



National Department  
**Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
1861 - 1865, Inc.

*A regular member of the United States Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service  
Advisory Committee, Washington, D.C. 20420, since October, 1952*

June Stone, Chairman  
VAVS Committee, Department of Oklahoma

Enclosed is the Department VAVS Report to be completed and returned to me after your Department Convention. The information will be included in my report to National Department at the National Convention being held in Maine. Reports should be returned no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> so that I can complete my report.

Some of the following information is taken from my first report to members at the National Convention in 2007.

I feel there is a great deal of confusion on the part of our members as to exactly what the VAVS is. Every one knows that our organization has a VAVS chairman at every level - Tent, Department and National - and that is about the extent of their knowledge. I doubt if very many realize, I know that I didn't, that a report on our activities on behalf of veterans is reported to the DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, Veterans Health Administration, Washington, D.C., and that this report is from information provided to them by the VA Medical Centers where we volunteer or support with our gifts, not from the information provided by members on our reports. Volunteer hours are reported to Washington even if we do not have a Representative, however, they do not count for retaining our position on the Nat'l Advisory Committee if we do not have a Representative at the Medical Center making the report.

Note at the top of this letter that we are "*A regular member of the United States Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Advisory Committee, Washington, D.C. 20420, since October, 1952*". I reported at the 2007 National Convention that we were in danger of losing our membership on the committee. In order to remain on the committee we are required to have Representatives at a minimum of 15 VA Medical Centers. At that time we had representatives at only 12 VA Hospitals. PNP Leslie Dean sent out an e-mail advising members of this fact and urging them to consider volunteering to be a representative for us. I was completely overwhelmed by the response. As a result several members volunteered and we added four new representatives, but we are still in danger of losing our membership status on the National Advisory Committee. We are currently below the minimum number due to loss of three representatives.

As VAVS Committee Chairman for your Department I urge you to recruit members to volunteer to serve our veterans and if possible serve as our Representative at the Medical Center where they volunteer.

In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty

Rolene Robinson, Chairman, National VAVS Committee  
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