



DAV MN COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS 2024-2025

DAV MN Executive Committee

COMMANDER:	Oather Martin
SR VICE CDR:	John Walker
1 ST JR VICE CDR:	Mike Medhaug
2 nd JR VICE CDR:	Sandi Braunstein
3 rd JR VICE CDR:	Rich Batcho
4 th JR VICE CDR:	Bill Gordon
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Rick Jarvis
CHAPLAIN:	Bob Heinz
TREASURER:	Scott Berndt
PDC:	Ellsworth Fields
INSPECTOR GENERAL	Joe Litzinger
ADJUTANT (secretary):	Stephen Whitehead

DAV OF MN FOUNDATION BD OF DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS:	Mike McLaughlin Joel Schilling Paul Pederson Chris Magnusson Tony Tengwall John Walker Scott Berndt (Treas)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Lauri Brooke
EX-OFFICIO:	Oather Martin(CDR) Josh Vrtacnik
ADVISOR	Stephen Whitehead

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Department Treasurer shall serve as chair of the Finance Committee. This appointment is for one (1) year or until removed by a majority vote of the Department Executive Committee. The remaining members of the Finance Committee shall include the Department Commander and three additional appointed members. The three appointed members shall serve as the Audit Committee in accordance with DAV National Constitution and Bylaws Section 9-3 para 1. The Department Senior Vice Commander and the Director of Operations shall be ex-officio members of said committee without vote, and the Department Adjutant shall be secretary of said committee without vote.

TREASURER	Scott Berndt
COMMANDER	Oather Martin
APPOINTED:	Steve Yngsdal – Ch 28 Jerry Bjerke – Ch 38 Bill Johnson – Ch 1
EX-OFFICIO:	Josh Vrtacnik John Walker
SECRETARY:	Stephen Whitehead

DAV MN Volunteerism/VAVS Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the 2nd Junior Vice Commander and members shall include MN Department VAWS **chair**, HSCs and LVAP Coordinator, a Past Department Commander (PDC) and two additional DAV MN community volunteers. **The** focus of the committee is the development and coordination of volunteer programs for VAMCs, CBOCs, Veterans Homes, and communities. Example activities include, but are not limited to: recruitment of VAWS and LVAP volunteers, coordination of volunteer recognition when appropriate (via Department Headquarters) and promoting/engaging in volunteerism (membership, auxiliary, youth, community members, etc).

Sandi Braunstein
Dan Welsand -Ch 6
John Carlson – Ch 1
Robert Saddoris – Ch 38
Joel Schilling – Ch 1
Jeff Lubarski Ch 2

DAV MN Membership Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the Senior Vice Commander and members shall include the 4th Junior Vice Commander, a National Service Officer (NSO), a Past Department Commander (PDC) and two additional appointees. **The** focus of the committee is the development and coordination of an annual Department membership recruitment plan, assist with organization and recruitment for new Chapters, assist with Chapter restructuring and vitality where necessary and coordination of leadership development/education efforts.

John Walker – CHAIR
Bill Gordon – 4th Jr
Josi Jensen Ch 2
Wilson Spence - PDC
Mike Chepa – Ch 32
Keena Prosser - NSO

DAV MN Transportation Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the Department Transportation Director and members shall include the 3RD Jr. Jr vice, Department Treasurer, one Past Department Commander (PDC), and two additional appointees. **The** focus of the committee is the oversight of all aspects of the DAV MN transportation program to ensure it continually meets the needs of veterans in an efficient manner. The committee is also charged with establishing and maintaining optimal relations with any entities necessary to maintain an effective transportation program.

Stephanie Zeimetz
Oather Martin - CDR
Scott Berndt - Trea
Dave Valtinson - PDC
Clint Knorr – CH37
Stan Heuer – Ch 18

DAV MN Outdoors Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the 1st Junior Vice Commander and members shall include the Department Adjutant as an ex-officio member, Event Coordinator, a Past Department Commander (PDC) and three additional appointed members to represent the interests of veterans in various regions of Minnesota. **The** focus of the committee is the development and coordination of therapeutic outdoors recreational events for disabled veterans. The committee is tasked with developing relationships with businesses, outfitters and other organizations involved in outdoor activities to expand and enhance MN DAV Outdoors events.

Mike Medhaug (C)
John Carson (COORD)
Kim Waln Ch 12
Roland Mammenga Ch 12
Darren Brooke – Ch 38
Dave Valtinson - PDC

ADVISORS

Oather Martin (CDR)
Stephen W (ADJ)

DAV MN Time and Place Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the Department Adjutant (or designee) and members shall include the NSO Supervisor, DAV MN Administrative Specialist, Judge Advocate and a Past Department Commander (PDC). **The** focus of this committee is the annual review of the upcoming Spring Convention and Fall Conference sites to ensure readiness and capacity. The committee is tasked with solicitation for information, reviews and recommendations of sites for the open dates for future Conventions and Conferences (normally two years in advance).

Stephen W -CHAIR
Charles Burns
Rick Jarvis
Scott Berndt

ADVISORS:

Gina Lindell

DAV MN Legislative Committee

The committee shall be chaired by the Department Benefits Protection Team Leader (BPTL) and members shall include Department Senior Vice Commander, a Past Department Commander (PDC) and three additional Chapter Benefits Protection Team members. **The** focus of the committee is to develop and coordinate legislative initiatives that will benefit disabled veterans, their dependents and/or survivors.

DEPT BPTL

Trent Dilks BPTL
John Walker
Bill Wroolie - PDC
Carla Tappanier -Ch40
Cory Fouquette – Ch 37
Luis Campero CH 1

Interim and Convention Committees

The DAV of MN Convention Committees will be in session at the annual convention and members will be appointed from the ranks of the attending convention delegates. The core members of these committees are appointed by the Department Commander/Adjutant. Additional members can attend the committee meetings as non-voting members.

Women Veterans Committee

Kati Carpenter

Diane Keith Ch 1
Roxanne Ch 39
Chris Magnussen
Dawn Batcho
Melissa Franz

COMMANDER'S ADVISORY committee

Debra Petersen
Dean Ascheman
Van Karg C

V4V TRUST FUND – DAV APPOINTEES:

Ellsworth Fields – 2 YR
Reggie Worlds – 1 YR

DAV MN Department Scholarship

Ron Haugen

Ellsworth Fields
Oather Martin
Bob Heinz

DAV MN Constitution and Bylaws

Rick Jarvis
Josh Vrtacnik
Rich Batcho
Debra Petersen
Tom Annonson

Additional Committees - The DAV of MN Department Commander has the authority to appoint any additional interim committees he/she deems necessary.

DAV MN APPOINTMENTS

CHIEF OF STAFF

Van Karg

AIDE TO STATE COMMANDER

NEWSPAPER EDITOR

FTS EMPLOYEE

WEBMASTER

Ryan Emerson

STATE VAVS CHAIR

Bob Heinz

MPLS VAVS

John Carlson

Lou Michaels

Diane Keith

ST. CLOUD VAVS

Zach Johnson

Brandon Rogers

VAVS FARGO

ROBERT SADORRIS

VAVS SIOUX FALLS

Darwin Sietsema

FT. SNELLING NATL CEMETERY

Ken Gibson

SERVICEMENS CENTER REP

???

COMMANDERS TASKFORCE

Oather Martin

AMBASSADORS

MN DVA

Stephen Whitehead

DAV MN Auxiliary

Scott Berndt

MN COUNCIL FOR VETERANS (MAC-V)

Stephen Whitehead

HASTINGS VETERANS HOME

Bob Heinz

SILVER BAY VETERANS HOME

Pat Shaw

FERGUS FALLS VETERANS HOME

Rebecca Lhotak

MPLS VETERANS HOME

Joel Schilling

LUVERNE VETERANS HOME

Mike Chepa

Montevideo Veterans Home

Preston Veterans Home

Bemidji Veterans Home

CVSO ASS'N

Jerry Bjerke

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

AIDE TO NATIONAL COMMANDER

Debra Petersen

NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Mike McElhiney