



**Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.**  
**8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100 • Silver Spring, MD 20910**  
**Telephone (301) 585-4000 • Fax Main (301) 585-0519**

**February 4, 2019**

**To: AVVA Wisconsin Chapter Representatives**

**A month into the new year and I hope you all are staying warm and healthy. Seems like the weather—now spring-like—is backwards after the deep deep cold of last week.**

**As we begin 2019, did you know that this is AVVA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary? Our national Board of Directors is in the midst of planning a celebration for the National Convention in Spokane, Washington, this year. Part of the reason I am writing is to remind you of the dates and encourage you to make an effort to attend the convention as a delegate this year. The event runs from July 17 thru 20, 2019.**

**As I look over the list of Wisconsin's elected Chapter Representatives, there is no escaping Wisconsin's Regional leadership in terms of membership and numbers of elected Representatives. I am hopeful that, with help from our VVA chapter partners, we can field a record number of voting delegates at the upcoming convention. Some very important decisions will be made at the convention regarding our leadership, bylaws and the future of AVVA. All of the officer and Board of Director positions will be up for election and the convention is the only time that our Bylaws can be changed. Attached is a list of the deadlines with regard to filing candidate papers and/or any bylaw changes that you would like to propose.**

**Additionally, I would like to ask that anyone spending time volunteering in the community, should record those hours in AVVA's VISTA program. This is "Volunteers In Service to America", and covers any time that you spend volunteering—whether that be for your VVA chapter, the local Food Pantry, Hospital (whether VA or not), or any other local charity or non-profit. There is a good explanation of the program on the AVVA website, (AVVA.org) along with the form that AVVA would like you fill out recording those hours.**

**Finally, I am happy to be able to attach the VVA Press release detailing the US Court of Appeals case that finally provides justice to our Blue Water Navy veterans. It has been a long and unnecessary fight for these veterans and their families.**

**Pat Furno, Wisconsin State Representative**  
**W1080 Roosevelt Road, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066-9516**  
**(920)474-4017 cpapfavva@wi.rr.com**

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I hope to see you all at the next VVA Wisconsin State Council meeting on Saturday, March 16 in Waupaca.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat".

- March 20, 2019**      **Last day to submit bylaw amendment proposals to the Bylaws Committee.**
- April 1, 2019**      **Candidate registration must be emailed or postmarked on or before this date.**
- April 19, 2019**      **Bylaw Committee provides bylaw amendment proposals to membership.**

**Pat Furno, Wisconsin State Representative**  
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