

Associates of the Vietnam  
Veterans of America  
Region 6 Report

Another quarter has gone by, and it has been a busy one. I have been involved with Fundraising for our local chapter over the summer, and it was a "Great Success". Joe Graff is a VVA member that goes around with me to fairs, stores, etc. to raise funds through our Chapters Annual Fundraiser. Together this year, we raised over \$10,000.00. I have faced many health challenges during this past 2 years, but the drive to be there for our veterans is stronger in my body, mind and spirit. I will need to start thinking of backing down from the many activities I have been involved with. It is a great disappointment, that I must be giving this report as my final report, while holding the position of Region 6 Director. I believe that our Deputy Director Barbara Coan will be more than ready to assume the position. She has shown me that she has every bit of the drive I do.

During this past quarter I have had a full plate of activity. The following will give you a sample of what I have been up to:

- Fundraising Hrs = 183
- Veterans Assistance = 17
- Community = 8
- Color/Honor Guard duties = 15
- Meetings/Office = 25

I have enjoyed all that I have done, and would do every bit of it over again. A "True Pride" can be felt after doing for others, and that is the perfect driver for any member of this Organization. I pray that the areas of concern that I have for this Organization, can be overcome. The amount of travel is of great concern for me, and needs membership acknowledgement, to maintain a sustainable future. There is a clear way of saving the dollars sent in through membership, in regards to the extreme "costly" travel expenditures. These costs are far too high of a percentage, of that revenue. Providing programs for our incarcerated membership is an area that needs attention. There is currently no funding going towards any programs with these members. To have this program, and "NOT" be funding it in any manner, is a great loss. There are so many possibilities that are not being considered. I am leaving this position with these concerns, and praying for positive changes in the Organization's future.

Thank You for allowing me to serve you as Deputy Director and Director over the past 3 years. I have truly enjoyed my time assisting veterans, and will continue my service as long as the Lord has me here.

Rick A. Talford  
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