

Candidate Biography
A.V.V.A. Region III Deputy Director

Beverly Pounds
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AVVA Membership # 924533 (Life)
AVVA Chapter 950, Inc.
Dickson, TN

I am announcing my candidacy for the position of AVVA National Region III Deputy Director.

I believe the next few years are crucial to our future. As serving in leadership positions we are a "VOICE" for many in our veteran's communities.

We as an organization have promised to carry on the Vietnam Veterans Founding Principles: "Never Again will one Generation of Veterans Abandon Another". Along with that promise comes many responsibilities. Yes, we have developed several great programs and projects to help serve our veterans and their families but this is just the beginning of where we need to go to build a stronger organization to continue our promise. The strength of our Regions is more important now than ever.

The Regions will be responsible for making decisions that help move us forward for future responsibilities that we may be faced with.

Region III has been a leader and contributed greatly to the National board of directors. I would like to see Region III continue to lead in the future.

I believe my pass experience, serving as Region III Director on the National Board of Directors, two terms (2013-2017) and serving on several National Committees, will benefit me serving as Region III Deputy Director.

If elected I promise to do my best to fulfill the duties of Region III National Deputy Director.

Thank you for your Consideration.

Beverly Pounds

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Married to (Retired 1st Sgt) Jerry R. Pounds for 35 years. Jerry retired from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service. He served 2 tours in Vietnam. 1st tour with 1st Infantry Division recon (Big Red One) 1965-66. 2nd tour with 101st Air borne Division 2/506 Infantry F S B Ripcord Ash au Valley 1969-70. He served as Deputy Commandant of the 7th Army NCO Academy in Germany. Retired as 1st Sgt of the 101st ABNDIV Air Assault School.

We have a blended family of 6 children, 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

WORK HISTORY

I am retired. I have a working history in Marketing / Sales, with skills in business ownership, customer service, public relations, project management, employee management, event coordinating and leadership.

I am a Certified Tennessee Tourism Professional, from the University of Tennessee. Have attended training courses from Tom Hopkins, Kennedy and Dale Carnegie, S.B.A. Management and Corporate Etiquette from Austin Peay State University.

VOLUNTEER HISTORY

I am a Life Member of AVVA.

At present time I serve as Tennessee Association Inc. State President. Tennessee is a leader in making Region III number one in membership, we have Spousal and Survivor Benefit Programs, Veterans Outreach Workshops, and food programs for Veterans and their families across the state. We work alongside of our VVA helping with Agent Orange and PTSD town hall meetings. Tennessee is also leading with VISTA volunteer hours.

Represent Veterans with our local Drug Coalition.

Help to develop and serve on a local Veterans Coalition. Coordinated a local Veterans information Fair.

Serve as Secretary / Treasurer AVVA Chapter 950 Inc.

Volunteer with outreach programs at my church.

Serve on the local Veterans Day Committee since 2006 to present, chairing the committee for 15 years.

Serve on AVVA Region III Disciplinary Committee

I am a Life member of Military Order of Purple Heart Auxiliary and past officer

PAST LOCAL

Served as Representative for Chapter 950

Served as Vice President for AVVA Tennessee Association

Attended Local County Leadership classes and served on the Alumni Association Board

Coordinated the first Annual Tennessee Association Inc. Retreat

Organized monthly snacks for Child Advocacy Center sponsored by AVVA Chapter 950

Coordinated a Valentine's Day lap blanket give away and care giver snack bags for veterans at the VA hospital.

In 2008, organized and started an annual Military Spouse Benefit program for local AVVA chapter.

Other Tennessee chapters followed and continues today with much success, so much so that National has made it one of our national programs, "The Spousal and Survivor VA Benefits Program."

Worked with Tennessee VVA State Council to organize and develop the 2015 Region III Conference.

PAST NATIONAL

Served two terms as Region III Director on the National Board of Directors

Chair of AVVA National Public Relation and Affairs /committee

Special Advisor to National VVA Public Affairs Committee

Member of National Strategic Planning Committee

Member of National Election Registration Committee

Chaired National Awards Committee

Served on the National VVA PTSD Committee