

The Board met face-to-face in January. Although some of the Board members were unable to attend due to illnesses or exposure to illnesses, they all attended via the telephone. The AVVA Finance Committee presented the 2023 budget to the Board; it was approved. The Board chose and approved this year's Project Friendship recipient through an e-vote. AVVA is now an official partner with the Birth Defects Registry (BDR) located in Orlando, FL. Links to BDR can be found out the Toxic Exposure page of our website.

Since returning home I have:

- Answered scores of emails, phone calls, and the returned voicemails.
- Met with the Vice President of Sandy Spring Bank three times via the telephone concerning our Lockbox.
- Held two (2) online meetings with the officers.
- Revised the membership renewal letter being sent to 1 & 3-year members whose membership is expiring. The letter now includes our new partnership with The National Birth Defects Center.
- Wrote two (2) articles for The Veteran magazine.
- Wrote one (1) AVVA Board report
- Wrote one (1) VVA Board report.
- Wrote one (1) after-action report
- Wrote four (4) VVA Advisor reports
- Mailed seven (7) orders of Paper Safes.
- Assisted the Incorporation Chair with revision and updates to the Section II policy.
- Assisted the Spousal & Survivors Benefits Chair with revision and updates to the Section XI policy.
- Assisted the Finance Chair with Section XI updates.
- Filed the DC Corporate Domestic fees for payment.
- Submitted the CT Corp representation fees for payment
- Worked with our graphics designer to revise the current membership application to reflect changes being presented to the Board at the April meeting.
- Created a new dual membership application that will be available on the AVVA website at no cost to the organization once approved by the Board.
- After the selection and approval of the Project Friendship recipient through an evote, I met with the founder via the phone several times and arranged a visit to their facility while in Greenville.
- Created the Project Friendship flyer that will be distributed to the VVA Board and State Councils Presidents during the April meeting in Silver Spring.
- Met with the Strategic Planning Committee to devise our approach for this year.
- Met with two (2) of our vendors on the phone about product additions



## AVVA President's Report April 2022

I had the privilege and honor of placing the Wreath at The Wall with VVA President, Jack McManus, during the Vietnam War Veteran Recognition Day on March 29<sup>th</sup>. A ceremony was held on the knoll adjacent to The Wall. Although the weather was very cold, the ceremony was well attended. Afterwards, everyone was invited to a reception at the Press Club in downtown Washington DC.

At-large Representative election time has passed. Chapter elections are taking place in April, state elections will be completed in June. I believe that the 2023 convention in Orlando, FL., will be a well-represented meeting with many eligible delegates.

We will be officially announcing our Greenville Project Friendship at the April board meeting; we will need everyone's help in reaching our goal.

There is still time to nominate that special AVVA member for a national award. Memberof-the-Year, Fellowship, and the Cathy Keister *SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE* will be awarded during the AVVA Luncheon in Greenville.

AVVA have begun working on our role in the 2022 Leadership & Education Conference. If our seminar is accepted by the Conference Committee, we will be rejuvenating our current programs and possibly introducing a new one.

Sharow