which will pay for this membership year and up through June 30, 2010. Effective 10/1/2008. NEW SENIOR MEMBERS ONLY. The person who recruits the most auxiliary members for the 2008-2009 membership year will receive \$300 cash from national headquarters. There will also be three random drawing winners of \$200.00 each and the National Service Officer top recruiter will receive \$200.00 cash with the first runner up receiving \$100 cash – also from national headquarters. NOTE: National Headquarters records ONLY will be used to determine all winners. So everyone work hard to get new memberships. If you need applications let me know or call National Headquarters.

STATE FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN

Shirley Hill

I would like to thank everyone that participated in one way or the other in my fundraising project at the Fall Conference, October 24, & 25th. Some donated items to sale, others purchased items, and others worked. If it were not for ALL of you this would not have been a success. The Silent Auction room was extraordinarily setup with special help from Shirley Walker. All items donated were superb. I am very happy and pleased with the way everyone participated and showed their love for our Auxiliary. I am very proud of all of you. Again, THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU. YOU are the reason this was a success. I look forward to doing this again at our Spring Conference.

STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

Ginger Bish

Based on the premises of the effort which would benefit the greatest number and that which would address the most critical needs, I have selected two DAV authorized federal legislative issues. I would appreciate any assistance you could render in urging our US Senators and Congresspersons to assist with these critical problems.

The 10 year exclusionary rule for compensation for widows of 100% Disabled Veterans should be reduced or eliminated. Many wives have been deprived of even this small pension after providing devoted care to our Disabled Veterans for many years. After sacrificing their opportunities for financial security to care for our veterans, and at a time when their opportunities and physical capacities to enter the workforce are drastically diminished, widows of our veterans have been left destitute due to a prerequisite which is quite arbitrary and without justification.

Veterans Disability Compensation should be increased and protections provided to eliminate any possibility of reduction, adjustment, taxation or elimination. The Dole-Shalala Commission recommended an across-the-board increase for Disability Compensation particularly for those with the higher percentages of disability for which the amount was found to be most deficient.

We need to provide a 10 year protection for Service-Connected Disability Compensation. To subject our veterans (some of whom may be psychologically fragile) to a repetitive threat of loss of their only source of sustenance is unnecessary and potentially dangerous.

We need to vigorously oppose any reduction, elimination or taxation of Veteran's Benefits and oppose any recommendation by any Commission to reduce or eliminate Veteran's Disability Benefits as well as oppose any proposal that would offset payments of Social Security Disability or any other Federal Benefit by VA Compensation.

Collectively, with a determined effort and faith, we can accomplish great things on behalf of our Veterans and their families.

UNIT REPORTS DUE

Each unit should have already submitted their officer's report, financial report and state mandates. If you have not, please submit them as soon as possible to State Adjutant R. Renée Jones at 5132 Mako Drive – Wilmington, NC 28409. **Units listed below are not considered to be in good-standing. Without this information, your unit SEC will not be entitled to vote at the SEC meetings, nor will your delegates be entitled to vote at the upcoming state or national conventions.** If you believe you have submitted this information, please contact State Adjutant R. Renée Jones.

The following units have not submitted their officer's report: #93 Pamlico County.

The following units have not submitted their financial report: #20 Greensboro; #45 Goldsboro; #67 Hendersonville; #93 Pamlico County; #95 Monroe.

The following units have not submitted state mandates (\$60): #22 Asheboro; #25 Rutherford County; #34 Hickory; #74 Erwin; #93 Pamlico County; #95 Monroe.

INFO YOU SHOULD KNOW

Each unit in North Carolina is required to submit a \$60 mandate annually to the state department. The mandate is used for the Mary Flynn Memorial Scholarship Fund (\$10) and for administrative needs (\$50). The mandate is due by August 15, 2008. Units who do not submit the state mandate are not consider a unit in good standing.

Membership applications are available at no charge directly from DAV Auxiliary National Headquarters (3725 Alexandria Pike – Cold Spring, KY 41076).