

Past National Commandant's VAVS SERVICE AWARD

Marine Corps League and MCL Auxiliary Award for Excellence In Service
in support of the Department Of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Program

Background:

The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Award for Leadership was first presented in 1963 by Hy and Sue Rosen, Past National Commandant and Auxiliary President, as a trophy to be awarded each year at the National Assembly to the League or Auxiliary member chosen by the VAVS Committee as most deserving of this award for leadership in the VA Hospital program. Currently a certificate is presented to the recipient annually at the discretion of the VAVS Award Committee.

Criteria/Eligibility:

To be chosen as the outstanding volunteer of the year in the VAVS Program, the nominee:

1. Must be a member in good standing of the League or the Auxiliary
2. Must have served on a regular basis in a VA Hospital, outpatient Clinic, or other properly certified area for a period of at least three (3) years.

Qualifications should include one or more of the following: outstanding hours, special program, leadership, manner in which patients are cared for, or other service provided which significantly adds to the better care of veteran patients under the VAVS Program. A currently certified Representative or Deputy must meet attendance requirements for VAVS quarterly meetings to be considered.

Nomination Process:

Consists of two letters of Recommendations for each nominee sent to the National VAVS Representative no later than July 10:

1. Letter of recommendation submitted to the VAVS National Rep Committee by a VAMC Director, Chief of Voluntary Service, or other qualified staff describing works, programs and special activities, which they feel make that person an excellent nominee. (*See qualifications above.*) Must detail attendance at VAVS meetings if nominee is a Representative or Deputy.
2. Letter from the Unit President or Detachment Commandant indicating membership status and describe the individual's VAVS participation from the Detachment/units perspective.

This award is given at the discretion of the VAVS Award Committee consisting of the National VAVS Representatives and Deputies of the League and Auxiliary and any previous recipients meeting at the National Convention. They review all nominations received. If no current nominee meets the criteria, the Committee may review nominees for the 2 previous years. The committee reserves the right to choose one who has not been properly sponsored but meets other criteria by 100% vote.

The recipient will be announced at the annual VAVS meeting during Convention. The name shall be included in the printed proceedings of both the League and Auxiliary Convention.

See MCL Admin Procedures, Section 4 or MCL Aux Bylaws for more info.