

ASSOCIATES OF VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTOR Region 7 Report – As of January 6 2022

REGION 7: Happy New Year to All!

In 2021, the pandemic continues to affect us. I spoke to several AVVA members in the region and the conversation is the same, "nobody wants to get together anymore for fear of the COVID," "the few AVVA members that attend, only attend the meetings if their husbands attend," and another common statement, "we are getting too old to and many can't see at night."

I remind them they can change the meeting dates to a weekend in the morning or at a better time that works for all. I emphasize that if we stay active, even if it's a minor thing we do, it means a lot to those receiving assistance, a meal, a raffle, a recognition, including them in parades and in giving. I also remind them to work on recruitment and focus on a younger generation to pass the torch.

I continue to push forward and remain optimistic to cross these obstacles.

I send several messages out to our region some coming from AVVA National and others generated by myself. The Flash News is always great information and the Care Giver programs is information that many are beginning to pick up on.

The main message is to continue our lines of communication which I try to do within the Region.

I trust our members received these messages so we can take advantage of these programs.

Condolence cards and prayers continue to go out to our members and their families. I need our members to know we do make a difference with a simple phone call, email or letter.

Never forget that I'm available to you.

Stay in touch as I will do the same. My door is always open.

Respectfully,

Teresa Rangel Region 7 Director