



Together Always

**AVVA - AT LARGE NEWSLETTER
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I hope everyone has/had a safe and Happy Labor Day. It's hard to believe the summer is gone and school is ready to begin!

I attended the AVVA National Convention in Spokane, WA on July 16-20. For those of you who have never attended one, I highly recommend it. It was only my second Convention but I look forward to attending more in the future. I decided not to wait until the next quarterly meeting (on September 21) to this so you would have information on the Bylaw changes and who the newly elected officials are.

Wisconsin had 5 voting delegates (including Pat Furno), therefore, besides the Region 6 director, we were the only state represented from Region 6.

7/17 (Wednesday):

- VVA held their opening ceremonies with many AVVA members in attendance.
- An AVVA caucus was held in the afternoon and included a handout and discussion on the "Effective Use of Motions" as well as discussions regarding some of the bylaw changes that would be discussed on Thursday.

7/18 (Thursday): The AVVA Convention opened.

- Sharon Hobbs (the outgoing President) recommended members regularly check the AVVA website (avva.org) for updates to by-laws, the Policies and Procedure Manual, current activities, etc.
- AVVA currently has over 10,000 members
- All past AVVA Presidents were in attendance at the Convention
- 101 people were registered for the Convention (81 delegates, 20 alternates); 76 delegates registered and were eligible to vote; 71 voting delegates were in attendance when a roll call was done
- Delegates voted on the by-law changes with the following results:
 - Article III, Section 3.01: **withdrawn**
 - Article III, Section 3.05: **failed; the amount of dues is not a by-law issue; the Policies and Procedures manual will be updated instead (the Policies and Procedure Manual will clarify that listed dues are for "Age 59 years and under" and "Age 60 years and over")**
 - Article III, Section 3.07: **sub-section (c)** was **passed** as submitted; sub-section (d) was amended to clarify this applies to national offices (the sections reads: "*Election Committee members, including the chair, must resign their position on the Election Committee if they run for any national office.*"), **sub-section (d)** was **passed as amended**
 - Article IV, Section 4.10: **passed**
 - Article V, Section 5.01: **passed**
 - Article V, Section 5.05: **passed**
 - Article VI, Section 6.02: notification to and attendance by ALL member representatives at special meetings would be required; deletion recommended; **passed**
 - Article VII, Section 7.01: **passed**
 - Article VII, Section 7.02: **passed**
 - Article VII, Section 7.03: **passed**
 - Article VII, Section 7.05: **passed**
 - Article VIII, Section 8.02: **passed**
 - Article VIII, Section 8.03: **passed**

7/19 (Friday):

- 2 representatives from the Veterans Experience Office (part of the Department of Veterans Affairs) talked about the “Welcome Kit” they have available at their booth at the VVA convention
- AVVA elections were held (78 delegates were in attendance and voted); offices are for a 2-year term; election rules were amended (and passed) to add a provision that in contested races, the President will notify the candidates of the results BEFORE announcing results to the delegates:

President	Joanna Henshaw
Vice-President	Kaye Gardner
Secretary	Nina Schloffel
Treasurer	Kathy Andras
Region 1 Director	Fran Guevermont
Region 1 Deputy Director	Vacant
Region 2 Director	Roberta (Bobbie) Morris
Region 2 Deputy Director	Nancy Rekowski
Region 3 Director	Hope Summers
Region 3 Deputy Director	Connie Jones
Region 4 Director	Jeri Wallis
Region 4 Deputy Director	Susan Henthorn
Region 5 Director	Don Jones
Region 5 Deputy Director	Cecilia Essenmacher
Region 6 Director	Fran Davis (this is our Region)
Region 6 Deputy Director	Rick Talford
Region 7 Director	Terri Rangel
Region 7 Deputy Director	Suzie Meeks
Region 8 Director	Vacant
Region 8 Deputy Director	Vacant
Region 9 Director	Tim Von Bon
Region 9 Deputy Director	Kelly Frederickson

I'll send another newsletter around mid-October with information from the September 21st meeting.

Upcoming Events:

September 21, 2019:

- Wisconsin State Council quarterly meeting; Ramada Inn, Waupaca

December 6-7, 2019:

- Wisconsin State Council holiday party (12/6) and quarterly meeting (12/7); Ramada Inn, Waupaca

May I send you this newsletter by e-mail instead? 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 please leave your phone number so I can contact you). If you have any suggestions on what (or how much) information to include in the newsletter, please let me know. Thank you!



Joy L. Foye
Wisconsin AVVA At-Large Representative