



Together Always

**AVVA - AT LARGE NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 15
JULY, 2021**

I attended the first in-person Wisconsin State Council quarterly meeting since December 2019 on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at the South Park Lower Shelter in Waupaca.

AVVA Report

There was no AVVA report at this meeting.

State Council

President's Report (Richard Lindbeck)

- Richard participated in several virtual National meetings. Although a virtual National Convention was discussed, an in-person Convention be held (no additional days before or after the Convention are available at the hotel). Convention attendees must provide 2021 (not 2020) reports to be admitted.
- Richard is retiring from his position as State Council President effectively immediately; he is running for a National At Large Director position.
- The Marinette Chapter lost their charter and is being dissolved. The Chapter President passed away 30 days after charter was presented. All efforts made to contact members of the Chapter (by mail, e-mail and phone) to help them maintain their charter were unsuccessful.

Secretary's Report (Jim Mullarkey)

- The new website should be ready by July 4th.
- Jim sends State Council notifications to Chapter officers (taken from election reports), Regional Directors, the At Large Director, the AVVA State Representative and the AVVA At Large Representative.

Treasurer's Report (Pat Craney)

- Only 5 checks were issued in the last year including 3 for scholarships. The State Council remains in good financial condition.

Region 6 Director's Report (Bob Grabinski)

- Convention registration fees double after October 7th; election reports are due at National by 7/15.
- The Minnesota State Council is dissolving but Chapters will maintain their individual charters. The State of Minnesota is taking over service representative duties from the Minnesota State Council and will work directly with National.
- Bob has chosen not to run again for the National Region 6 Director position.

National Director's Report (John Margowski)

- National had 12 virtual board meetings during COVID. National is taking over many duties previously done by staff, State Councils, etc., to reduce expenses; options to close down VVA have NOT been discussed by National; a name change for the organization is NOT supported by the membership.
- John will be running for Region 6 Director at the National Convention.

Scholarship Committee (Virginia Nueske)

- The three (3) scholarship winners have been chose and scholarships have been presented. Applications for next year will be out soon and will be posted at vvawi.org.

General Information

- Mike Demske reminded everyone of the remaining 2021 (in-person) meeting dates:
9/18: Quarterly meeting; Ramada Inn, Waupaca
12/3: Holiday Party; Simpson's, Waupaca (participants will order from the menu and pay individually)
12/4: Quarterly meeting; Ramada Inn, Waupaca
- The special election was held for Richard's replacement; Mike Demske was unanimously elected.
- A plaque was presented to Richard for his many years of service as President. He is not leaving the organization; he hopes to serve his fellow veterans in a different capacity as a National At Large Director.

New Business

- Changes proposed by the Constitution Committee to Article 5, Section 2 of the State by-laws was passed.
- The date of the June meeting was changed to the Saturday AFTER Father's Day beginning in 2022.
- Delegate reimbursement for attending the National Convention in Greensboro, NC was discussed; individual and total reimbursement maximums were set and approved by the membership. VVA and AVVA registered delegates must attend all caucuses and meetings to be eligible for reimbursement.
- Information on a National Executive Director position was provided; further discussion and a vote will occur at the September meeting.

Upcoming Events:

September 18, 2021

Wisconsin State Council quarterly meeting; Ramada Inn, Waupaca

November 2-6, 2021 (rescheduled date)

National Convention, Greensboro, NC

December 10-11, 2021 (**note change in date**)

Wisconsin State Council holiday gathering (dinner at 5:00 PM at Simpson's followed by the white elephant gift exchange at the Ramada) and quarterly meeting; Ramada Inn, Waupaca

May I send you this newsletter by e-mail? If so, please contact me at jlfoye@frontier.com with a subject line of "AVVA At-Large Newsletter" or by phone at 715-842-9197 (we don't have caller ID so you'll need to leave your phone number in order for me to return your call). Any suggestions on what (or how much) information to include in the newsletter is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Take care and be safe.



Joy L. Foye
Wisconsin AVVA At-Large Representative