



American Veterans

Membership Matters for February 2008

The Monthly Newsletter of the AMVETS Membership Department

Table of Contents

From the Membership Director
2008-9 Post/Department Online Revalidation
Membership Growth Programs
Online Member Record
2008 New and Revoked Posts
2008 Riders
2008 Convention
2008 Membership Statistics
Points of Contact
District Commander Rankings (Membership)
Department Rankings

From the Membership Director

My Fellow AMVETS;

We continue to upgrade our website. I have added three new drop down boxes to the Membership Tab. One is labeled **New Members** and lists each new member by month. The members are listed alphabetically by post, then by last name. The second drop down is titled **Directors Notes (previously entitled What's Hot)**. Here I will post information of immediate importance and use to our membership. Please check it every couple of days. This should be in place by the next week.

I will also post a list of **all currently chartered posts** in the **Post Status** drop down; this too should be in place shortly. Please review it to ensure all posts are correctly labeled in the data base. This is important as the members of a post labeled as Revoked will **NOT receive dues renewal notices**.

The **1st District** meeting is 15/16 February in Atlantic City. I am planning on attending and will be providing instruction and well as distributing handouts. I will be more than happy to **email these handouts** to anyone – just email me.

I am pleased and proud to announce that through December online dues payments have accounted for **54%** of our 2007-8 dues revenue! In other words, in less than two years more than half of our dues payments are being processed online. To all of you



January 2008

who have persevered and have made dues payments online **thank you**. Not only are your payments processed immediately, there is no chance the D&R will be lost or that their will be a delay in processing. Remember, paying online **reduces your paperwork, reduces your cost**, and allows **instant membership processing**.

Remember, anyone who joins or renews on or after 1 September gets up to **16 months** of membership. For example, anyone who joins on 4 September 2008 would receive a membership that would expire 12/31/2009.

2008-9 Post/Department Online Revalidation

I met with Avectra personnel on the 24th and on the 30th to discuss providing posts and departments the capability of **entering some revalidation information online**. I will be providing updates in this forum as well as in the **Directors Notes** section of Membership. I will also be providing an update at the 1st District meeting.

Membership Growth Programs

As a means of increasing AMVETS membership I am considering three programs for the remainder of the 2007-8 membership year.

First, we will institute a “**member recovery**” program. This will be a telemarketing effort led by Xentel and will target members whose membership expired on or before 12/31/2006 and will begin in the **middle of March**.

Second, I am considering (budget permitting) a **third renewal mailing**. **Ron Hall**, Membership Director, Department of Maryland, suggested sending a **post card** (as they do) to every non-renewed annual member. We could easily include dues and renewal contact information on the postcard. Although this type of program would be **less expensive**, it would also be **less convenient** for the member.

For the final effort, I met with **direct mail** representatives from Catalyst Communications in January. We are tentatively planning a program centered on **Memorial Day** targeting all remaining AMVETS whose membership expired 12/31/2007. The program would also include a mailing to 30,000 prospective members in the 45-60 age range. This effort would be initiated in selected states and around posts with bars or restaurants.

Costs will determine what programs and to what extent they are implemented.

Online Member Records

Every AMVET member has their own online membership record. This record is **available to each member online** and can be accessed at www.amvetmembers.org. The **login name** is the members' membership number and the **password** is also the members' membership number. The password may be changed once the member has logged in. Each member is strongly encouraged to ensure his/her contact information is correct. Members no longer need to send their **change of address** information to National as it may be done by them instantly online.



January 2008

2008 New Posts (19)

AL-21 (pending), AL-82, AR-5, CA-96, FL-422, GA-295, GA-910, Japan-101, LA-2007, MD-29, MI-2497, MO-125, NJ-717, PA-93, PA-528, PA-1007, TN-72, VA-818, WI-1851, WY-10

2008 Revoked Posts (10)

AZ-40, IA-11, IL-92, KS-69, KY-108, KY-120, KY-122, LA-2000, MO-161, MO-169

2008 Riders

National has currently chartered 29 Riders Chapters (for a complete list, please go to www.amevets.org and click on **Riders**). Larry Arnett, FL-35, larry26@comcast.net, was elected as the National Riders Coordinator. If you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact him. Any Rider chapter not legally chartered is not covered by the National AMVETS legal or charitable umbrella. We are planning to have a Riders page in our quarterly magazine so if you have anything you want publicized, either a past accomplishment or an upcoming event please forward the information to our Communications Department (remember the magazine is a **quarterly** publication and space is limited). Use of email is preferred. Both pictures and text are acceptable.

The following is a list of Riders chapters (13) chartered in the 2007-8 Membership year: FL-9 (pending), FL-113, FL-2298, IA-49, IN-Dept, IN-2, IN-23, IN-33, IN-2000, PA-13, PA-88, PA-172, OH-Dept, OH-4.

2008 Convention

The **2008 Convention** will be held in **Orlando** beginning **August 2**.

I will be providing **online instruction** for the use of **netFORUM**.

I would also like to set up a display area where members can display their **military art**. There would be three categories, **pictures** (drawings/paintings), **models**, and **dioramas**. Of course, all categories would have to have a military theme. All idea's and suggestions are welcome.



January 2008

2008 Membership Statistics

For additional statistics please go to Member Statistics in the Membership drop down menu at www.amvets.org.

Weekly AMVETS Membership Summary			
	9/1/2007	to	02/10/08
2007-8		100%	154,397
New	% of Total Membership	4.4%	6,749
Renewed	% of Total Membership	24.2%	37,386
Total Annual	% of Total Membership	28.6%	44,135
New Life	% of Total Membership	1.1%	1,711
Current Life	% of Total Membership	70.2%	108,441
Total Life	% of Total Membership	71.4%	110,262
Female	% of Total Membership	3.8%	5,793
2006-7	Final Totals		178,168
New Annual	% of Total Membership	8.2%	14,596
Renewed	% of Total Membership	31.3%	55,833
Total Annual	% of Total Membership	39.5%	70,429
New Life	% of Total Membership	1.8%	3,220
Total Life	% of Total Membership	60.5%	107,739
	% of 2007-8 New and Renewal Membership		53.24%
	% of 2007-8 Membership Year Elapsed		43.56%
2007-8 Goal	5% Membership Increase Goal		187,000
	Additional Members Required		(32,603)
	% Of 2007-8 Membership Goal		82.57%
	2007-8 Membership Projections		190,052

The Top 10!

R N K	2007-8 Department First Vice Commander Rankings										
	First Vice Commanders				Total	Membership		Posts			Riders
	Dis	Dept	First	Last	Points	Renewal	Growth	New	Revoked	Net	Chapters
1	5	KS	Bob	Williams	198.02	100.00%	101.02%	0	1	(1)	
2	2	MD	Thomas	Ryan	192.90	88.81%	100.08%	1	0	1	
3	1	CT	Mary	Knapp	187.84	88.36%	99.48%	0	0	0	
4	1	RI	Richard	Enos	178.19	81.82%	96.37%	0	0	0	
5	2	PA	Robert	Bankhead	172.67	66.10%	85.57%	3	0	3	3
6	5	ND	Robert	Hulla	172.13	78.26%	93.87%	0	0	0	
7	3	FL	Bruce	Foster	167.61	62.04%	95.56%	1	0	1	2
8	4	MI	Mary	Wilseck	163.75	66.30%	93.45%	1	0	1	
9	5	OK	David	Wagner	163.22	66.67%	96.55%	0	0	0	
10	4	WI	Armin	Condrat	157.45	61.91%	91.54%	1	0	1	0



January 2008

Points of Contact

National Membership Director

Mark Del Piano tel: 301-683-4020

mdelpiano@amvets.org

For routine issues please contact one of the following:

Assistant to the National Membership Director

Carolyn Taylor tel: 301-683-4021

ctaylor@amvets.org

Ms Taylor handles new posts and general membership issues. She also handles issues such as requests for applications, brochures and other recruiting items.

Assistant for Life Memberships

Remonia Chaplin tel: 301-683-4022

rchaplin@amvets.org

Ms Chaplin handles all matters relating to Life memberships including replacement cards. She keeps meticulous records and can verify the receipt (or non-receipt) of any Life membership application. The goal of the membership department is to process all life memberships within 14 days of receipt. Each month Ms Chaplin mails copies of each processed Life membership to each department. Posts should check with their departments before contacting National Headquarters.

Assistant for Financial Services

Linda Hudson tel: 301-683-4023

lhudson@amvets.org

Ms Hudson enters all payment information. If a member has an incorrect expiration date or is not showing on the post roster please contact Ms Hudson.

National Communications Director

Jay Agg tel: 301-683-4035

jagg@amvets.org

National Publications Editor

Isaac Pacheo tel: 301-683-4038

ipacheo@amvets.org

AMVETS Riders National Coordinator

Larry Arnett, FL-35 tel: 850-874-1

larry26@comcast.net



January 2008

2007-8 Department First Vice Commander Rankings											
R N K	First Vice Commanders				Total Points	Membership		Posts			Riders
	Dis	Dept	First	Last		Renewal	Growth	New	Revoked	Net	Chapters
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9	5	OK	David	Wagner	163.22	66.67%	96.55%	0	0	0	
10	4	WI	Armin	Condrat	157.45	61.91%	91.54%	1	0	1	0
11	1	NJ	Ed	Baldinger, Sr	152.04	64.93%	83.11%	1	0	1	
12	6	OR	Mark	Weippert	151.98	61.56%	90.41%	0	0	0	
13	2	DE	Sherri	Taylor	151.40	67.57%	83.83%	0	0	0	
14	4	IN	Mike	Davis	146.34	50.37%	80.97%	0	0	0	5
15	4	OH	Merele	Pratt	142.18	47.74%	88.45%	0	0	0	2
16	2	WV	Ernest	Hathaway	141.79	58.59%	83.19%	0	0	0	
17	4	IA	Don	Emdia	139.22	57.01%	82.22%	0	1	(1)	1
18	2	VA	Whitey	Turner	138.81	49.69%	82.12%	1	0	1	1
19	6	WA	Charles	Eason	138.22	51.44%	86.78%	0	0	0	
20	3	AR	David	Lamb	137.22	55.92%	77.30%	1	0	1	
21	4	MO	Roy	Clark, Jr	137.17	52.50%	86.67%	1	2	(1)	
22	2	NC	John	MacDonald	135.69	50.96%	84.73%	0	0	0	
23	6	CA	Mike	Esposito	128.91	30.48%	94.42%	1	0	1	
24	3	GA	Chester	Wright	123.93	33.88%	82.05%	2	0	2	
25	5	NE	Robert	Clark	121.45	50.24%	71.20%	0	0	0	
26	1	NY	John	Gaeta	119.26	43.96%	75.30%	0	0	0	
27	4	MN	Alan	Weyaus	118.56	44.61%	73.95%	0	0	0	
28	3	TN	Ken	Byford	116.84	32.77%	80.07%	1	0	1	
29	1	MA	William	Butler	116.47	42.55%	73.91%	0	0	0	
30	5	TX	Gene	Welch	116.05	35.34%	80.71%	0	0	0	
31	3	LA	Mike	Hatchett	115.71	27.83%	83.87%	1	0	1	
32	4	KY	Lori	Grizzle	112.96	47.76%	74.20%	0	3	(3)	
33	6	AK	Themann	Thompson	110.05	27.16%	82.89%	0	0	0	
34	6	AZ	Sandra	Philips	110.04	29.36%	80.67%	0	0	0	
35	4	IL	William	Scheffel	107.63	29.66%	80.97%	0	1	(1)	
36	6	NM	Les	Bassinger	97.14	23.57%	73.57%	0	0	0	
37	3	SC	Marvin	Smith	91.91	20.71%	71.21%	0	0	0	
38	2	DC	Tommy	Morse	90.32	13.33%	76.99%	0	0	0	
39	1	ME	Chuck	Brant	86.91	16.46%	70.45%	0	0	0	
National Average						53.02%	86.31%	16	8	8	14
1 point for each percentage point per renewal							AL	2			1
1 point for each percentage point of growth							Japan	1			
4 points for each new post							WY	1			
-3 points for each revoked post								4			15
3 points for each new riders chapter											
red number indicates below national average											



January 2008

Dept Rankings By TOTAL MEMBERSHIP																
Feb 10	2007-8 National Accumulative Membership Summary									2007 vs 2008				Posts		
	Annual Members			Life Members				Total	2006-7 Annual	Renewal %	2006-7 Total	Member Growth	2007			
	New	Renew	Total	New	Current	Total	% Life	154,284	70,512	53.02%	178,767	86.30%	1,282			
brown shading indicates non-department									red number indicates below national average							
2007-8 National Accumulative Membership Summary											2007 vs 2008					
Dep	New	Renew	Total	New	Current	Total	% Life	Total	2006-7 Annual	Renewal %	2006-7 Total	Member Growth	Posts			
1 OH	955	4,711	5,666	249	26,394	26,643	82.46%	32,309	9,869	47.74%	36,529	88.45%	141			
2 FL	1,786	4,819	6,605	313	6,915	7,228	52.25%	13,833	7,767	62.04%	14,475	95.56%	80			
3 PA	365	4,436	4,801	72	6,073	6,145	56.14%	10,946	6,711	66.10%	12,792	85.57%	64			
4 MI	420	2,341	2,761	103	6,463	6,566	70.40%	9,327	3,531	66.30%	9,981	93.45%	75			
5 CA	118	321	439	81	8,338	8,419	95.04%	8,858	1,053	30.48%	9,381	94.42%	54			
6 IL	166	843	1,009	67	7,519	7,586	88.26%	8,595	2,842	29.66%	10,615	80.97%	97			
7 NY	248	1,944	2,192	70	4,195	4,265	66.05%	6,457	4,422	43.96%	8,575	75.30%	79			
8 MA	103	1,603	1,706	98	3,735	3,833	69.20%	5,539	3,767	42.55%	7,494	73.91%	48			
9 IA	71	1,684	1,755	22	3,475	3,497	66.58%	5,252	2,954	57.01%	6,388	82.22%	68			
10 IN	326	1,780	2,106	34	3,008	3,042	59.09%	5,148	3,534	50.37%	6,478	79.47%	38			
11 MO	200	923	1,123	60	2,431	2,491	68.93%	3,614	1,758	52.50%	4,170	86.67%	35			
12 WI	221	1,011	1,232	60	2,301	2,361	65.71%	3,593	1,633	61.91%	3,925	91.54%	51			
13 MD	101	1,278	1,379	59	2,098	2,157	61.00%	3,536	1,439	88.81%	3,533	100.08%	18			
14 TX	74	493	567	17	2,804	2,821	83.26%	3,388	1,395	35.34%	4,198	80.71%	54			
15 NC	148	745	893	67	1,820	1,887	67.88%	2,780	1,462	50.96%	3,281	84.73%	35			
16 WA	63	570	633	62	1,983	2,045	76.36%	2,678	1,108	51.44%	3,086	86.78%	19			
17 ND	57	997	1,054	40	1,448	1,488	58.54%	2,542	1,274	78.26%	2,708	93.87%	13			
18 CT	25	334	359	1	1,915	1,916	84.22%	2,275	378	88.36%	2,287	99.48%	11			
19 NJ	65	983	1,048	14	1,153	1,167	52.69%	2,215	1,514	64.93%	2,565	83.11%	24			
20 KY	144	831	975	21	1,141	1,162	54.38%	2,137	1,740	47.76%	2,880	74.20%	21			
21 TN	142	289	431	8	1,305	1,313	75.29%	1,744	882	32.77%	2,178	80.07%	17			
22 GA	142	250	392	19	1,038	1,057	72.95%	1,449	738	33.88%	1,766	82.05%	13			
23 VA	113	405	518	10	776	786	60.28%	1,304	815	49.69%	1,588	82.12%	12			
ME	48	122	170	13	1,121	1,134	86.96%	1,304	741	16.46%	1,851	70.45%	14			
25 LA	55	113	168	4	967	971	85.25%	1,139	406	27.83%	1,358	83.87%	15			
26 NE	27	413	440	13	672	685	60.89%	1,125	822	50.24%	1,580	71.20%	24			
27 KS	9	560	569	2	516	518	47.65%	1,087	560	100.00%	1,076	101.02%	8			
28 AZ	47	143	190	26	865	891	82.42%	1,081	487	29.36%	1,340	80.67%	15			
29 DE	119	698	817	8	212	220	21.22%	1,037	1,033	67.57%	1,237	83.83%	6			
30 MN	28	335	363	38	587	625	63.26%	988	751	44.61%	1,336	73.95%	27			
31 AK	25	85	110	7	818	825	88.24%	935	313	27.16%	1,128	82.89%	6			
32 SC	102	123	225	7	641	648	74.23%	873	594	20.71%	1,226	71.21%	8			
33 OR	39	205	244	1	585	586	70.60%	830	333	61.56%	918	90.41%	12			
34 RI	14	225	239	10	388	398	62.48%	637	275	81.82%	661	96.37%	10			
35 OK	21	112	133	15	440	455	77.38%	588	168	66.67%	609	96.55%	5			
36 WV	43	208	251	4	245	249	49.80%	500	355	58.59%	601	83.19%	8			
37 AL	20	1	21	1	446	447	95.51%	468	13	7.69%	563	83.13%	1			
38 NM	28	62	90	7	365	372	80.52%	462	263	23.57%	628	73.57%	11			
39 AR	28	189	217	3	175	178	45.06%	395	338	55.92%	511	77.30%	19			
40 DC	8	18	26	0	332	332	92.74%	358	135	13.33%	465	76.99%	6			
41 NH	14	40	54	1	94	95	63.76%	149	81	49.38%	174	85.63%	2			
42 HI	0	2	2	0	129	129	98.47%	131	42	4.76%	171	76.61%	1			



January 2008

43	NV	9	21	30	0	82	82	73.21%	112	28	75.00%	110	101.82%	1
44	MS	3	42	45	1	60	61	57.55%	106	36	116.67%	92	115.22%	2
45	CO	7	20	27	3	75	78	74.29%	105	67	29.85%	162	64.81%	4
46	CH	0	0	0	0	85	85	100.00%	85	0		85	100.00%	1
47	UT	2	7	9	0	62	62	87.32%	71	11	63.64%	73	97.26%	0
48	SD	0	14	14	0	34	34	70.83%	48	16	87.50%	50	96.00%	1
49	WY	0	3	3	0	42	42	93.33%	45	17	17.65%	59	76.27%	1
50	ID	0	5	5	0	31	31	86.11%	36	19	26.32%	50	72.00%	1
	MT	0	17	17	0	19	19	52.78%	36	8	212.50%	27	133.33%	1
52	VT	0	6	6	0	9	9	60.00%	15	9	66.67%	18	83.33%	0
53	GU	0	1	1	0	6	6	85.71%	7	1	100.00%	7	100.00%	0
54	PI	0	0	0	0	4	4	100.00%	4	1	0.00%	5	80.00%	1
55	AS	0	0	0	0	2	2	100.00%	2	0		2	100.00%	1
	KH	0	2	0	0	2	2	100.00%	2	3	66.67%	5	40.00%	2
	PR	0	1	1	0	1	1	50.00%	2	2	50.00%	3	66.67%	1
	VI	0	2	2	0	0	0	0.00%	2	2	100.00%	3	66.67%	0
59	CN	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0		0		0

brown shading indicates non-department

red number indicates below national average