



AVVA PRESIDENT'S REPORT FINAL REPORT 2023 - 2025

As the 2023 – 2025 term comes to a close, AVVA has had a very productive two years. We have reached several goals and have plans to continue next term developing and creating new programs and/or projects. We also celebrated our 25th anniversary. I am very proud of the work that this board has completed. We have worked well together; although, we had varying personalities and opinions, in the end, we all wanted what was best for AVVA and our members.



In this report, I will attempt to mention all of my tasks and list some of AVVA accomplishments this term without implying that this a complete report; it is only my recollection. For a more complete list of accomplishments, read the regional, program and committee reports.

From 2023 – 2025:

- Answered scores of emails, phone calls, and returned voicemails.
- Met with the officers online x 8
- Wrote eight (8) articles for The Veteran magazine.
- Wrote five (5) AVVA Board report
- Wrote seven (7) VVA Board report.
- Wrote five (5) travel after-action report
- Met with the Finance Chair/Committee five (5) times
- Wrote eight (8) VVA Advisor reports
- Met three (3) times with the Membership Dept via telephone
- Shipped six (6) orders of Paper Safes
- Responded to nine (9) Ring Central voicemails.
- Developed the agenda for all Board meeting and Annual Business meetings
- Created a Project Friendship flyer x 2
- Developed a Power Point presentation for Leadership seminar
- Met online with the: Bylaws, P&P, and Strategic Planning committees
- Worked with a designer to create a Flag Etiquette booklet
- Revised the membership renewal letter to reflect current updates
- Assisted Committees with policy rewrites.
- Participated in the local “Vietnam War Veterans Recognition” day event
- Ordered a replenishment of Life Member Certificates
- Met with the officers of Sandy Spring Bank x 4. Lock box, CD, & credit cards,
- Reviewed the IRS 990 before submitting x 2
- Created Charters for newly incorporated chapters
- Secured luncheon speakers for two Annual meetings
- Ordered gifts for convention bags



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- Ordered “big Check” for Project Friendship presentation
- Wrote two (2) Welcome Addresses for Annual meetings.
- Held online meetings before the Leadership Conference and Convention in preparation for the events
- Chose the AVVA convention bag with online approval from the BOD
- Ordered gifts for luncheon speaker, and serving on the BOD this past term.
- Reserved AVVA a vendor (x2) table during both Annual meetings.
- Created, developed, & printed luncheon place cards
- Created and developed the convention registration form
- Met with a financial advisor and the Finance Chair on CD investment options.
- Moved CD to Edward Jones Financial for better return on our money
- Received a travel tissue donation for convention bags.
- Ordered fresh supply of folders for recognition certificates
- Assisted with the development of the Education Coordinator's job description
- Ordered new membership applications
- Revised the incarcerated member membership application
- Assisted with the re-write of the incarcerated member policy
- Assisted with the development of the Education Coordinator's job description
- Ordered AVVA membership pins for Product Sales
- Ordered Charter supplies
- Completed the process for Sales Tax Exemption in MD
- Coordinated the printing and delivery of the updated SB brochure.
- Renewed our MOU with Command Headquarters
- Renewed our commitment to Benevity Donations and DLCP
- Represented AVVA at the VVA Board meeting in January x 2
- Met with the future Vietnam Veterans of America Legacy Society x 6
- Attended the Wreath Laying at The Wall celebrating the end of the Vietnam War.

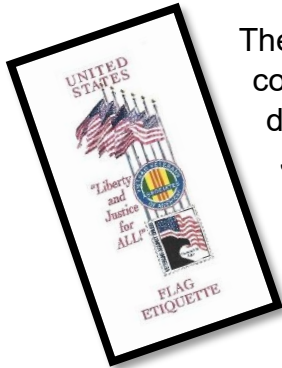
The AVVA National Board of Directors met face-to-face four times in Silver Spring, MD. All were productive and completed in a timely manner. Our National Parliamentarian, Barbara Miller, attended all meetings via the telephone. After each meeting, we attended VVA Committee meetings where one of our group was the AVVA Advisor to that meeting. In October of 2023 we held a board orientation session during the meeting in Silver Spring. In January of 2024 and 2025, we had a full online board meeting. In April 2025, we participated in the Wreath Laying at The Wall in commemoration of the end of the Vietnam War where Kathy Andras and I laid the AVVA wreath at The Wall. The Board also met before the 2024 Leadership Conference and again at the Annual Membership meeting.





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During the 2024 Leadership & Education Conference in Reno, NV, AVVA presented a seminar titled ***"Spousal & Survivor Benefits"***. We also presented a Project Friendship check to ***"Horsemanship for Heroes"*** for \$21,286. The 2025 Project Friendship recipient is ***'Volunteers of America Southeast Louisiana'***. Total donations will be presented during the Convention closing ceremonies on Saturday, August 9, 2025.



The Paper Safe is still one of our most successful programs. Of the 95,000 copies that have been printed since 2013, over 94,000 have been distributed. AVVA introduced a new program this term titled ***"Liberty and Justice for all"***. This program is in the form of a booklet with flag etiquette as the subject. As to-date, over 5,000 copies have been distributed.

In January of 2025, VVA moved the meeting place to the Washington Sheraton, 900 S Orme St. Arlington, VA.

Travels:

- In June 2024, I attended the Tennessee Association meeting in Nashville where I conducted their state elections. This trip was at no cost to national.
- In February of 2024, I attended the Region 3 Conference in Ashville, NC
- In March 2024, I was scheduled to fly to Reno, NV for a site visit; however, I was involved in an accident (fall) boarding the airplane and had to cancel
- During the first weekend in April of 2025, I attended the dedication ceremony and renaming of the VA Medical facility in West Palm Beach, FL in honor of past VVA President, Tom H. Corey.



I want to thank the Board of Directors, the National Parliamentarian, and the Committees for helping to make this a very productive, successful, and pleasant term. AVVA could not have been effective without you. I think that everyone is planning to return next term; I look forward to working with you. I appreciate your dedication and commitment to our organization. Hope to see everyone in New Orleans.

Sharon Yocco