

# AVVA VETERANS BENEFITS REPORT

## APRIL 2017

AVVA has seventeen (17) active Service Officers listed on the OGC website located in nine (9) states. AVVA has 117 claimants; of those, fourteen (14) are active claims or appeals.

Since the January meeting, AVVA has certified one (1) new Service Officer and revoked six (6) accreditations. Our new SO resides in Vermont. Currently we have two (2) applicants in the certification process. They will be writing claims in Tennessee and Michigan. The website has been updated with a current listing & contact information.

The AVVA BOD has passed the revision of the program application, Representative Agreement and the Quarterly Report forms.

In January, all AVVA Service Officers were notified that 2016 fourth quarter reports were due. At that time, most responded; the quarterly reports were the means to discovering those who are no longer active SO's and were therefore revoked. Two (2) Service Officers asked to be temporarily placed in "inactive status".

The AVVA Board will be approving the newly written job description of the Veterans Benefits Committee during the upcoming Board meeting in April. After accepted, it will be posted to the AVVA website in Policies and Procedures Section 11.

As reported in January, AVVA is in the designing phase of creating a Spousal Benefits program. It will be three-fold:

1. Creating a booklet to guide and support local AVVA Chapters on how to plan and successfully hold Spousal Benefit seminars is almost completed.
2. AVVA works closely with Father Phil to send condolence cards to all reported deaths of VVA and AVVA members. We are now developing a small sticker to be inserted into the envelope of the condolence card. This sticker will contain information of where to locate benefits that may be possibly due the spouse and/or family of the deceased veteran.
3. The development of the booklet for individual spouses to be placed in funeral homes and distributed to those doing pre-planning arrangements has been postponed until next term.

The Spousal Benefits brochure will be reviewed this spring and any updates will be added before our next printing.

Sharon Hobbs  
Interim Program Director