

Jacqueline Hope Summers
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I wish to declare my candidacy for Region 3 Director. I was born and raised in Greenville, South Carolina, which has a rich Military history. As far back as I can remember, I have always been involved with the military. After meeting and marrying my second husband Colonel Donald C. Summers in 1994 we became involved with the Vietnam Veterans of America Greenville Foothills Chapter 523. We both joined the chapter in 1996. We manned tables at the car/boat shows, set up tables at the flea markets to bring attention to the local veterans that we were there and promote membership for the chapter. This continued until the IRS stepped in and informed the chapters that they could no longer have civilians as member or they would lose their charter. Then in 1999 the Associates of Vietnam Veterans was born and I started as a member of the AVVA and have been since then. I am still with the same Chapter and they welcome the Associates and feel that we make the chapter better for being involved with them.

We have had lots of growing pains and learning experiences but we have all come together to make this organization great and it is just getting better. Working together with so many different people, from different backgrounds has made it a pleasure to be a member of this association. To coin a phrase, "you are only as strong as your weakest link, but as wise as the strongest." Every organization has weak links and strong ones, I know because when I started with AVVA I was not one of the strong ones. I don't consider myself a strong one yet, I am still learning and I thank those that are willing to help me learn. I try to give back to the ones that are just coming into the AVVA by helping where I can, to make them feel that they are becoming a strong link too. You can only get stronger by learning from those that have been there.

Besides my late husband, my older son served in the Marines for 5 years, and my father was a Seabees during WWII along with three of his brothers. My aunt was in the Navy during WWII and another uncle was in the Air Force. I recently found out that my family's military history goes back to the Revolutionary War, so, I guess you could say that is why I love my vets so much.

I am a life member in good standing with AVVA and I have attended most but not all of the National Conventions and Conference since 1996. I try to make as many of the Region Three Conference as my last job would let me. I have since retired from work as a Transport Corporal for the Greenville Detention Center in Greenville County and I work part-time at Kohls in Greenville, South Carolina.

South Carolina AVVA member since 1999

AVVA Chapter 523 Representative, 2006 -2014

AVVA South Carolina State Representative, 2007-present

AVVA Region Three Deputy Director

Served as National Sargent-at-arms twice

AVVA National Disciplinary Board

Region Three Disciplinary Board

Quilts of Valor

S.C. Gold Star Wives Member

Special Forces Chapter 1-18 Associate Member

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #17 Member

I was Chair of the Cathy Keister Award of Excellence 2017

Co-Chair for the Region Three Conference Committee for South Carolina

Co-Chair for the Cruise-In for Chapter 523

Chair for the Festival of Trees for Chapter 523

Committee for the raffle of a 9mm pistol

Honor Guard for Chapter 523

Golf Committee for Chapter 523

Won the Heart and Soul award for Region Three 2012

If elected I promise to give 110 % to our organization and promoting our organizations strive to be the best in the nation. Together we can accomplish anything. I look forward to meeting more of the new members and seeing the members that I have known for years from Region Three.

Together Always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hope Summers". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Hope Summers

South Carolina AVVA State Representative