

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT- July 2016

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Since my last writing, AVVA suffered a great loss in the death of our Vice President, Cathy Keister. To have such an unexpected, devastating blow to our organization was incomprehensible. Although I knew that Cathy could never be replaced, I knew that AVVA must have a VP. In April, Elayne Mackey (CA) was elected by the Board to fulfill the remainder of this term. They made an excellent choice; I know that Cathy would be proud to have her her follow in her footsteps. AVVA has rallied; we are moving forward at a steady pace.

I reported last April about researching the past Members-of-the-Year and Fellowship Award recipients. I am pleased to report that the Member of the Year Plaque is up-to-date and will be hung in the national office for all to see. The Fellowship Award recipients is a much larger list and is still incomplete. My next task is to complete the list of Commendation Medal recipients.

During the month of April, I worked with the National Membership Department Director in reviewing and revising all letters sent out to members for one reason or another. i.e. proof-of-age-needed letter, insufficient-funds letter, welcome-new-member letter, etc. All are now updated with improved wording and condensed from twenty-plus letters to eleven.

At the April Board meeting in Silver Spring, the Board voted unanimously to purchase the remaining AVVA logoed inventory from Proforma. I am pleased to announce that he accepted our offer; I have categorized and made an inventory sheet for them; we will have these products available to sell at the Leadership Conference.

I have had the privilege of making two visits this spring and summer:

- (1) In May, I attended the George C. Duggins Region 3 Conference in Charleston, WV. Pam Sheffer-Bossardet, AVVA Region 3 Deputy Director, held a very informative and comprehensive meeting with AVVA members. Upcoming events, literature distributed, and a question-and-answer period were included her presentation. AVVA had no educational seminars on the program agenda.
- (2) In June, I attended the Louisiana State Convention in Kinder, LA. While there I joined the AVVA State election meeting; I spoke to the members about our accomplishments and administered the Oath of Office to their newly elected State Representative, Ora Wells.

I would like to welcome our newest incorporated chapter: AVVA Chapter 1079 in Utah.

Since my last report in April, I have written two (2) articles for the VVA Veteran, one (1) for the *UPDATES*, one (1) for the VVA Board, one (1) for the AVVA Board, two (2) after-action reports and four (4) VVA Committee Advisor reports. I have had numerous phone conversations with members; and conversed through hundreds of emails.

*Sharon Hobbs, President*

