

## REGION VIII REPORT

APRIL 2016

I have notified the contacts I have in my region to advise them that AWA is in an election cycle. I reminded them where they could get the information for a properly conducted election. As of this date, I have received no information or documentation and don't expect to until after April.

With what is occurring with WA and AWA on the hill presenting testimonies before committees explaining the effects of toxic exposure, Mr. T. Owen and myself are going to use our chapter's manpower to help develop a committee at the community level to help expose toxic exposure. The plan is to travel, communicate, and expose facts to the Veterans and families of Region VIII. The importance of supporting the goal of the passage of the bills HR 1769 and S 901. We have the support for this activity with a frugal approach in mind.

Veterans Against Drugs: (VAD) I have received some notification from Mr. D. Simmons, VAD Chairman and I have been gathering information from my region about what is occurring with illicit drugs and the effect on those who reside in our communities.

Upon retirement I submitted my application for volunteering in the Oregon Department of Corrections as a Veteran Volunteers. Approval pending.

John Birch, Region VIII Director