

REGION 8 REPORT

August 2, 2024

Many of us are excited about attending this years VVA/AVVA Leadership and Education Conference in Reno, Nevada. Horsemanship for Heroes is the non-profit organization that we, Kelly Fredrickson, Region 9 Director and I, nominated along with a few other possibilities to be selected. They were chosen by the VVA Project Friendship committee and we are very excited to learn more about their program and how it benefits our veterans and first responders through equine-assisted psychotherapy and learning. Please remember to advertise this program to your chapters so that we can bless them with a generous donation. You can download the flyer off of the VVA website to present to your chapters and state counsels to help get the word out.

The VVA Alaska State Council did extend an invitation to us to join them for a ceremony for Vietnam Veterans Day. Unfortunately, the price of air fare shot up and it was excessive enough to postpone the visit. Ruth and I can hopefully travel up there to establish relationships with VVA and AVVA existing members and dual members, in person, on another occasion.

The VVA Oregon State Council held their meeting and elections, May 18th in Lebanon, Oregon. I was honored to attend and asked to pray as Chaplain for OR Chapter 805. VVA's elections brought about enormous change as a new State President: Jaycee Newman, Vice President: Bill Duncan, 2nd Vice President: Steve Wiley, Secretary: Steve Carr and Treasurer: Clyde Evans. The AVVA Oregon State Representative remains by acclamation, Ruth Feliciano who I know will contribute to our AVVA growth in the State. Franscisco Ivarra, VVA Region 8 Director also joined us and oversaw the elections. Additionally, Washington State AVVA Representative remains Steve Jordon by acclamation.

Thank you,
Jennifer Ellis
Region 8 Director