

Spousal and Survivor Benefits Committee

Eastern Regions 1,2,3,4,5

Co-Chair, Beverly Pounds

October 2025

A Special Thank you to Sharon Hobbs our National AVVA President for supporting and making the Spousal and Survivor Benefits Program a priority.

If your chapter wishes to sponsor a Spousal and Survivor Benefits program and you need help, please contact me. I am here to help.

Regions 1,2,3,4,5 Beverly Pounds, (615) 812-5442, bspounds@yahoo.com

Our committee will be working on a brochure for Spouses of living veterans. Giving out information for benefits available to them now.

What we do as an organization is so important to our veteran community.

Continuing to create a better everyday life for our Veterans and their families

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Spousal & Survivor Benefits Committee Report

Regions 6-9

October 7, 2025

I would like to welcome our new S&SB Regions 6-9 Committee members.

Craig Wade, VVA Alaska State President, AVVA Dual Member

Dorine Kirkes, AVVA Chapter 805 Secretary, 2025 S&SB Chairperson OR805

Bobbie Morris: Region 2 Director

Kathy Andres: AVVA National Vice President, Committee Advisor

This term I look forward to achieving our projected goals with the assistance of our committee members, such as training the Regional Directors, State Presidents/Representatives, and local chapters to successfully present a Spousal and Survivor Benefits seminar. As I have mentioned in the past, the need for us to hold these events is more significant now than ever as our veterans are passing away at an alarming rate. Our members, their spouses and other veterans in our communities need to be informed of their benefits. I would also like to remind us that a qualified VSO may be difficult to locate and secure for your event but we can provide one through Zoom or other video conferencing platforms. Where there is a will there is certainly a way.

In our regions, thus far, there are two separate seminars scheduled that I am aware of. OR805, November 8, 2025 with Dorine Kirkes who has flawlessly coordinated this event. Additionally, Alaska, March 6, 2026, with the assistance of Vickie Clay, VVA State Council Secretary, Craig Wade, VVA State President (AVVA Dual Member) and Mark Johnson, VSO who will be conducting the meeting. We are excited for successful events.

Jennifer Ellis

S&S Benefit Co-Committee Chair Regions 6-9

Region 8 Director, AVVA President OR805