



Newly-elected commander of AMVETS Ed Kemp visits Chillicothe.

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New head wants AMVETS to keep helping veterans

Ed Kemp visits Chillicothe post during Ohio tour

By JANELLE RUCKER
Gazette Staff Writer

In a weeklong tour of AMVETS posts in the state, National Commander Ed Kemp, accompanied by state Department Commander Clay Dailey, visited the Chillicothe post Wednesday.

Kemp, elected to a one-year term in September, is visiting an average of eight posts a day "building relationships and camaraderie," he said, by telling veterans his goals for the upcoming year and sitting and listening to what members have to say.

"I want to stay with the roots of the organization, veterans helping veterans," Kemp said. "I've observed that AMVETS here in Ohio are dedicated to serving veterans."

During his term, Kemp plans to work closely to implement the AMVETS National Symposium for the Needs of Young Veterans.

"We'll get to find out what young veterans need now, not what young veterans needed 50 years ago," he said.

Kemp took the position after retiring because he felt that he could do something for veterans, he said, including work to make sure legislation treats veterans fairly.

"Look at what the government is trying to do with benefits," he said. "All veterans organizations need to band together to push the issue to get the benefits that we were promised."

Dailey has goals of his own for his one year term that started in June.

"My big project is a relief fund for veterans and their dependents," he said.

He also will work on increasing membership in the state organization that already has the most members of any other state, he said.

The two will continue visit more posts today including a conference later this afternoon in Hudson.



To Join

To become a member of AMVETS you must have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, anytime after Sept. 15, 1940. Applicants must still be serving or have received an honorable discharge. For more information, contact AMVETS Post 4 in Chillicothe at 774-3833 or AMVETS Post 58 in Waverly at 947-8627.

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AMVETS
National
Commander
Ed Kemp

Frank Robertson/Gazette

Elected to his post in September, AMVETS National Commander Ed Kemp visited the Chillicothe post Wednesday during a weeklong tour of posts around the state.