

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

**Department Headquarters Department Public Relations Chairman**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ members of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Unit #\_\_\_\_\_\_ attended the annual Ohio American Legion Auxiliary School of Instructions at the Makoy Center, Hilliard Ohio, on September 24, 2016.

**Department President Denise Conrad** presided over the official opening on Saturday. This year’s one day **School Of Instructions** was filled with informative information given by the Department Chairmen, along with a Round Robin, VA Hospital Recognition Program, and a Junior Activities program.

A Presentation of Department President’s Special Project: **Military Family Assistance Fund.**



The special guest for Saturday’s session was **National President** **Mary E. Davis**, of Lacey, Wash., was elected national president of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) during the organization’s 96th National Convention in Cincinnati, held Aug. 26-Sept. 1. Davis will serve the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization as national president for a one-year term.

Davis has held numerous leadership positions in the organization at the unit, district, and department levels. At the national level, she chaired many committees and served special appointments, including work on the ALA’s 5-Year Centennial Strategic Plan and designated director for the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. She is a member of Pat Tillman Memorial Unit 53 in DuPont, Wash.

As a member of the ALA for 40 years, Davis has chosen to highlight ALA Member Pride for her term as national president. “Each and every day as we work our programs, serve our veterans, help our military families, or make a difference in the life of a child, we swell with pride because of the difference we make,” Davis said during her inaugural speech. “I call that ALA Member Pride. Pride in one’s accomplishments, pride in making a difference in another’s life, and pride in belonging to an organization that embodies the mission work of the American Legion Auxiliary.”

Davis is an accredited service officer through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for The American Legion and the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs. She has served as a service officer for 20 years, including eight years as a training officer for The American Legion Service Division. Davis is a member of Daughters of the American Revolution, Beta Sigma Phi, PBS We Are Veterans Advisory Committee, and the Military and Veterans Caregiver Peer Support Network Advisory Council. She holds a bachelor’s degree from The Evergreen State College.

Davis is eligible for membership through her late father R. Garnett Boots, an Army Air Corps veteran of WWII; her mother Helen Babb Boots, also a WWII veteran who served in the Women’s Army Corps; her husband Dale Davis, a Vietnam Army veteran; and her son Robert Davis, a Desert Storm Air Force veteran.

 All enjoyed the fun and fellowship, and returned home with a renewed spirit to boost our membership and grow, and do all that we can do for veterans, children and our communities.