



## **Candidate For National Region 4 Director**

Joanne M. Blum, # 1021395  
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I am announcing my candidacy for the position of Region 4 Director.

I have always had Veteran's interests at heart. As an RN, I worked in many capacities at a State Veterans' Hospital for over 30 years. I took part in Stand Down from its inception. Stand Down is an annual event for homeless veterans, which have a special place in my heart. In my last position there, I was the Hospital Administrator for 3 ½ years. This enabled me to network with VA agencies and hospitals, and utilize my communication skills. Following my position there, I taught nursing students at the University of Connecticut for 17 years. During that period, I was elected National President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish War Veterans. In that position, I traveled to many states representing my organization, again serving veterans.

As Region 1 Director for two years, I was on the AVVA National Board working with an outstanding group of individuals. I was also able to be on a VVA committee with Sandy Miller concerning homeless veterans. I was also on a VVA committee with Linda Schwartz about veteran's health.

More recently, I have served as co-chair of the AVVA National Disciplinary Committee. Collaborating with my Disciplinary Committee Co-chair, Nina Schloffel, we worked through a very difficult case. This helped me gain some insight into some of the workings of AVVA.

I pride myself on my communication skills, and I look forward to working with the incoming Board, and serving our organization with honor.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

*Joanne Blum*

## **Personal Information**

Husband: Jerome "Jerry" Blum. Married 52 1/2 years. Served with the U.S. Navy 1962-1966. Vietnam 1963-1966 aboard the U.S. Vance- Destroyer Escort

Daughters: Michelle (Dec.), and Jennifer

Grandchildren: Jordan, Melissa, and Debbie

## **Education**

1967 Diploma in Nursing- Providence Hospital School of Nursing, Holyoke, MA

1996 Bachelor in Nursing- CCSU, New Britain, CT

2001 Masters in Science-Nursing- UConn School of Nursing, Storrs, CT

## **Work Experience**

May 2017 to present-Retired

1973-2002- Staff Nurse to Head Nurse to Nursing Supervisor to Assistant Director of Nursing to Hospital Administrator at State of CT Department of Veterans Affairs, Rocky Hill, CT

2003-2017- Clinical Instructor, University of CT, Storrs, CT

## **AVVA Office**

At Large Delegate, State of Florida, Co-Chair National AVVA Disciplinary Committee, Member, National AVVA Policy and Procedures Committee, Worked with Product Sales during Convention and Leadership Conference, Past Region 1 Director, Life Member

## **Organizations**

2013-2014- National President, Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans

Life Member, Past President Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veteran CT #45, member FL Auxiliary #321, Patron Jewish War Veterans, CT Post #45, Patron, Jewish War Veterans, Post 639, FL.

Life Member, Past President, VFW Auxiliary 9929, West Hartford, CT

Life Member, DAV Auxiliary

Member, Amvets Auxiliary, CT

Past President, Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society for Nursing, MU Chapter, UConn