

2022~2023 VA&R Bulletin

**Department Chairman ~ Marie Larson
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Mid-Year Report is due to me no later than December 15th

Year-End Report is due to me no later than May 1st

Department Awards due to me by May 1st

National Awards due to me by May 15th (Must include a cover sheet)

What is this program and why do we have it?

The Service to Veterans program (formerly VA&R) promotes our mission to enhance the lives of U.S. veterans, military, and their families. This was the main purpose in organizing our organization. Our activities should focus on this aspect.

What Can Your Unit Do?

1. Serve our Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military.
 - Examples: volunteer at a V A facility, participate in “Quilts of Valor” program, shopping for and preparing care packages for deployed troops, helping wounded warriors and elderly veterans at home, provide transportation, military send-off and welcome-home events, parades, projects for homeless veterans, recording veteran histories, raise money for the “Veterans Creative Arts Festival”, fundraising events that benefit veterans (such as a Walk, Run and Roll), make Buddy Baskets for homeless veterans transitioning to housing, make Blessing Bags for police to hand out when dealing with homeless veterans, assisting with veterans hiring fairs/Stand-Downs, pocket flags, Socks for Soldiers/homeless veterans, etc.
2. Provide services for Military Families.
 - Examples: support programs for military and veteran’s children, help Family Support groups, support “Adopt-a-Family” projects, military spouse hiring fairs, childcare for military activities or spouses of deployed troops, distribute Blue Star/Gold Star banners, distribute GI Josh dogs, be a tutor, do yard work, food boxes, etc.
3. Write Supplemental reports and submit them to me at mid-year and year end. Department and National level awards can be found on our Department website: alaoregon.org. Remember National submissions always need a cover letter.
4. Support the American Legion Auxiliary Service to Veterans program through donations from members and special fundraising events.

2022~2023 VA&R Mid-Year / Year End Report
(this may be sent electronically or by mail no later than December 15th
for Mid-Year and May 1st for Year End)

Unit Name & #: _____ District _____

VA&R Chairman & Phone #: _____

Did your Unit provide services for our Veterans / Active Duty/Reserve Military (see previous examples on Page 1)? Yes/no _____ \$ spent? _____

What services / projects (include how many hours and # of volunteers)?

Were any of these a focus on Women Veterans? Yes/No _____ \$ _____ Hours _____

Did your Unit provide services for Military Families (see previous examples on page 1)? Yes/no _____ \$ spent? _____

What services / projects (Include how many hours and # of volunteers)?

Does your Unit have VAVS volunteers? _____ How many? _____ Hours? _____

Did your Unit have any new VAVS volunteers? _____ How many? _____ Hours? _____

Please add a supplemental for additional information.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

V A & R Awards

Department Awards:

1. **Muriel E. Nothinger Memorial Award:**
To the Unit with 10-99 members reporting the most outstanding year-round "Service to Veterans" program.
2. **Linda Liebenow Award:**
To the Unit with 100-160 members reporting the most outstanding year-round "Service to Veterans" program.
3. **Cheryl Wilson Award:**
To the Unit with 161-250 members reporting the most outstanding year-round "Service to Veterans" program.
4. **Clara Scott Award:**
To the Unit with 251 or more members reporting the most outstanding year-round "Service to Veterans" program.

The Department VA&R chairperson and selected judges will determine the above winners.

5. **Arlene Downing Veterans Award:**
To the Unit scoring the most points in the following categories (show your scoring)
 - Hours volunteered in a VA facility after orientation training = 20 points max (1 point for every 10 hours)
 - Gifts for local disabled Veterans = 10 points max (1 point for each \$10.00)
 - Articles for recreational or occupational therapy = 10 points max (1 point for each \$10.00)
 - Material contributions to VA Hospitals = 20 points max (1 point for each \$10.00)
 - Gifts for Christmas Gift Shops = 10 points max (1 point for every \$10.00)
 - Monetary donations donated to Department for the VA&R fund = 10 points max (1 point for every \$10.00)
 - Round trip mileage to the nearest VA facility = 10 points max (1 point for every 10 miles)
 - Sponsor a special event for VA facility = 10 points max (5 points for each sponsored event)
 - The Department VA&R chairperson and selected judges will determine the winner.
6. **Marge Kenobbie Memorial Award:**
Awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative (supplemental) report to include:
 - Service and/or funds given to the VA Transplant housing Unit.
 - Community awareness of Veterans.
 - Outlining your Unit's projects and activities.
 - Report must include Unit name and number, name of the Unit President and VA&R Chairman.
 - The Department VA&R chairperson and selected judges will determine the winner.

SERVICE TO VETERANS' AWARDS: (formerly Field and Home Service)

7. PDP Louise Carter Service to Veterans Award for Service:

Awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative (supplemental) report on service to Veterans based on the following criteria:

- Service hours including time spent sewing, knitting, cooking, shopping for materials and making gifts for the Veterans use (including gifts forwarded to the VA Veterans Facilities).
- Material contributions sent to VA facilities, such as ditty bags, cards, comfort items, etc.
- The report shall be in story form, type written report of the work their Unit has done.
- To include the Unit name, number, Unit President, and VA&R Chairperson's name.
- The report to be signed by the Unit VA&R chairperson and the Unit President.

8. PDP Trudie McGriff Service to Veterans Award:

To the Unit reporting the most outstanding Service to VA facilities, their community and education on Veteran's needs. The narrative (supplemental) report to include:

- Cash sent to Department for Christmas Cheer and Check-a-month.
- Number of gifts and value sent to Gift Shops.
- Veteran contact in our communities (how many? Number of Veterans assisted? Value of materials and cash donated?)
- Contact in nursing homes and care facilities (how many? Number of Veterans assisted? Value of materials and cash donated?)
- Holiday baskets delivered and their value.
- Did you provide any education in your community on Veteran's needs?
- Report to include the Unit name, number, Unit President, and VA&R Chairperson's names.
- The Department VA&R chairperson and selected judges will determine the winner.

9. PDP Angelina McKinney Service to Veterans Award:

Awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative (supplemental) report to include:

- Special emphasis on training and partnering with Legionnaires in Service to Veterans.
- What projects did you do together (how many? Number of Veterans assisted? Value of materials and cash donated?)
- Report to include the Unit name, number, Unit President, and VA&R Chairperson's names.
- The Department VA&R chairperson and selected judges will determine the winner.

10. Service to Veterans Hospital Award:

Awarded to the Unit with the best narrative (supplemental) report on service to Veterans in hospitals and VA homes. Report to include:

- All money and materials contributed the VA Hospital, CA Clinics, and The Dalles and Lebanon Veterans Homes.
- Based on the Unit contributing the most on a per capita (percentage) thus, giving each Unit as equal opportunity to win this award.
- The percentage will be based on the Unit membership on record at the Department Office, as of May 1st each year. (Example: if a Unit donates \$3,000.00, it will be divided by the number of members on record as of May 1st. The Unit with the highest per capita contribution will win this award.)
- VA&R chairperson will obtain these figures from Department and then, with selected judges, determine the winner.