



**Vietnam Veterans of America
Wisconsin State Council
Saturday, March 18, 2023
VVA WSC Quarterly Meeting
Comfort Suites Par 4 Conference Center**

9:00 A.M. – **VVA WSC Committee Meetings**

- Toxic Exposure (Agent Orange) Committee Meeting

10:00 A.M. – **VVA Wisconsin State Council Meeting**

Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance; Prayer by WSC Chaplain, Moment of Silence

Speaker: Dr. Thomas “Tom” Hall, *Chair of the PTSD/Substance Abuse Committee for VVA*

Brief Bio...

Dr. Tom Hall served as a Military Police Sentry Dog Handler with the 18th Military Police Brigade in Vietnam between 1969 and 1970. He has held clinical, faculty, and administrative appointments following his military service and education. These ranged from teaching/counseling in Secondary Education, serving as clinical professional and administrator at several treatment facilities, performing duties of the Executive Director of the Jackson County Community Backed Anti-Drug Tax Commission (a.k.a. COMBAT Commission), and, most recently, administering the Addiction Counselor training program at Kansas City Kansas Community College. For the past 14 years, he has served as National Chair of the PTSD/Substance Abuse Committee for Vietnam Veterans of America, whose primary mission is to improve access to behavioral health services for America's veterans and their families. Currently, Dr. Hall presents workshops across the country on PTSD, Suicide Prevention, and Secondary Traumatic Stress and is currently Graduate adjunct faculty at St. Mary's graduate school of psychology. Dr. Hall continues to be active in the community on the boards of several non-profits serving the underserved in the community. Dr. Hall has been a veterans' advocate for over 30 years.

Part One:

Dr. Hall will present an informational and enlightening presentation on two equally critical issues within the veteran population — post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance use disorder (SUD). As veterans, many of you have heard about, have, or are experiencing PTSD which is a trauma and stressor-related disorder. For veterans, this may be the result of experiencing a dangerous, frightening, or uncomfortable event such as military combat. Substance use disorder SUD is a cluster or group of cognitive, behavioral, and psychological symptoms. SUD is discussed along with PTSD because it is believed that the individual is self-medicating. However, you may discover that these disorders are often comorbid (i.e., happening at the same time) they can occur independently.



“Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.”



Part Two:

Consideration of a full-day seminar hosted by the WSC with the main presenter Dr. Thomas Hall.

Date: TBD (e.g., September 2023, March or September 2024)

Location: TBD

Audience: Veterans, veterans' spouses, healthcare providers (including physicians and nurses), counselors (i.e., psychologists, counselors, therapists, ASW, BSW, LMSW, LCSW), first responders (i.e., emergency medical services personnel, firefighters, and police and law enforcement officers).

Topic: Topical areas include, but are not limited to PTSD, Substance Abuse, Alcohol Abuse, Ruralism, Suicide Prevention, and the Aging Veteran.

Committee: VVA WSC Education Committee (members being sought from VVA/AVVA WSC)

10 Minute Break

WSC Meeting Resumes

Roll Call of VVA WSC Officers and VVA Chapter Delegates and AVVA Chapter Representatives; Assignment of Parliamentarian and Time Keeper; Approval of Agenda, and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- WSC President's Report
- WSC Officers' Reports
- VVA Directors' Reports
 - VVA Region 6 Director
 - VVA At-Large Director
- WSC Region Directors' and At-Large Director Reports*
- Chair of Veterans Affairs/Council of Veterans Programs*
- AVVA Report
- WSC Committee Reports*
- VVA Chapters' Reports*

****Committee Reports must be typed and submitted to WSC Secretary (secretary@vvawi.org or jmullarkey@mac.com) to be noted in the Minutes and added to the WSC website. Hold all VVA WSC Region and VVA Chapter reports to three (3) minutes. Only typed or emailed reports submitted to VVA WSC Secretary (secretary@vvawi.org or jmullarkey@mac.com) will be noted on the Minutes and added to the WSC website.***

- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjourn

Notice: AVVA Meeting following VVA WSC Meeting

SPECIAL NOTE:

VVA Region Six Director will a) provide information on the group – Concerned Veterans of America, and b) remind addressing WSC about the VVA Strategic Plan for Dissolution (2020) as well as respond to questions, he can respond to, about the overall impact on VVA National, the WSC, and VVA Chapters. Please read the Strategic Plan prior to attendance

The Region Six Director and At Large Directors will attempt to respond to the impact of the PACT Act during their reports.



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