

**VVA TSC Secretary Van Syckle's Report of the
VVA National Convention July 16-20 Spokane
August 17, 2019**

The July 16-20, 2019 National Convention in Spokane, WA was attended by 30 Texas Delegates. The Delegate's had a full agenda for every day of the convention as shown in the below schedule.

July 16, 2019: Registration; Wreath Laying Ceremony; New Delegate Briefing; and the Welcome Home Party Supper and Show

July 17, 2019: Convention Opening Session; AVVA Luncheon; Committee hearings on Resolutions from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm.; and Region 7 Caucus from 7:00pm to 930 pm.

July 18, 2019: Convention General Session started at 9:00am and ended at 3:00pm with a lunch break from 12:00pm to 1:30pm.

July 19, 2019: Women Veterans Breakfast; Voting from 9:00 -10:30 am; and Convention General Session.

Election Results: National President: John Rowan National Vice President: Tom Burke
National Secretary: Bill Meeks National Treasurer: Jack McManus

July 20, 2019: Convention General Session. We voted on Proposed Constitutional Amendments and Proposed Resolutions Adopted by Committees. The results were as follows:

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS RESULTS:

- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 01–Article 1 National Provisions: **Passed, un-apposed**
- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 02–Article 1 National Provisions: **Passed, un-apposed**
- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 03–Article 1 National Provisions: **Not adopted**
- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 04–Article 1 National Provisions New Section 12 **“Dissolution”:**
Failed

NOTE: Division of the House. An Amendment to the amendment was made which passed. The Amendment stated “When the National Board develops a plan for dissolution of the VVA it must be voted on by the delegates at the next National Convention.” Even with the Amendment to the Amendment the “dissolution” Amendment failed and resulted in a “Division of the house” vote – stand and count out vote for yea and nay).

- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 05– Article 1 National Provisions New Section 12: **Failed**
- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 06- Article 2 State Provisions: **Failed**
- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 08– Article 3 Chapter Provisions: **Passed**

- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 09– Article 4 General Provisions: **Passed** - New DISCIPLINE

(Retaliation against any member, who, in good faith, files disciplinary charges; testifies or participates in disciplinary hearings; or reports actual or perceived violations of VVA policy or unlawful acts are strictly forbidden.)

- Proposed Constitutional Amendment 10– Article 3 General Provisions: **Out of Order** - New

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE RESULTS:

Adopted by the Agent Orange Committee:

- AO9 Industrial manufacturing processes, including papermaking – **passed**
- A10 Ban the Manufacturing, Sale and/or use of 2,4-D and Gyphosate – **Passed**

Adopted by the Government Affairs Committee:

- GA-XX Veterans Creed – **Failed**
- GA-XX Dependent Indemnity Compensation (DIC) – **Passed**
- GA-XX USS Fran E Evans – **Passed**
- GA-XX Create a New Veterans Organization of Post-Vietnam Veterans – **MOOT** Moved to Membership Committee

Adopted by the Minority Affairs Committee:

- MA-XX Korean American Vietnam War Veterans (KAVVWV) – **Passed**
- MA-10 The Equal Treatment of the 3.2 Million American citizens in Puerto Rico - **Passed**

Adopted by the Veteran Benefits Committee:

- VB-XX U.S. DVA Quality Assurance Program – **Passed**
- VB-XX U.S. DVA Spinal Bifida and Birth Defects Program – **Passed**
- VB-XX Protection of the right to representation in appeals – **Passed**
- VB-3 Less-Than-Honorable Administration Discharges – **Passed**
- VB-9 DVA Implementation of US Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims Decisions – **Passed**
- VB-27 Reduction of DIC Survivor Waiting Period - **Passed**

Adopted by the Veteran Incarcerated and in the Justice System Committee:

- VINJS-XX Getting Ahead while getting out – **Passed**

Adopted by the Membership Committee:

- MA-XX Changing the name of the Vietnam Veterans of America (Amended GA-XX pg 9 resolutions)– **Passed** - **NOTE: Division of the house.** To “**Investigate**” what is required to change VVA’s name and then open up the membership to include all veterans after the Vietnam-era.

Adopted by the Women Veterans Committee:

- WV-2 Medical Treatment of Women Veterans by DVA– **Passed**

Adopted by the Healthcare Committee

- HC-7 Participation in the process of accrediting VA Medical Centers – **Passed**
- HC-9 Hours of operation of VA Medical Facilities – **Passed**
- HC-11 Testing for Hepatitis C – **Passed**

Amended by the Homeless Veteran Committee

HV-6 VA Homeless Grant and Per Diem Funding – **passed**

2019 Retired Committee Convention Resolutions - Passed (retired whole slate)

The Texas Delegates worked very hard. This Convention was like no other that I have attended in the past. It was very exciting, an experience of a lifetime and I was thrilled to be a part of this historic convention. I was honored and proud to work with all of the Texas Delegates. We made an awesome team! I look forward to working with the Texas Delegates again at our next meeting in Allen, Texas in October.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Van Syckle //es//

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