

## Region 3 Report June 2019

This will be my last report as the Region 3 Director. I am sad to be leaving this position as I have enjoyed working with each and every State Representative and State President. Not to mention all of the members in the region. I am not moving away and I will continue to be a part of the region. I will support the new Region 3 Director any way that I able to do so.

Because AVVA members and their involvement in helping Veterans, is one of the many reasons which makes me so proud of everyone in Region 3. I have urged the state reps and presidents to remind their chapters to keep track of and report their volunteer hours (VISTA) for this year. I have forwarded to them the VISTA program and form and asked that they pass the information to the chapters in their states.

I have tried to keep in contact with the state reps and presidents through phone calls and emails. When items of importance to Veterans are received, I try to forward to everyone so as to keep them informed. If anyone has had a problem, I did my best to help resolve it.

I attended the 2019 George C. Duggins Region 3 Conference which was held March 21<sup>st</sup> through March 23<sup>rd</sup> in Durham, North Carolina. The conference was hosted by the VVA North Carolina State Council.

Saturday evening, I presented the AVVA Region 3 Heart & Soul Award to Denise Sellers. Denise is associated with VVA Chapter 962 and the reward was well deserved. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to two other nominees – Wynella Bethards and Kathy Mattingly.

The Region 3 Conference is about the longest standing regional conference in VVA. The first conference was in 1990 and it was held in Charleston, South Carolina. George Duggins was the founder of the Region 3 Conferences while he was the Director of Region 3. In 2009, during Bruce Whitaker's tenure as the Region 3 Director, the conference name was changed to include "George C. Duggins" in honor and memory of the former VVA President. George was a long-time resident of Virginia

The next Region 3 Conference will be held in the spring of 2020 in Annapolis, MD, and will be hosted by the VVA Maryland State Council.

The states and chapters have been doing such wonderful things for veterans and sponsoring events in Region 3. The membership numbers are continuing to grow; and, Region 3 is the largest region in AVVA. I am so proud of every single member in Region 3.

Kaye Gardner  
Region 3 Director