

MESSAGE FROM THE SC STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow vets.

The January Conference of State Council Presidents and the National VVA Board went well. The budget was streamlined by our new treasurer and it fit our needs. The good will of our donors and our household goods returns finance our operations and it is a healthy organization. We have 91,000 life members with about 20% actively participating in meetings and events.

Our SC State Council met on Super Bowl Sunday with eight of our ten chapters present. Two were absent with the horrible flu running throughout the state. Dave and Vicki Bertges from Walhalla provided a super lunch. American Legion Post 130 and the American Legion District commander, Darlene Walton, hosted us in its Cayce post. Each chapter noted its operations. We are active throughout the state in supporting all vets. We re-elected our five officers, yours truly, Larry Miller, Charlie Davies, Jay Reynolds, and Zeke Cervantes. Each have been active and strong supporters of the council and generally all veterans. The council approved a resolution to help out of the way vets throughout the US get VA transportation benefits for hospital visits. Those without electronic means to do this still can send in a form to the medical center where treatment was handled. If the treatment was by a non-VA facility, the veteran can send the claim on VA Form 10-3542 to whichever VA facility authorized that treatment. Addresses are at VA.Gov locations or call the approving facility for help.

We noted with the upcoming exhaustion of the National Life Membership fund, state council and chapter rebates may be handled differently in the next few years, i.e. less amounts per member. Accordingly, fund raising will be necessary. In this regard, please donate to the council. Our web site provides such an opportunity. See the note at the bottom of the first page of the newsletter in the site. We may change the name of that newsletter since it is very close to the National publication. We are open to suggestions for a new name. Send comments to Charlie Davies, our web master. See his address on the page.

VVA Region Three (Maryland, NC, WV, Ky, TN, VA, and SC) are having a Conference at the end of February in Asheville. It will address aging and the veteran as well as other matters effecting our lives.

Evident in the state council and chapters throughout the state is ongoing camaraderie. Our meetings and get togethers provide super venues for our RVN brothers and sisters to be together and to do good things both for ourselves as we age and our brother and sister veterans from more recent conflicts. We all live longer by this. All our delegates last Sunday agreed that our participation and activities help us health wise.

Stay safe through the rest of our 24 winter and welcome in a great spring.

Very respectfully

Sam Brick, SC VVA State Council President and Chair of the Conference of State Council Presidents.

