

Region 6  
AVVA

The Associates of the Vietnam Veterans have been busy with reorganizing under the new Board of Directors. We continue to look into how we can be affective for our veterans and their families alike. The Paper Safe Program is a successful program to assist the veterans and families with knowing exactly where those important documents are, when the veteran passes. We are always looking into the future, in the attempt to consider, the possible changes we may face. Our membership breakdown is as follows in Region 6; Wisconsin (344), Minnesota (67), Iowa (67), Nebraska (26), Missouri (228), North Dakota (149), South Dakota (78) and Kansas (45). The total membership is (1,004). Nationally, we have 9,963 members, with (468) in the Incarcerated program.

Personally, I give as much time as I can to providing our veterans with any assistance, I may be able to handle. In the first quarter of 2022, I have been involved with the following; (1) 38 hours in meetings, (2) 19 hours of office work, (3) 37 hours of veteran assistance, (4) 10 hours of gatherings, (5) 15 hours of community service, (6) 8 hours of Memorial/Flag details, (7) 33 hours of College Training, (8) 20 hours of events. This has kept me busy working for the AVVA/VVA and the American Legion all together. It feels good to be able to help where needed, and these hours are filled with enjoyment and a sense of accomplishment, and that for me is great pay. The time we spend with an organization, can be very fulfilling, if you lead with your heart. You will see the appreciation in the veterans face, and that is the best pay one could receive. My request for all of you reading is simple. Please take time out of your busy lives, and give time to our veterans and their families. They are part of only 1% of the population, yet they sacrifice so much for the people of our country. Giving back to them is something every American should do. Show them they are Honored, Respected and Cared about. God Bless ALL of our Veterans.

Rick A. Talford  
Region 6 Director