

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

TRANSITION REPORT 2018 – 2019

These past two years have had several issues for membership. I discovered that the lifetime members who were put into pending status for some reason, drop off the roster after three months. This practice restricts chapters and states from knowing that there is a problem that needs to be cleared. A query was run to list ALL pending members. The board of directors decided, at the suggestion of the president, to update all persons that joined before 2018 to lifetime memberships. Each month, the rosters need to be checked for pending members and an attempt needs to be made to correct this problem.

The National Membership Department has a desk reference guide that was three years old. The president asked that it be reviewed and updated as needed. This guide needs to be updated each time there is a change in AVVA policy that affects it.

The Membership section of the Policy & Procedure manual was also reviewed and changes were made. The president asked the committee to look at criteria for special membership upgrades and refunding of memberships. The committee decided that these circumstances happen infrequently and should be handled on a case by case basis without adding them to the P & P as the criteria needed to be specific to the instance.

During this time the dues for Dual members have been dropped to \$50 for life membership. This has raised many questions concerning dues for the Regular members. The committee did not want this change to be made, but the president encouraged the board to vote for the change.

Each month, a statistical report is created for VVA-AVVA. As chair, I have modified each report specifically for AVVA. I know that this tool is used by AVVA state organizations to track how their state is doing. As we enter the next term, this report or something similar should be continued to assist and encourage our states.

The biggest challenge that I believe needs to be corrected is the practice of supplies being ordered and charged to the membership committee budget without the chair knowing when and how many were ordered. The policy states that the chair reviews and approves all supplies to be ordered. The chair cannot prepare an accurate budget without knowing the volume and date of the supplies ordered.

The membership chair needs to have an open working relationship with members of the National Membership Department. This has been difficult to attain. It is understood that the president has the overall control of the organization, but that should not be to the detriment of the committee's work.

I also believe, that AVVA could benefit by having a closer relationship with the CSCP. Many misconceptions remain between AVVA and VVA at the state and chapter levels. Discussion with the CSCP might reduce these misconceptions.

There are ways to work through most of the issues that arise in membership and the Committee Chair needs to continue to work toward resolution of them.

I would like to thank my committee for the work done these past two years, Bobbie Morris (PA), Joanna Henshaw (NV), Terri Rangel (TX), and wish all of us continued success in our new committees.

Respectfully,

Cecilia Essenmacher

AVVA National Membership Committee Chair, 2018-2019